

MGFC and RF and UNEP meeting

Summary

4th September 2023

Time: 3pm-4pm, Nairobi time

Agenda Points:

- **Introducing Europe Region facilitator @Natasha Dokovska**
- **Presentation from Private Sector Unit of UNEP (@Alison Gray Cairns Chief of Private Sector Unit, see attached PPT.)**
- **MGFC co-chairs election update (@patrizia.heidegger@eeb.org)**
- **Regional Consultative Meetings update**
 - **Africa 4-5 July 2023**
 - **Asia Pacific 3 October 2023**
 - **LAC 24-26 October 2023**
 - **West Asia 23-24 October 2023**
 - **North America: TBC**
 - **Europe: TBC**
- **MGFC meetings schedule: Proposal from CSU – every 1st Monday of the month, 4-5pm Nairobi time.**
- **AOB**

Participants

- **UNEP:** Ulf Bjornholm, Laetitia Zobel, Isaiah Otieno, Aurora Cheung, Edwike Nyauncho, Maria Haanes
- **UNEP Private Sector Unit:** Alison Cairns, Dennis Kariuki
- **Business and Industry:** Denis Filip, Duncan Ochieng
- **Children and Youth:** Zuhair Ahmed Kowshik, Gyubin Hwang
- **Farmers:** AG Kawamura
- **Indigenous Peoples and their Communities:** Lena Yanina Estrada Anokazi
- **Local Authorities:** Jean-Baptiste Buffet, Magash Naidoo
- **Scientific and Technological Community:** Stephen Stec
- **Women:** Dalia Fernanda Marquez Anez
- **Workers and Trade Unions:** Bert De Wel
- **Africa:** David Munene (Chair)
- **Asia and the Pacific:** Ajay Jha
- **Europe:** Patrizia Heidegger, Natasha Dokovska
- **Latin America and the Caribbean:** Yarivith Gonzales

Minutes Summary:

1. Introducing Europe Region facilitator @Natasha Dokovska

- Natasa Dokovska, the new Europe Region facilitator, introduced herself. She is from North Macedonia and works with CSO Journalists for Human Rights.

2. Presentation from Private Sector Unit of UNEP (@Alison Gray Cairns Chief of Private Sector Unit, see attached PPT.)

- Alison Gray Cairns, Chief of the Private Sector Unit at UNEP, shared a presentation, which can be found [here](#), outlining the Unit's four roles: Guide, Convene, Leverage, and Oversight. The focus is on diversifying funding sources and moving away from corporate funding towards high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) and foundations. UNEP aims for real impact through initiatives like the WEF and UN Global Compact. The report highlighted the varying impacts of business sectors on climate, nature, and pollution. UNEP is also shifting away from bilateral partnerships and focusing on alliances for SDGs.
- Main Discussion:
 - UNEP's engagement with the private sector and best practices were discussed. There was a query on CSR, with a clarification that CSR, as traditionally defined, can sometimes be seen as 'greenwashing' if not leading to actual change.
 - Private Sector Division will consult with MG leads for advice on future engagement.

3. MGFC Co-Chairs Election Update (@patrizia.heidegger@eeb.org)

- Patrizia Heidegger provided an update on the ongoing MGFC co-chair elections, which opened on 29 August and close on 12 September, 11:59 PM Nairobi time. Once all votes are cast, the results will be communicated.
- Discussion:
 - A.G. Kawamura raised a question about the voting process. It was confirmed that each co-facilitator from an MG has an individual vote, and voting is done separately via email.
 - Ajay emphasized that facilitators should consult their constituencies, with no mandate to act independently of their groups. MGFC is a vehicle for carrying forward MG suggestions.

4. Regional Consultative Meetings (RCMs) Update

- Africa: 4-5 July 2023
- Asia Pacific: 3 October 2023 – Invitations will be sent out next week.
- Latin America & Caribbean: 24-26 October 2023 – CSU has been in contact with the office.
- West Asia: 22-23 October 2023 – Meeting will be in Muscat, Oman.
- Europe: Tentatively the week of 12 November, pending confirmation from some governments.
- North America: TBC

5. MGFC Meetings Schedule

- Proposal from CSU for monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month, 4-5 PM Nairobi time. There were no objections to this proposed schedule.

6. A.O.B. (Any Other Business)

- A.G. Kawamura raised a point about the lack of an update on North America. Aurora responded that the information is still being gathered.
- INC-3 Dates and Virtual Participation: Aurora suggested consulting the INC Secretariat for specific details, and Isaiah confirmed INC-3 will be fully in-person. Laetitia offered to connect members with the INC-3 Secretariat for more information.