



WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION



World Meteorological Day 2024

At the frontline of climate action

21 March 2024 - Hybrid event

High-level panel discussion on: *How to keep the 1.5° goal alive?*

The WMO State of Global Climate report reminds everyone of the urgency to tackle the climate crisis. Everywhere in the world, people are already suffering from the negative impact of climate change. Science shows that negative impacts are increasing and some changes risk being irreversible. Everyone agrees on the need to abide by the lower 1.5° target of the Paris ambitions. Can we still reach it and under which conditions? How is it that despite scientific evidences and a wealth of climate data, public policies are not going faster and wider? What is expected from the different actors – including the public, corporate and financial sector? How do young people have a say in increasing climate ambition and contribute to moving the needle? The Panel will bring together diverse voices to answer some of these questions.

Speakers

Moderator- Marie-Claire Graf



Marie-Claire is a passionate advocate and public speaker dedicated to driving a just transition towards sustainable development and ambitious climate action. She is also the co-founder of the Youth Negotiators Academy and Climate Youth Negotiator Programme. Believing in the pivotal role of youth in shaping the future, she empowers young people to take meaningful actions, leading initiatives at local, national, and international levels.

Her leadership has led her to chair the Youth Constituency YOUNGO of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and serve as the UN Food Systems Summit Vice-Chair on youth. Marie-Claire's commitment to global sustainability efforts has earned her recognition, including the title of United Nations Youth Climate Champion of Switzerland. Through her advocacy and leadership, she inspires and mobilizes youth to address the urgent challenges posed by the climate crisis and drive positive change worldwide.

Prof. Celeste Saulo



Professor Celeste Saulo was appointed as the first female and South American Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) by the Nineteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-19). Her four-year term began on 1 January 2024. Prior to this, she served as the Director of the National Meteorological Service of Argentina since 2014 and was the First Vice-President of the WMO.

In her career, Prof. Saulo has seamlessly blended academia with leadership roles. At the National Meteorological Service of Argentina, she championed organizational reforms focused on achieving tangible results, meeting

societal needs, fostering national and international collaboration, and promoting equity, inclusion, and respect. Before her leadership roles, Prof. Saulo contributed significantly to various WMO expert panels, including the Scientific Steering Committee for the World Weather Research Program and the Working Group on Seasonal to Interannual Prediction.

Ambassador Matthew Wilson



Ambassador Matthew Wilson is the Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations Office at Geneva. With over 20 years of expertise in trade and development, he has held key roles in various international organizations and government agencies.

Prior to his current appointment, Amb. Wilson served at the International Trade Centre, where he held positions such as Chief of Staff and Chief Adviser to the Executive Director, demonstrating his leadership and strategic acumen. His tenure at the World Trade Organization and the Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations Office in Geneva further solidified his deep understanding

of global trade dynamics and diplomatic affairs.

Agi Veres



Agi Veres is the Director of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office in Geneva, overseeing efforts to advance global development goals. UNDP, as the UN's lead development agency, operates in 170 countries, striving to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality, and promote sustainable development, democratic governance, peacebuilding, and climate resilience.

In her role, Agi leads a multidisciplinary team to strengthen connections between UNDP's global initiatives and the diverse actors in International Geneva. This collaboration involves partnering with governments, NGOs, academia, and the private sector to design integrated solutions for global challenges. Leveraging Geneva's status as a financial hub, Agi works to bridge investment gaps and facilitate dialogue for policy-making and resource mobilization.

Rosa Sangiorgio



Rosa Sangiorgio is the Head of ESG and is leading the Environmental Social and Governance effort for Pictet Wealth Management. She has over 22 years of experience in structuring, managing and distributing traditional and responsible investment solutions for institutional and private investors globally. Prior to joining Pictet in 2020, she worked for several major European financial institutions. Since 2012, she is focusing on Sustainability and Impact Investing, most recently leading the Sustainability and Impact Investing effort for Credit Suisse Investment Management. Rosa is a CEFA charter holder and a TEDx speaker. Her mission is to support the allocation of resources to socially and environmentally impactful ventures.