

## **Dialogue Session between the UNEA and CPR Bureaus and Representatives from the business community**

*Act #ForNature Forum*

9 June 2020, 18:30– 20:30

*Outline*

This interactive dialogue will allow representatives from the business community to present and discuss the preparatory process for the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly in relation to the theme of UNEA 5, the Ministerial Declaration, and other issues of interest, with members of the Bureaus and the UNEP Secretariat.

The dialogue will look at some of the key insights and recommendations relevant to the theme of UNEA-5 “Strengthening Actions for Nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” emerging from the Brief #1 of the GEO for Business, entitled “*Adapt to Thrive: What transformational change means for business*”, and explore how this approach can support the UNEA-5 theme, in the context of the post-pandemic recovery, bringing green technologies such as solar power, bio-based materials and electric mobility to maturity.

[GEO for Business](#) builds on the UNEP flagship report Global Environment Outlook 6, and was developed as a response to UNEA resolutions on sustainable business approaches and on the recently adopted strategy for private sector engagement. It is an advocacy tool that brings the science of the Outlook report to the business community, particularly to small and medium enterprises, to support the development of plans, technology pathways and enablers that build green and circular economies.

The GEO for Business is part of a broader science policy business interface which is central to UNEP’s work to ensure that the policies have science at their core to implement UN the Sustainable Development Goals. In support of this endeavor, the UN Science-Policy-Business Forum convenes issues-based consultations, roundtables, thematic conferences and in-depth negotiations between top scientists, policy makers, citizen science groups and the business sector to ensure positive outcomes for the environment and for the people. The Forum plays an important advisory role to the UN Environment Assembly by building consensus, encouraging cooperation and tearing down traditional barriers between these sectors. It also supports digitization of resources and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

The Dialogue will allow for discussion between members of the Bureaus of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives and authors of the GEO for Business Brief #1, members of the GEO for Business Steering Committee and of the Science, Policy and Business Forum, and representatives from the business and civil society, to consider how the science, policy and business interface can contribute to a successful outcome of UNEA-5 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Dialogue may address the following key guiding questions:

- How can UNEA-5 contribute to business transformation towards a nature positive economy?
- What can the science and business community do to strengthen the business-policy-science interface at UNEA-5?
- What is the role of the science policy business interface in the context of the post-pandemic recovery efforts?
- How can the science and business community help strengthen the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 17 on global partnerships?

The meeting will be co-chaired by Mr Ado Lohmus, Vice President of the UNEA Bureau and Permanent Representative of Estonia to UNEP; and H.E. Francisca Ashietey-Odunton, Rapporteur of the CPR Bureau and Permanent Representative of Ghana to UNEP.

An advanced version of the executive summary of Brief #1 of the GEO for Business, entitled “*Adapt to Thrive - What business transformation means for business*” is available [here](#).