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Eighth Interactive Dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature

Earth has supported life for 3.5 billion years and today, it is well-known that her hospitality has been rapidly degrading due to global environmental change affecting the health and the future of many of Earth's inhabitants.

Science tells us that natural disasters have triggered at least five mass extinctions in the past 500 million years; furthermore, it has also indicated that we are currently in the midst of Earth's sixth mass extinction of plants and animals. And for the first time, almost entirely caused by human activity.

Every extinction affects the interconnected web of life, including habitats and species, and humanity's place within this web. Nature has an intrinsic value to exist, separate from its human utility. It is undeniable that when we harm Nature, when we harm our community of life, we harm ourselves..

The speed and scale of loss is immense, and we must act with a corresponding urgency and breadth, to gather data, to apply data, to halt destruction, and to begin to heal and revive. Our future will be determined by our ability to respond to change, and biodiversity loss gravely limits our human resilience.

To help heal and repair Earth, over the last several years there have been important advances in Earth Jurisprudence, notably in Earth-centered Law and Ecological Economics that further the overall implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

It is thus well understood that human well-being is inextricably linked to the well-being of Earth, and that for human rights to be protected, so must Earth's right to a healthy environment.

Earth Jurisprudence, through Earth-centered Law and Ecological Economics, recognizes these same links between human rights and Nature's rights. Earth-centered Law and Ecological Economics argue that it is humanity's ethical and legal obligation to protect Earth, to give Nature a voice, and to acknowledge and share our individual and societal responsibilities. Their goals are the mutual enhancement of the human-Earth relationship and fairness between generations.

Earth-centered Law and Ecological Economics further advance that Earth is not an object to be exploited but a subject deserving protection and respect, and invite us to shift our consciousness of living at the expense of Nature for a consciousness of living in Harmony with Nature.

In doing so, they further ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness regarding sustainable development and lifestyles in Harmony with Nature, as stated in Sustainable Development Goal 12, sustainable production and consumption patterns, target 12.8.

The 2018 Interactive Dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature will address how the above-mentioned legal and economic frameworks are being applied to further the implementation of sustainable production and consumption patterns in Harmony with Nature.

Venue

- 23 April 2018
- 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
- Ecosoc Chamber, UN Secretariat, N.Y.

UN Broadcast

- Broadcast: Live and on-demand webcast coverage to be available on the UN Web TV website at: <http://webtv.un.org>

Panellists

Opening Session

- [Pablo Angulo-Troconis | Presentation](#)
- [Benedek Jávor](#)
- [Sirpa Pietikäinen](#)
- [Doris Ragettli | Presentation](#)

Technical Segment

- [Craig Kauffman \(Moderator\) | Opening and Closing Remarks](#)
- [Juliana Braz | Presentation](#)
- [Karen Brown | Presentation](#)
- [Roberto Caldas | Presentation](#)
- [Jorge Calderón | Presentation](#)
- [Method Gundidza | Presentation](#)
- [Kathryn Gwiazdon | Presentation](#)
- [Kirsti Luke | Presentation](#)
- [Marsha Moutrie | Presentation](#)
- [Laura Movilla | Presentation](#)
- [Jorge Palacio | Presentation](#)
- [Leah Temper | Presentation](#)

Dialogue Documents

- [Concept Note](#)
- [Programme](#)
- [Security Note](#)

Secretary-General Reports

- [2017 - A/72/175 Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)
- [2016 - A/71/266 Note by the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)
- [2015 - A/70/268 Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)
- [2014 - A/69/224 Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)
- [2013 - A/68/325 Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)
- [2012 - A/67/317 Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)
- [2011 - A/66/302 Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)
- [2010 - A/65/314 Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature](#)

Past dialogues

- [21 April 2017 - Seventh Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature of the 71st session of the General Assembly: AM Session and PM Session](#)
- [22 April 2016 - Sixth Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature of the 70th session of the General Assembly](#)
- [27 April 2015 - Fifth Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature of the 69th session of the General Assembly](#)
- [22 April 2014 - Fourth Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature of the 68th session of the General Assembly](#)
- [22 April 2013 - Third Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature of the 67th session of the General Assembly](#)
- [18 April 2012 - Second Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature of the 66th session of the General Assembly](#)
- [20 April 2011 - First Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature of the 65th session of the General Assembly](#)