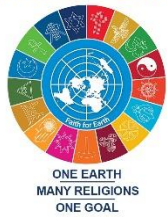


FAITH FOR EARTH



Faith for Earth Updates on 9 July 2020



What a great news to share! It is with pleasure to inform you that the Government of Iceland has approved convening a Global Faith for Earth Conference “**Faith Action for Nature**” during the first week of October 2020. This will mobilize faith actors’ contribution to the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA5) and in support of the Faith for Earth Coalition. The hybrid conference will have a limited in-person high level segment in Iceland and a digital global conference extending to all regions of the world. The Ice team and Faith for Earth are working on the details, concept, agenda, participation, and modality of the global and regional components. This is just a teaser – Stay tuned for more information soon.

A Shift in Mindset: Faith-based Solutions to Climate Action Obstacles

Join an Interfaith parallel session during the High Level Political Forum on 13 July at 12:00 pm EDT (18:00 CET). The event is sponsored by faith-based organizations associated with an emerging Climate Working Group within the Committee of Religious NGOs at the UN (CRNGO). HLPF2020 offers an ideal moment for faith-based organizations to a) consider climate action accomplishments thus far across both the SDG and Paris Agreement frameworks and b) identify and analyze obstacles to progress and develop joint strategies to accelerate ambition and related goals ahead of COP 26, particularly in the new context of COVID-19. To participate and get more information, [please visit this page](#).

The Last Decade of Action –How To Prevent The Widening Of The Opportunity Gap

H.E. Yldiz Pollack-Beighle: Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname, **H. E. María Fernanda Espinosa:** Former President of the UNGA & Former Minister of Foreign Affairs & Minister of Defense, Ecuador, **H. E. Ambassador Anda Filip:** Director for Member Parliaments & External Relations, Inter-Parliamentary Union, **Dr. Iyad Abu Moghli :** Director of Faith for Earth of (UNEP), **Ms. Jan McAlpine:** Former Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests, and **H.E Dr. Paul Oquist Kelley:** Minister-Private Secretary for National Policies for the President of the Republic of Nicaragua, have all been convened by our young leader Ms. **Kehkashan Basu**, Founder President - Green Hope Foundation & Youth Ambassador in collaboration with World Future Council. The event took place on 8 July 2020 and discussed the steps and actions needed to prevent

the widening of the opportunity gap in the Last Decade of Action. To see the recording, [please visit here](#).

People Religion, Policy, and the Global Environmental Crisis

Faith for Earth was delighted to participate with Liechtenstein Institute at Princeton University in its XIIIth Annual Colloquium - Program on Religion and International Relations (PORDIR). The event convened to discuss the critical interplay between religious beliefs, international actors and organizations, national and communal environmental policy and interstate issues, and initiatives as seen by master's students at Princeton who presented and discussed several papers related to the state of play of religions, development, economic growth and the environment. Among the key note speakers were **Amb. Annett Günther**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Kenya, PR to UNEP and UN-HABITAT, **Prof. Katherine Marshall**, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Executive Director of the World Faiths Development Dialogue, **Dr. Iyad Abumoghli**, Director, Faith for Earth, and Co-Founders of PRDIR Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush, and Prof. Wolfgang Danspeckgruber. To know more about the event, [please visit here](#).

G20 Interfaith Summit Consultation meeting

Faith for Earth was invited as a key note speaker of the environment pillar at the G20 Interfaith Forum for the Arab Region as part of the global consultation process led by [KAICIID](#) based in Vienna. The Interfaith Forum aims to facilitate the necessary dialogue between relevant stakeholders to support the creation of an G20 engagement group consisting of interfaith communities. The COVID-19 crisis refocuses global agendas and calls for timely analysis and policy counsel. With the G20 deeply involved in global crisis management, the Interfaith community, which is also actively involved in response, will address urgent issues and pertinent policy recommendations, in parallel with but integrated in the continuing G20 Interfaith agenda. These consultations will present priority recommendations to the G20 Member States before their November 2020 Summit in Saudi Arabia. Panel Speakers were: **H.E. Dr Mohammed Al Sammak**, Board of Directors, KAICIID, **H.E. Prof. Mona Makram Ebeid**, Advisor to the UN High-Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations and Former Parliament Member – Egypt, **H.E. Dr. Fayez Al Shahry**, Member of the supreme Council, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, **Dr. Iyad Abumoghli**, Director of Faith for Earth, and **Mr. Noureldin Ben Brahem**, President of Adwaa Rights – Algeria. For more on the recommendations of the meeting, [please visit here](#).

UNEP's Civil Society Unit needs to hear from you

In order to highlight the work that civil society organizations are doing on the ground, and the value added that they bring to the global response to the pandemic, the United

Nations wants to invite you to share your stories. If your organization has been active in identifying or meeting the needs arising from COVID19 in your community, please [follow this link and share](#) your experiences and photos. These are unprecedented times. Please know that like you, we place the health and safety of our shared humanity and planet as our main priority. Together we will overcome these challenges. We would also like to invite you to fill in a survey for misinformation concerning COVID-19. The survey is translated into 7 languages: https://www.research.net/r/Covid-19_Feedback

How to prevent the next global pandemic

[A landmark scientific assessment](#) is now out that explores how countries can prevent future pandemics like COVID-19. The publication, "[Preventing the next pandemic: zoonotic diseases and how to break the chain of transmission.](#)" finds that in recent decades there has been a surge in zoonotic diseases—potentially deadly pathogens that jump between animals and humans.

COVID-19 is a prime example, but Ebola, SARS, Zika and West Nile Virus also have their origins in the animal world. In fact, 60 percent of the microbes that infect humans begin in animals. In a normal year, these contagions kill at least 2 million people. This new report, a joint product the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Livestock Research Institute, finds that unless we adopt an integrated approach to healthcare, one that takes into account people, animals and the environment, we'll face more potentially catastrophic outbreaks in the years to come.

Religious Leaders Reaffirm their pledge to the UN Charter

On 26 June, the UN marked the 75th anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter, the founding document of the Organization. We commemorate this day at a time of great disruption where the United Nations has become more crucial than ever in [leading and addressing global challenges](#) to protect our planet, end poverty and ensure prosperity for all as part of the sustainable development agenda. Faith leaders have also taken part to reaffirm their continued commitment to the Charter. You are invited to visit share.un75.online and take a selfie using a unique photo filter, each spelling out a keyword from the Charter, such as 'Justice', 'Equality', 'Dignity', 'Peace', and share it on social media platforms using the hashtag #UN75. This campaign will continue through to the UN's 75th birthday on 24 October 2020. We look forward to your participation!

Accreditation to UN Environment Assembly

You can apply for accreditation using the [New Online Accreditation System](#) and gain a consultative status within the [rules of procedure](#) of the [UN Environment Assembly](#), please refer to the criteria for accreditation as derived from Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure and submit your request accordingly. [Guidelines here.](#)

[Previous Updates can be found HERE.](#)

