



## Scenario Note

*The present scenario note describes arrangements for the conduct of, and thereby aims to assist participants in preparing for, the High-Level Segment of the 2017 Triple COPs. The note should be read in conjunction with the information document "Organization of the high-level segment of the 2017 meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions" (UNEP/CHW.13/INF/3 - UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.8/INF/3 - UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/3).*

### I. Introduction and Objectives

1. The objective of the High-Level Segment is to provide an interactive, dynamic and inclusive platform for ministers and other high-level delegates to exchange experiences and to provide political leadership for renewed commitment towards the implementation of the conventions. In doing so, the high-level segment aims to raise political awareness of and support for the conventions, as well as promote a dialogue among ministers, and between ministers and other high-level delegates.
2. As decided by the bureaux of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, during their joint meeting on 3 and 4 November 2016, participation at the ministerial round-tables (see below, paragraphs 9-20) will be for ministers, deputy ministers, and ambassadors only. The opening of the high-level segment, as well as the high-level plenary discussions will be open to all delegates.
3. To promote interactive dialogue among ministers and other high-level delegates, there will be no serial statements or formal speeches during the interactive panel and/or plenary sessions of the High-Level Segment. Delegations wishing to submit a written statement for posting on the High-Level Segment webpage may do so by sending it to the Secretariat.
4. Ministers may wish to use the opportunity of the High-Level Segment to announce any relevant national pledges or commitments (in which case, the Secretariat invites delegations to inform us in advance, if possible).

### II. Organization of the High-Level Segment

5. The High-Level Segment will comprise one afternoon and one morning, on Thursday, 4 May 2017 and Friday, 5 May 2017, as well as a Ministerial dinner hosted by the Government of Switzerland during the evening of 4 May 2017.

#### **Thursday, 4 May, 2017 – Session 1 (15:00hrs to 16:15hrs)**

6. Ministers, deputy ministers and ambassadors should arrive at the venue (Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG)) starting at 14:45hrs. Representatives of States (ministers, deputy ministers and ambassadors) will be issued a “VIP” badge and may enter the conference premises through a dedicated “fast lane” for VIPs, once they have their badge. Representatives from permanent missions in Geneva will be able to pick up badges for registered Ministers in advance of the meeting. Please refer to the document *“Information for High-Level Segment Participants”* for further details.
7. Once inside the Conference Centre, ministers, deputy Ministers and ambassadors should proceed to their designated country seats in the main Plenary hall (Room 1) before 15:00hrs.
8. The Opening Session of the High-Level Segment will commence at 15:00hrs, with traditional Swiss music by the group “Pflanzplätz”, and close at approximately 16:15hrs. Please refer to *“Programme of the High-Level Segment”* for details.
9. Following the close of the Session 1, ministers, deputy ministers and ambassadors will be escorted to the Varembe Conference Centre (across the street) for the Ministerial round-table discussions. Ministers will be invited to leave their delegation chairs and gather at the front of the Plenary (Room 1) to be escorted to the round-tables by Secretariat staff.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Thursday, 4 May, 2017 – Session 2 (Ministerial round-table discussions, 16:30hrs to 18:30hrs)**

10. Session 2 of the High-Level Segment, the Ministerial round-table discussions, will be held at the Centre de Conférences de Varembe (CCV). Please refer to the document *“Information for High-Level Segment Participants”* for further details.
11. Ministers will arrive after being escorted from Plenary in CICG following closure of the opening session of the High-Level Segment. Coffee and tea will be available upon arrival.
12. Ministers have been pre-assigned a particular round-table in which to participate (this is done on the basis of language considerations). Each of the round-tables will discuss all 3 sub-themes:
  - (a) Opportunities for a detoxified future in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals;
  - (b) Opportunities for strengthened implementation through partnerships; and
  - (c) Opportunities for reducing waste and pollution while enabling economic and social prosperity.Further information about these three sub-themes may be found in the document *“Themes and sub-themes of the High-Level Segment: thought starter”*.
13. There will be eleven (11) round-tables in total. Languages of the round-tables will be English, French and Spanish (possibly also English/Arabic and English/Russian). No interpretation will be provided.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note, following the closure of session 1, the conferences of the Parties will continue in Plenary with joint and convention-specific discussions as necessary to consider the outcomes of joint and convention-specific contact groups, to adopt the reports on credentials and to adopt any outstanding decisions.

14. Each round-table will include approximately 9 ministers, deputy ministers or ambassadors. In addition, at each table there will be:
- a **moderator** (senior UN officials) to facilitate the discussions;
  - a **report writer**, to capture key messages emerging from the discussions;
  - **resource persons** from NGOs and industry/chemical associations are at the group's disposal to provide input relative to the work of their respective organizations;
  - **Secretariat staff** to provide logistical support as required.
15. ENB or Secretariat photographers may take photos during round-table discussions.
16. Two hours (16:30hrs – 18:30hrs) have been allotted for the round-table discussions. As noted, there will be coffee/tea available (self-service) during the discussions.
17. At the start of the session, each round-table Moderator will ask participants to introduce themselves briefly, and then begin the discussions. During the round-table session, ministers, deputy ministers and ambassadors will focus their discussions on the theme and sub-themes of the high level segment. The round-table discussions are intended to encourage an open exchange of views and experiences between participants and will not involve negotiations or decision-making on any of the items on the agendas of the 2017 meetings.
18. Before concluding discussions, each table should nominate one minister (minister level only, not deputy minister or ambassador) to be part of the high-level panel on Friday morning (10:15 to 11:00) to further elaborate on the key messages from their table and react to the consolidated summary.

#### ***At the conclusion of the round-tables***

19. Immediately after the conclusion of the round-tables, round-table Participants will take a group photo at 18:35hrs.
20. Following the group photo, participants may leave for the Ministerial Dinner which will commence at 19:30hrs at the Hotel President Wilson. Participants should arrange with their Permanent Missions for cars to pick them up starting at 18:45hrs. Further information about the dinner will be made available in the invitation issued by the Government of Switzerland.
21. In order to prepare the summary of key messages from each table, the report writers and secretariat staff of each table, under the authority of its respective Moderator, will compile brief summaries of the key messages from each round-table. The contributions from all round-tables will then be compiled during the evening and the summary of all contributions will be presented by a senior Secretariat official the next morning to the Plenary. As noted above, the nominated Ministers of each table will be part of the high-level panel following the presentation of the summary, in order to further elaborate on the outcomes of each round-table (see also below).

#### **Friday, 5 May, 2017 – Session 3 (10:00hrs to 13:00hrs)**

22. Ministers, deputy ministers and ambassadors should arrive at the venue (Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG)) starting at 09:50hrs and proceed to their designated country seats in the main Plenary hall (Room 1) to resume at 10:00hrs. Please refer to *“Programme of the High-Level Segment”* for details.
23. Following the summary of key messages from the round-table discussions, nominated ministers (see paragraph 17) will take part in the high-level panel, which will be moderated by a professional moderator. Further information will be provided to ministers participating on the panel in advance.

24. A general discussion will follow the panel discussion and all interested participants in the Plenary will be invited to take the floor. A consolidated summary of key messages emerging from the round-table, plenary and panel discussions will be presented as part of the closing remarks. The High-Level Segment will conclude at 13:00hrs. The outcomes of the High-Level Segment will consist of a report of the High-Level Segment and a consolidation of the key messages from the round-table discussions.