

Conference on Challenges of Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs

25th & 26th of June, 2024 I UN Geneva Palais des Nations - Bldg E40 - Room XXIII

AGENDA

Tuesday 25 of June 2024

From	То	Sessions	Inauguration Ceremony
09:00	10:00	Registration	
10:00	10:30	Official Opening Ceremony Remarks & Keynote speeches	 > Mr. Mohamed El Etreby, Chairman, Union of Arab Banks > Dr. Joseph Torbey, Chairman, World Union of Arab Bankers > Dr. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). (recorded message) > Eng. Dr. Ziyad Khalaf Abed, Member of the Board of Directors, Union of Arab Banks.

> Dr. Wissam Fattouh, Secretary General, Union of Arab Banks

From	То	Sessions	Topics & Speakers
10:30	11:45	Session I	Advancements in SDGs within the Arab Region: Reflecting 2030 Agenda
		This session will focus on	 Regional Progress and Success Stories. Challenges and innovative Solutions. Partnerships and Collaborations. Emerging Issues and Future Trends.
		Chair	> Mr. Grammenos Mastrojeni, Deputy Secretary General, Senior Expert, Energy and Climate Change, Union for the Mediterranean (UFM).
		Panelists	 Dr. Maisaa Youssef, Leader of the Cluster on the 2030 Agenda and SDG Coordination, ESCWA. Dr. Nada EL Agizy, Director, Sustainable Development and International Cooperation, the League of Arab States. Ms. Frida Youssef, Chief Transport Section, Trade and Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD, Geneva Mrs. Ozge Aydogan, Chief, ODG SDG LAB, UN Geneva.
11:45	11:55	Q & A	

From	То	Sessions	Topics & Speakers
11:55	13:00	Session II:	Overcoming Sustainability Barriers in Arab Countries: Reforms for Accelerated Progress.
		This session will focus on	 Policy and Regulatory Reforms. Institutional Capacity Building. Public-Private Partnerships. Sustainable Finance and Resource Allocation.
		Chair and Keynote speaker	 Mrs.Nahla Bou Diab , Culture and Leadership Expert, Chairman & General Manager of Oneness Management and CEO of AM Bank –Lebanon
		Keynote Presentation	«Empowering Change: Navigating the Challenges and Solutions Towards Sustainable Development Goals»
		Panelists	 Mrs. Liesel van Ast, Deputy Head, UNEP FI, Geneva Mr. Michael DETHLEFSEN, Chief, Division of Innovative Finance and International Financial Institutions, UNIDO Mr.Jerome Vacher, Senior Economist, Gulf Cooperation Middle East and Central Asia, IMF. Mrs.Luisa Bernal, SDG Finance & Trade, UNDP
12:50	13:00	Q & A	
			End of day 1

Wednesday 26 of June 2024

From	То	Sessions	Topics & Speakers
10:00	10:20	Keynote speech	 Mrs. Marion Hoenicke, Head of Financial Inclusion, EU Enlargement & Neighbourhood Department, European Investment Bank (EIB).
10:20	10:30	Session I	The role of the Financial Sector in SDG Achievement across the Arab Region
		This session will focus on:	 Investment Strategies for Sustainable Development. Innovative Financial Instruments. Financial Inclusion and Social Impact.
		Chair:	> Mr. Eslam Mahdy, PCAF MENA Region Lead
		Panelists:	 > Mr. Osama Bukhari, CEO, Alfaris International Group - Head of Banking Committee, ICC Saudi Arabia > Dr. Amal Benaissa, Director, Sustainability Advocacy, Bank of Africa – BMCE, Morocco > Dr.Ali Awdeh, Director of Research Department, Union of Arab Banks
10:30	10:40	Q & A	

From	То	Sessions	Topics & Speakers
11:40	12:45	Session III	Empowering the Arab Economies: The Contribution of Banks towards SDGs
		This session will focus on	 Sustainable Finance and Investment. Financial Inclusion and Accessibility. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiatives. Importance of Digital Transformation and Financial Technology (Fintech).
		Chair	> Dr. Ali Awdeh, Director of Research Department, Union of Arab Banks
		Panelists	 > Mrs. Dalia Akmal Nour El Din, Senior Sustainable Finance Specialist, Central Bank of Egypt. > Mr. Eslam Mahdy, PCAF MENA Region Lead. > Dr. Natalia Realpe Carrillo, CEO, HEDERA – Digital Solutions for Sustainable Development > Mr. Ala' Sahawneh, Business Development and Marketing Manager,Ahli microfinance, Jordan.
12:45	13:00	Q & A	

End of conference' proceedings



UAB reserve the right to modify, alter or change the agenda as necessary

Logistics info

UN Geneva office Address

United Nations Office at Geneva ; Palais des Nations, 1211 Genève, Switzerland Geneva - Switzerland.

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ERVICES

Entry Badge for UN GENEVA	Entry to the Palais des Nations requires a United Nations grounds pass issued to authorized users. Registered participants can obtain a badge at the Pregny gate after passing through security screening and presenting a valid passport or a national identity card.
Registration	Please complete your registration for the Conference by accessing the UN platform Indico using the link that will be sent to you via email from the UAB conference department. This link is exclusively for participants who have already filled out the participation form.
Reaching the Palais des Nations	Several buses stop at the Place des Nations, where the Palais des Nations is located. Trams 13 and 15, and buses 20 ,8 ,5, F, V and Z, leave from Cornavin train station and stop at the Place des Nations. Buses 20, F, V and Z also pass by the Pregny gate, which is the entrance for tour groups or those without UN accreditation. Bus 18 goes from the Place des Nations to the airport. Buses 14 ,11 and 28 also stop at the Place des Nations.
Transport	There are several buses from the airport to Geneva town centre. There are also frequent trains between the airport's train station directly to the city centre (Genève Cornavin).
Hotels Near United Nations GENEVA	 Hôtel Eden Genève 3 - star hotel Rue de Lausanne 1202 ,135 Genève, Switzerland•00 37 716 22 41+ 850 M from UN Geneva Office Hotel D Geneva 3 star hotel rue de Fribourg 16, Geneva 1201 Switzerland•16 16 777 22 41+ 1.1 miles from Palais des Nations Geneva Hostel 4 - star hotel Rue Rothschild 1202 ,28 Genève, Switzerland•60 62 732 22 41+ 1.5 KM from UN Geneva Office Hilton Geneva Hotel & Conference Centre
	4 - star hotel Rte François-Peyrot 1218 ,34 Le Grand-Saconnex, Switzerland•02 02 747 22 41+ 1.5 KM from UN Geneva Office

ONFERENCE ROOMS

CX, XX CX, XXI CX, XXII, XXIII, XXI CXV, XXVI, XXVII 52, 53, 54 CONFERENCE BUILDING A NORME III, V NORME VI, VII, VIII, IX NORME X, XL XII NORME XV

The conference will be held at UN office in Geneva (Bldg. E40 -Room XXIII - 1st Floor)