

**AFRICA AND EUROPE:
CLIMATE SECURITY
FOR THE FUTURE –
GLOBAL CHALLENGES, LOCAL ACTIONS**



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS



Agenda

The 12th Africa Day International Conference is hosted by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, in collaboration with the Bled Strategic Forum, the European Commission and the Chatham House, and under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Slovenia. This high-level annual event seeks to improve policy outcomes for citizens in Europe and Africa as a result of mutual understanding and cooperation between the two regions, while strengthening bilateral relations between Slovenia and Africa.

Climate change poses one of the most serious threats to global security. No individual country or region can face it alone; strong international partnerships are crucial. Analysing risk and taking action can help towards a number of SDGs and a more secure and sustainable future. Addressing climate security is essential for the well-being and future stability of communities and countries around the world, and for the global community as a whole.

This conference will offer a platform for further inter-regional exchange and cooperation to contribute to progress on climate security. It will bring together decision-makers and experts from Europe, Africa and around the world to identify the challenges and discuss the steps to be taken.

20 April

07.45 Registration

08.30 **Opening of the Africa Day Conference** (*Grandis Hall*)

Short cultural programme

Opening speeches

H.E. Ms Tanja Fajon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

Ms Jutta Urpilainen, European Commissioner (*pre-recorded video*)

08.45 **Leaders' panel** (*Grandis Hall*)

H.E. Ms Tanja Fajon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

H.E. Mr Rui Alberto de Figueiredo Soares, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Regional Integration, Republic of Cabo Verde

H.E. Mr Dhoahir Dhoulkamal, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Union of the Comoros

H.E. Mr Vincent Biruta, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Republic of Rwanda

H.E. Ms Nancy Tembo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Malawi

Mr John F. Kerry, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, United States of America (*pre-recorded video*)

Chair: **Mr Seku Mady Condé**, journalist and TV presenter, RTV Slovenija

10.00 Coffee break

10.45 **Panel: UNSC and climate security – what next?** (*Grandis Hall*)

Africa's priorities for multilateral action on climate security

Mr Dhesigen Naidoo, Head of the African Climate Risk and Human Security Programme, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Security Studies (ISS)

The role of the UNSC in climate change action

Ms Simone Borg, Ambassador for Climate Action, Malta

Driving Security Council debate on climate security

Dr Sinead Walsh, Climate Director, Development Cooperation and Africa Division Department of Foreign Affairs, Ireland

Obstacles to effective UNSC engagement on climate change

Ms Hafsa Maalim, Associate Senior Researcher, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

Chair: **Ms Janani Vivekananda**, Head of Programme, Climate Diplomacy and Security, Adelphi

12.00 **Address** (*Grandis Hall*)

H.E. Ms Nataša Pirc Musar, PhD, President of the Republic of Slovenia

12.10 Lunch

14.00 **Address** (*Grandis Hall*)

H.E. Ms Urška Klakočar Zupančič, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia

14.10 **Parallel Panels:**

1) Inclusive climate security responses: The role of women, civil society and youth (*Grandis Hall*)

African civil society leadership in climate action

Dr Evans Kituyi, Senior Associate, Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)

Gender-sensitive climate security

H.E. Ms Safiya Ahmad Nuhu, PhD, Ambassador of the Republic of Nigeria

Power asymmetries in climate change security

Ms Ana Kalin, Policy maker and analyst, Forum for Equitable Development

Role of youth and civil society in the EU-Africa and EU-OACPS partnerships

Mr Domenico Rosa, Head, Strategic Partnerships with Africa and OACPS Unit, and Head, Post Cotonou Working Group, European Commission

Chair: **Mr Patrick Mpedzisi**, Global Diplomacy Lab

2) Delivering effective multilateral action: Climate security at COP28 (*Splendens Hall, only in English*)

Reflecting on African engagement at COP27 and priorities for COP28

Professor Chukwumerije Okereke, Director, Centre for Climate Change and Development, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike; Visiting Professor, University of Reading and Oxford

Towards the systematic inclusion of climate security issues at COP

Ms Tina Kobilšek, Lead negotiator for climate change, Head of Climate Change and Biotechnology Division, Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Energy, Republic of Slovenia

Ensuring inclusive dialogue at COP

Dr Omnia El Omrani, Youth Envoy to the COP27 President (*online*)

Addressing barriers to Europe-Africa climate negotiations

Ms Elisabeth Hege, Senior Research Fellow, Governance and Financing for Sustainable Development, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)

Attracting sustainable climate financing in Africa

Mr Ousmane Fall Sarr, Coordinator, West African Alliance on Carbon Markets and Climate Finance

Chair: **Mr Christopher Vandome**, Senior Research Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

15.10 Free time

20.00 Open air concert Wiyaala & The Yaga Yaga Band, Novi trg, Ljubljana

21 April

09.00 **Keynote addresses: Linking resilient economies and climate security** (*Grandis Hall*)

Mr Matjaž Han, Minister of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, Republic of Slovenia

Mr Uroš Brežan, Minister for Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, Republic of Slovenia

H.E. Mr Vincent Biruta, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Republic of Rwanda

09.30 **Parallel Panels**

1) Smart business solutions for ecological security (*Grandis Hall*)

Presentation of Vesolje.si: Space Technologies for ecological solutions

Mr Tomaž Rodič, CEO, Slovenian Centre of Excellence for Space Sciences and Technologies

Water monitoring and agriculture

Mr Matjaž Ivačič, GeoCodis, Slovenia

Circularity of textile/plastic waste

Professor Dr Aleksandra Lobnik, CEO, Institute for Environmental Protection and Sensors, Slovenia

Blue Economy for Ecological Security

Mr Mounir Ghribi, PhD, Director of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Blue Economy, EMUNI

Securing energy infrastructure investment

Ms Linda Mabhena-Olagunju, Founder and CEO, DLO Energy Resources Group

Chair: **Ms Elizabeth Maloba**, Policy Leader Fellow, European University Institute

2) Enhancing nature-based solutions and local action for climate resilience (*Splendens Hall, only in English*)

Enhancing nature-based solutions for climate resilience

Mr Uroš Brežan, Minister of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, Republic of Slovenia

Water provision for sustainable livelihoods

Dr Ayan Mahamoud, Senior Programme Coordinator, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

Responding to climate security challenges in the Lake Chad Basin and Sahel

Ms Adenike Oladosu, Agricultural Economist and Climate Justice Activist

The role of sustainable forests in climate resilience

Mr Rene Ngongo, Rapporteur, Environment and Natural Resources Commission, Economic & Social Council, Democratic Republic of Congo

Climate for Peace project – strengthening local action

Ms Christina Wegelein, Head of Climate and Security Division, German Federal Foreign Office

Chair: **Mr Bob Dewar CMG**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

10.45 Coffee break

11.00 **Parallel Panels:**

1) Slovenia-Africa Business Cooperation – business clubs presentations (*Grandis Hall*)

Mr Gilbert Mežnar, Slovenia-Ghana Business Club

Mr Domen Mikša, Slovenia-Tunisia Business Club

Mr Fred Uduma, Slovenia-Nigeria Business Club

Mr Marius Mensah, Slovenia-Ivory Coast Business Club

Ms Nadia Cigale, Slovenia-Cameroon Business Club

Chair: **Mr Rok Tomšič**, Head of Department for bilateral economic cooperation, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

2) Innovative solutions for sustainable development (*Splendens Hall, only in English*)

Prof Abdelhamid El-Zoheiry, President EMUNI

Mr Robert Blatnik, MSc, CLP, Jožef Stefan Institute

Ms Jihene Nouairi, young innovator

Ms Patricija Ham, young innovator

Ms Laila Mahmoud, young innovator

Chair: **Mr Jure Tomc**, JT Business Development Ltd.

Possibility of B2B meetings all the morning

12.00 Concluding remarks (*Grandis Hall*)

Mr Samuel Žbogar, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

Ms Tighisti Amare, Deputy Director, Africa Programme, Chatham House

12.30 Lunch

14.30 Departure – Business field trip

15.00 Iskraemeco Company – Kranj

17.30 Visit to Radovljica – welcome by the Mayor, tasting of honey products, traditional dance performance

19.00 – 21.00 Reception (Lectar Restaurant – Radovljica)

--- The Conference will be streamed online and recorded. ---

Back-to-back event

Climate Change, Peace and Security Training (*registrations closed*)

24 - 26 April 2023

Organised by the Peace Operations Training Centre (POTC) and Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, this three-day training will provide an insight into different aspects of the climate-security nexus. The participants will be able to understand and analyse climate-related security risks and be better prepared to contribute to crisis prevention and sustaining peace.