

UN/WTO JOINT SIDE EVENT TO COP26

CLIMATE FINANCE AND TRADE TO BUILD RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Day: Saturday, 06 Nov 2021

Time: 18:30—19:45 BST (75 minutes)

Location: COP26, Multimedia Studio 3, Glen Affric, Blue Zone

Session brief

Climate change is the key transformational and cross-cutting challenge of our times. By disrupting key economic activities, threatening food security and local livelihoods, it amplifies developmental challenges, in particular in the least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS). According to the World Bank, impacts are most felt at the bottom of the pyramid as climate change is expected to push 132 million people into extreme poverty by 2030. Urgent and collective action and concerted cooperation among a multiplicity of actors is not an option but a must in order to contribute to a global green transition that leaves no one behind. All actors are called to establish inclusive partnerships, identify ground-breaking solutions and mobilize climate finance to build a more equitable, resilient and greener multilateral setting.

While frequently overlooked in multilateral processes, international trade can be an integral part in building resilience and achieving the SDGs. By generating the resources needed for investment, trade can simultaneously create wealth and build resilience of the most vulnerable nations while promoting a systemic shift towards sustainable production and consumption.

In addition, mobilizing climate finance and investment capital through innovative finance mechanisms, such as climate action-debt swaps and green bonds, is also needed to ensure that solutions are translated into practice and enhance the adaptive capacity and resilience of the most vulnerable.

This session will place emphasis on LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, which, despite their limited contribution to climate change, are on the front-line of climate hazards and on the forefront of climate ambition. In particular, the session is expected to:

- Increase awareness of the challenges from climate change faced by vulnerable countries and their small businesses doing trade;
- Showcase best practices in strengthening adaptive capacity, improving resource efficiency and tapping into new consumption trends;
- Highlight innovative finance mechanisms available to unlock investment in adaptation and mitigation action and to ensure effective access commensurate with the urgency and scale of climate hazards.

Speakers

Moderator: **Mr Jean-Paul Adam**, Director of the Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management, UNECA (*in person*)

Opening statements:

- **Ms Rebeca Grynspan**, Secretary-General, UNCTAD (*virtual*)
- **Ms Pamela Coke-Hamilton**, Executive Director, ITC (*in person*)
- **Ms Alicia Bárcena Ibarra**, Executive Secretary, ECLAC (*video statement*)
- **Mr Courtenay Rattray**, High-Representative and Under-Secretary General, OHRLLS (*video statement*)

Panel discussion:

- **Honorable Minister Dr Lee White**, Minister of Water, Forests, the Sea, and Environment, Republic of Gabon (*in person*)
- **Ms Salma Seetaroo**, CEO, Cashew Coast (*virtual*)
- **Mr. Sheldon Mclean**, Coordinator - Economic Development, Trade and Integration Unit, UNECLAC (*in person*)

Closing statements:

- **Ms Vera Songwe**, Executive Secretary, UNECA (*video statement*)
- **Mr Jean-Marie Paugam**, Deputy Director General, WTO (*in person*)

Session outline

| Time | Type | What is going to happen |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---|
| 18.30-18.33 (3 mins) | In person | Moderator Jean-Paul Adam opens the session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Welcome to the official joint UN side event jointly organized by the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Conference for Trade and development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing State (OHRLLS).</i> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Point to climate change as the key transformational and cross-cutting challenge of our times.</i> • <i>Emphasize how both international trade and climate finance are integral to building resilience and to turning the green economic transition into an opportunity for small businesses and the livelihoods of people around them, including women and youth.</i> |
| 18.34-18.38 (3 mins) | Virtual | Opening statement by UNCTAD Secretary-General, Rebeca Grynspan |
| 18.38-18.42 (3 mins) | In person | Opening statement by ITC Executive Director, Pamela Coke-Hamilton |
| 18.42-18.46 (3 mins) | Video | Opening statement by ECLAC Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena Ibarra Video to be provided by OHRLLS/Sheldon |
| 18.46-18.52 (5 mins) | Video | Opening statement by OHRLLS High-Representative and Under-Secretary General, Courtenay Rattray |
| 18.52-18.55 (3 mins) | In person | Introduction of technical panel by Moderator Jean-Paul Adam and handing the floor to the minister to set the scene |
| 18.55-19.00 (5 mins) | In person | Remarks by the Honorable Minister Dr Lee White , Minister of Water, Forests, the Sea, and Environment, Republic of Gabon |
| 19.00-19.35 (c. 35 mins) | Mix virtual-in person | Moderated conversation with the speakers, 2/3 questions each (facilitated by Moderator Jean-Paul Adam) |
| | Virtual | Ms Salma Seetaroo , CEO, Cashew Coast <i>Questions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Your company produces products which highly rely on nature and climate. How has climate change impacted your business, and how do you stay resilient?</i> • <i>As a former investment banker and the CEO of an agri-business in a developing country challenged by the impact of climate change, what are the challenges to bring the world of “green investments” closer to the need of these enterprises? And what are the solutions you envisage?</i> • <i>If you had a free wish, what type of support would you wish for from trade and finance policy makers to ensure that producers like you can contribute to both climate and profitability related goals?</i> |
| | In person | Mr. Sheldon Mclean , Coordinator - Economic Development, Trade and Integration Unit, UNECLAC <i>Questions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sss (to be provided by Sheldon) |
| | In person | Honorable Minister Dr Lee White , Minister of Water, Forests, the Sea, and Environment, Republic of Gabon |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">1-2 questions to be provided by UNECA |
| 19.35-19.39 (3 mins) | Video | Closing remarks by UNECA Executive Secretary, Vera Songwe Video to be provided by UNECA |
| 19.39-19.43 (3 mins) | In person | Closing remarks by WTO Deputy Director General, Jean-Marie Paugam |
| 19.43-19.45 (2 mins) | In person | Moderator Mr Jean-Paul Adam closes session |

Please note that the session will be closely timed, as all sessions at COP26 need to end on time, given COVID restrictions.

Logistical information

- All speakers should **join the event 30 minutes in advance**, by 18:00 BST to ensure that all preparations for the event to start on time are taken (e.g. check sound/video of virtual speakers, mic up the in-person speakers, etc.)
- We encourage speakers to us no slides, but to speak freely
- There will be no physical audience on-site, as the event is held in a multi-media studio

Access to the event:

We kindly request each speaker to ensure that all the required accreditations and access requirements are in place before the event, so that they are able to access the event either in person or virtually. Kindly refer to the complete **technical handbook** by UNFCCC on side events here: https://seors.unfccc.int/applications/seors/pdf/Side_event_organizer_s_handbook_-_25.10.2021_update.pdf (version of 2 Nov)

- In-person participation:
 - o Location: COP26, Multimedia Studio 3, Glen Affric, Blue Zone – see details below
- Virtual
 - o Please note that it is necessary to be duly registered in ORS (Online Registration System) as part of a delegation to access the platform and in possession of the conference badge to access the COP26 platform. Guidance on how to access the platform can be found here: <https://unfccc.int/cop26/virtual>
 - o From the COP26 platform, attendees will be directed to the live Social 27 platform, where the event will be hosted.
 - o Virtual speakers will join the event as participants first. Around 30 mins before the event, the digital clerk in the room will identify them as speakers and mark them as panellists.
 - o Please see the full guidance for virtual speakers on page 19 of the technical handbook (see link above)
- Video
 - o Those speakers, that are providing a statement by video recordings please submit them at your earliest convenience to ITC for onward submission to UNFCCC.
 - o Please see the guidance on timing of a video in the above table.

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- The video needs to be in one of the following formats: H264, ProRes codecs, mp4 file or .mov

Life webcast of the event

- The event will be live webcasted on the public UNFCCC YouTube Channel by default. There is no need to be registered to COP to view side events on the UNFCCC website.
- Link to livestream:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBcZ22cUY9RL4TEKTBfoLupigS5n7Kr6c>

Contact details to ITC on the day

- Annegret Brauss – phone and whatsapp: 0041 78 677 0363
- Vanessa Erogbogbo – phone and whatsapp: 0041 79 947 7713

Bios of panel participants

Mr Jean-Paul Adam, Director of the Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management, UNECA – Moderator



Jean-Paul Adam is the Director for Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management in the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

Prior to taking on this role, he served in the Government of the Republic of Seychelles in several Cabinet positions. He was Minister of Health from 2016 to 2019. He served as Minister of Finance, Trade and the Blue Economy from 2015 to 2016 where he negotiated a debt for climate change adaptation swap and launched the process for Seychelles to become the first issuer of a Blue Bond.

He started his career as a career diplomat in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He holds a Masters in International Political Economy from the University of Manchester (UK) and a BA in English Literature and French from the University of Sheffield (UK).

Ms Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UNCTAD – Opening Statement



Rebeca Grynspan, of Costa Rica, was appointed the eighth Secretary-General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on 13 September 2021. She is the first woman to hold this position in the history of the organization.

Before joining UNCTAD, she has served as UNDP's regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean, a member of the High-level Panel on Financing for Development, and vice president of Costa Rica (1994 to 1998).

In her career, she has helped to focus the world's attention on relevant issues such as the reduction of inequality and poverty, gender equality, South-South cooperation as a tool for development, and the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, among others.

She holds a degree in economics from the University of Costa Rica and a master's degree in economics from the University of Sussex. She was awarded a Doctorate Honoris Causa by the University of Salamanca, the University of Extremadura and the European University of Madrid in recognition of her outstanding professional achievements.

Ms Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director, ITC - Opening Statement



Pamela Coke-Hamilton has served as Executive Director of the International Trade Centre since 1 October 2020.

She joined ITC from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), where she was Director of the Division on International Trade and Commodities.

She brings a deep understanding of the challenges faced by vulnerable economies such as the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) having designed tailored interventions.

She holds a Juris Doctor in Law from Georgetown University and an undergraduate degree in International Relations from the University of the West Indies. She is fluent in English, advanced in French with a working knowledge of Spanish.

Ms Alicia Bárcena Ibarra, Executive Secretary, ECLAC - Opening Statement



Ms. Bárcena Ibarra served as the Chef de Cabinet to the former Secretary-General before serving as the Under-Secretary-General for Management.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Bárcena Ibarra served as Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and in this capacity she contributed substantively and increased interagency collaboration to provide a regional perspective on the Millennium Development Goals and on Financing for Sustainable Development.

As Chief of the Environment and Human Settlements Division of ECLAC, she heightened the profile of the Regional Commission in the areas of climate change, sustainable energy, fiscal policies and environment. She previously served as Coordinator of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as well as Adviser to the Latin American and Caribbean Sustainable Development Programme in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

She was part of the Secretariat that was in charge of preparing the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992.

Previously, she served in the Government of Mexico as the first Vice-Minister of Ecology and as Director-General of the National Institute of Fisheries.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in biology from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University.

Mr Courtenay Rattray, High-Representative and Under-Secretary General, OHRLLS - Opening Statement



Courtenay Rattray began his tenure as High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in July, 2021.

Mr. Rattray joined OHRLLS from his role as Jamaica's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. He also served as Co-chair of the Group of Friends of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Financing; Children and the SDGs; as well as the Group of Friends of Decent Work.

Prior to his work at the United Nations, Mr. Rattray served as Jamaica's Ambassador to China (2008-2013); Director of the Bilateral Relations Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in Kingston (2005 -2008); Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Jamaica in Washington, D.C., (2001-2005); Special Adviser to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (2000-2001); and Special Adviser to the Minister for Industry and Investment (1999-2000).

Before he joined the Jamaican foreign service, he served as Executive Director of the Jamaica Marketing Company in London and Director of Marketing and Promotions at the Jamaica Trade & Investment Promotion Corporation (JAMPRO) in Kingston.

Mr. Rattray holds a Master of Arts degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in the United States, a Master of Arts in International Business from the London South Bank

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University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from West Virginia Wesleyan College in the United States. He was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters (Honoris Causa) by West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Honorable Minister Dr Lee White, Minister of Water, Forests, the Sea, and Environment, Republic of Gabon



Prior to becoming Minister, he served as the Director of the Gabonese National Parks Agency for 10 years having previously spent almost 20 years with the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Since 2002 he has been an advisor to the President's Office in Gabon, in matters concerning National Parks and Ecotourism development. He left WCS in 2008 to focus more on these responsibilities and on the UNFCCC negotiations, as part of Gabon's Negotiating Team.

Professor White is an Honorary Professor at the University of Stirling. He has always tried to incorporate science into conservation and sustainable development work and

published about 70 papers and book chapters, 7 books and is the editor of a book series on Gabon's National Parks. His research interests include forest history through the Pleistocene and Holocene, forestry and forest ecology.

In 2010, he was awarded a CBE for his services to conservation in Central Africa. His career in the West and Central African forest belt spans 35 years.

Ms Salma Seetaroo, CEO, Cashew Coast - Panellist



Salma is the Chief Executive Officer of Cashew Coast, a business that integrates the cashew value chain from farm (West Africa) to fork (Europe).

Operating in Cote d'Ivoire, Cashew Coast has built an organic supply chain of more than 5000 smallholders, and employs 700 young women and men at its 9000T cashew processing plant. It is currently expanding its operations into a second processing facility.

Salma has spent the last 18 years working on debt, equity and special situations investments in London and Africa as an investment banker.

Mr. Sheldon Mclean, Coordinator - Economic Development, Trade and Integration Unit, UNECLAC

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Mr. Sheldon L.A. Mc Lean is currently the Coordinator of the Economic Development Unit at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC), based at the Sub-Regional Headquarters in Port-of-Spain which has responsibility for 25 Caribbean countries - 13 of which belong to the ACP Group. Mr. Mc Lean has also served as Regional Trade Policy Advisor to the Caribbean Community Secretariat; Trade Specialist with both the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland; as well as Research Associate with the then Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM).

Mr. Mc Lean has over 20 years of experience in the areas of trade and related development policies; regional integration; structural transformation and economic diversification; debt and finance; private sector development; and economic growth and resilience and has authored numerous analytical and research publications on current and emerging trade and development issues for small economies. Mr. Mc Lean is a graduate of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, having earned both a BSc. Agricultural Economics and MSc. Agricultural Economics: Agricultural Economics and Policy Development from that institution.

Ms Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, UNECA – Closing Statement



Vera Songwe is the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Upon her appointment, she became the first woman to lead the institution in its 60-year history.

As Executive Secretary, Songwe's reforms have focused on "ideas for a prosperous Africa", and have brought to the fore critical issues of macroeconomic stability, development finance, private sector growth, poverty and inequality, the digital transformation, trade and competitiveness.

She was listed as one of Africa's 50 most powerful women by Forbes in 2020 and named as one of the '100 Most Influential Africans' by Jeune Afrique in 2019. In 2017, New African Magazine listed her as one of the '100 Most Influential Africans' and the FT named her one of the '25 African to watch' in 2015. Songwe is acknowledged for her long-standing track record of providing policy advice and her wealth of experience in delivering development results for Africa. She has written extensively on development and economic issues including on debt, infrastructure development, fiscal and governance issues. She is well published and contributes to the development debate across a broad spectrum of platforms including in the Financial Times.

Prior to ECA, she held a number of senior leadership roles with the International Finance Corporation and World Bank.

Mr Jean-Marie Paugam, Deputy Director General, WTO – Closing Statement



Ambassador Jean-Marie Paugam (France) has held senior management positions in the French Government on trade, most recently as Permanent Representative of France to the WTO.

He has also held a number of senior positions in the French Ministry of Economy and Finance, including as a member of the Executive Committee of the French Treasury. He has also served as Deputy Executive Director of the International Trade Centre in Geneva.

He has accumulated a deep and practical knowledge of government practices on trade as well as being familiar with high-level dialogues on trade and international economic operations.

He has published a number of articles on trade-related issues, in particular when serving as Senior Research Fellow on International Trade at the French Institute for International Relations (IFPRI).

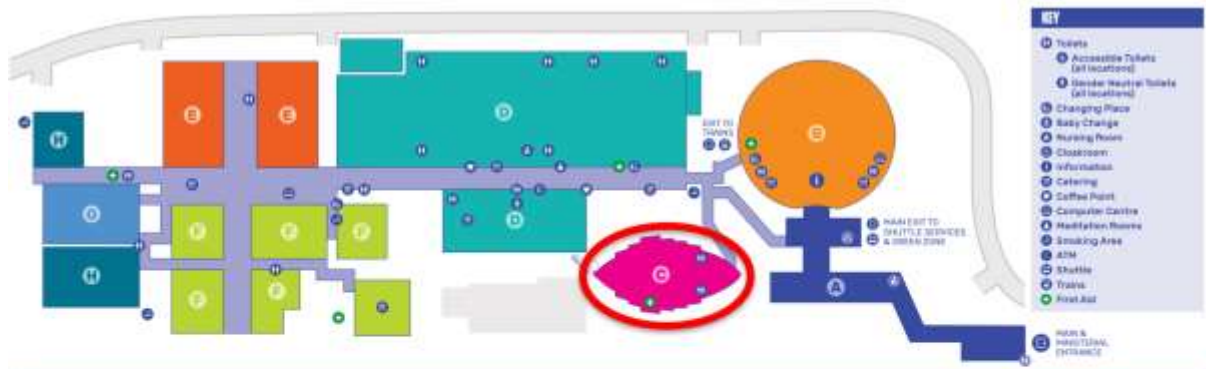
Ambassador Paugam graduated from ENA in Paris and obtained degrees in Political Science from the Institute of Political Science in Aix-en-Provence and in Law from the Faculty of Law Aix-Marseille III.

The location:

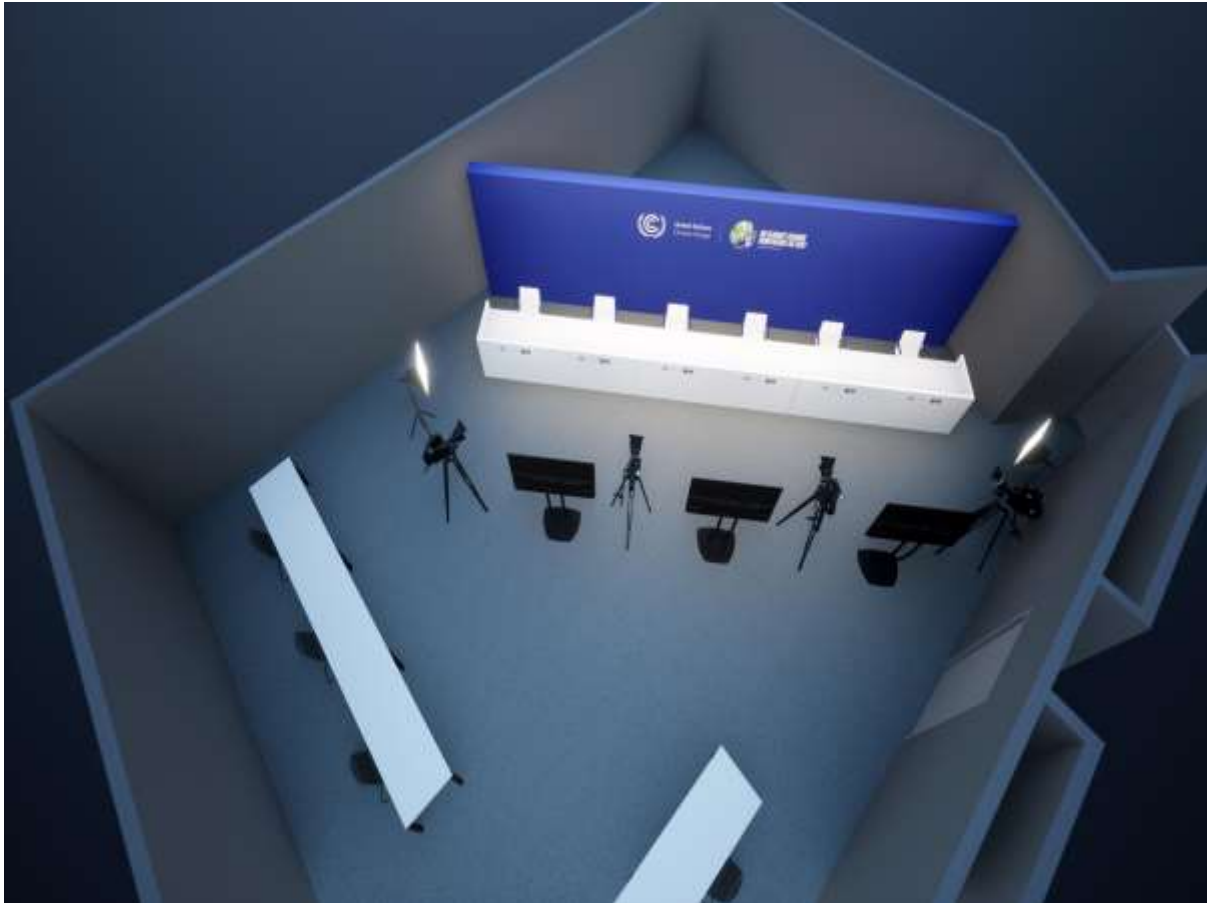
Glen Affric, Multimedia Studio 3, Blue zone

Please note that only a limited number of people can be present in the multimedia studio, determined by the number of chairs (no people standing are allowed due to COVID). We are awaiting guidance from UNFCCC on the number of people that can be present in addition to the 6 in-person speakers.

Venue map: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/COP26_Event-Map_A1_V12.pdf



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Additional links:

Side event organizer handbook:
[https://seors.unfccc.int/applications/seors/pdf/Side event organizer s handbook -
_25.10.2021 update.pdf](https://seors.unfccc.int/applications/seors/pdf/Side%20event%20organizer%20s%20handbook%20-25.10.2021%20update.pdf)