



**INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON HARMONY WITH NATURE
IN COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL MOTHER EARTH DAY**

**Theme: “Harmony with Nature and Biodiversity: Contributions of Ecological Economics
and Earth-centered law”**

UNHQ, New York, Friday 22 April 2022, Trusteeship Council Chamber, 10am-1pm & 3pm-6pm

PROGRAMME

10:00 – 10:15 OPENING SESSION

- * H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th Session of the General Assembly
- * H.E. Mr. Luis Alberto Arce, President of Bolivia
- * H.E. Ms. Teresa Ribera, Vice-President and Minister of Ecological Transition, Spain

10:15 – 10:45 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- * H.E. Ms. Marie Toussaint, Member of Parliament of the European Union
- * H.E. Ms. Barbara Trachte, Secretary of State for the Brussels Region, Belgium
- * H.E. Ms. Caren Fox, Deputy Chief Judge, Māori Land Court, New Zealand
- * H.E. Mr. Manjeri Subin Sunder Raj, Law Professor, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru, India
- * H.E. Ms. Camila Zárate, Coordinator of the Commission on Environment, Rights of Nature, the Commons and Ecological Model of the Constitutional Assembly of Chile

10:45 – 11:15 GENERAL STATEMENTS FROM MEMBER STATES AND STAKEHOLDERS

11:15 – 13:00 PANEL 1: EARTH-CENTERED LAW TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

Unsustainable economic systems have endangered all forms of life, human and non-human – exemplified in the steep loss of biodiversity from terrestrial to aquatic ecosystems, and the climate crisis approaching a point of no return. A reversal of the current path demands nothing less than a paradigm shift.

Moderator: Pamela Martin, Ph.D. Professor of Politics, Executive Director UN Regional Center of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development, Coastal Carolina University, South Carolina

Panelists

- * Ms. Vanessa Hasson de Oliveira, General Director, CSO/MAPAS / Mr. Jose de Abreu, Florianopolis City Councilor, Brazil
- * Ms. Yenny Vega, President, CSO/Intl.Observatory of the Rights of Nature / Mr. Alexandre Boulerice, Canadian MP, New Democratic Party
- * Ms. Claudia Brindis, Operative Director, CSO/ELC Mexico / Mr. Max Correa, Congressman, Mexico
- * Dr. Leonel Fuentes, Dean of the Faculty of Jurisprudence, Social Sciences and Policy, University of Guayaquil, Ecuador
- * Dr. Hernando Bernal, Agrologist, PhD in Development Studies and Intl Cooperation, University of the Basque Country, Spain
- * Mr. Craig Kauffmann, Ph.D. Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Political Science Department, University of Oregon, USA



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PROGRAMME (cont’d)

**Followed by moderated dialogue with multi-stakeholder panelists, followed by Q&A from Member States,
UN organizations and stakeholders.**

13:00 – 15:00 LUNCH BREAK

15:00 – 16:45 PANEL 2: ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

The values advanced by ecological economics and Earth-centered law, such as fairness, equity, justice, cooperation, dialogue, inclusion, comprehension, agreement, respect, and mutual inspiration complement each other in the journey to move beyond the Anthropocene epoch. Earth-centered approaches calls on humanity to listen to, take inspiration from, and care for the Planet that sustains us, and recognize that Nature is, and should be, a source of law, ethics and how we govern ourselves.

Moderator: Pamela Martin, Ph.D. Professor of Politics, Executive Director UN Regional Center of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development, Coastal Carolina University, South Carolina

Panelists

- * Mr. Irikefe V. Dafe, President, CSO/River Ethiopie Foundation (RETFON) / Ms. Mabel Emmanuel, Director at the Ministry of Environment, Nigeria
- * Ms. Callie Veelenturf, Executive Director, CSO/Leatherback project / Mr. Juan Diego Vásquez, Senator at the National Assembly of Panama
- * Dr. Teresa Vicente, Professor of Philosophy of Law and Director of the Human Rights and Rights of Nature Faculty, University of Murcia / Mr. Mario Cervera, Mayor of the Alcázares, Spain
- * Dr. Marcela Peixoto, Lawyer, Solidarity Economy-Articulated first Rights of Nature law in Brazil
- * Ms. Kate Raworth, Author of Doughnut Economics, Co-founder Doughnut Economics Lab
- * Ms. Megan Egler, MSc, PhD Candidate, Leadership for the Ecozoic (L4E), Gund Institute for Environment, University of Vermont, USA

Followed by moderated dialogue with multi-stakeholder panelists, followed by Q&A from Member States, UN organizations and stakeholders (cont’d)



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PROGRAMME (cont’d)

16:45 – 17:30 GENERAL STATEMENTS FROM MEMBER STATES & STAKEHOLDERS (cont’d)

- * H.E. Mr. Cillian Lohan, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee
- * Dr. Géraldine Thiry, Associate professor in economics, ICHEC Brussels Management School, Belgium
- * Dr. Caroline Regad and Dr. Cedric Riot, University Law Professors and Researchers, founders of the first university diploma in France on animal law and, in 2022, of the integration of the rights of the living in Earth Jurisprudence
- * Ms. Doris Ragettli, Co-founder, CSO/Rights of Mother Earth / Mr. Jon Pult, Swiss MP-Social Democratic Party and Ms. Marionna Schlatter, Swiss MP-Green Party
- * Ms. Cintia Balaudo, President, CSO/Capibara Naturaleza, Argentina
- * Mr. Frank Tumusiime, Co-director, CSO/ANARDE / Hon. Biyika Lawrence Songa, MP/Ora County, Uganda

17:30 – 17:45 WRAP UP: THE WAY FORWARD

Moderator will give a brief overview of the outcomes of the morning and afternoon sessions, including recommendations for next steps in incorporating into the High-Level Political Forum and the General Assembly to advance Earth Jurisprudence in the implementation of the SDGs.

17:45 - 18:00 CLOSING SESSION

- * Address by H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th Session of the General Assembly