

High-level Panel/Event (Virtual): “Climate Change: The Role of National Initiatives in Protecting the Environment Globally”

Date: Tuesday 7 December 2021

Time: 11: 00 – 12:30 (CEST Time)

Duration: approximately 1.5 hours.

Target audience: All Missions, Ambassadors and/or Representatives in Geneva, UNOG and other International Organizations’ officials.

Invitees: All permanent missions in Geneva, relevant organizations and the press.

Proposed venue: Virtual Zoom Room + live streaming on twitter via the mission account @KSApermanentGVA

Climate change is one of the most significant environmental challenges faced by societies today. It has substantial implications on energy, food and water security, health and safety for countries and people worldwide; this has led to the need for new policies and partnerships to expand the scope of current efforts to combat climate change and address this growing challenge.

At the beginning of the (48) session of the Human Rights Council, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Michelle Bachelet, described the triple planetary crises of climate change, pollution, and nature loss represented as the biggest threat to human rights globally, and they will constitute the single greatest challenge to human rights of our era.

Due to its leadership role, geographic location, regional and international responsibilities. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has launched "The Saudi and Middle East Green Initiatives" on 23 October 2021, as part of its commitment to saving the planet, with a clear road map which began during its G-20 presidency last year 2020 and consistent with Vision 2030.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is organizing an event to discuss how to achieve the global targets in combatting climate change and initiatives taken by states, including Saudi Arabia, and its contribution to environmental protection and human rights.



The main objectives of the event are:

- Addressing the need for new policies to expand efforts for the environmental challenges faced by societies.
- Highlighting the impact of national initiatives in achieving global goals to combat climate change.
- Exchanging views on lessons learned and difficulties towards achieving this initiative.
- Discussing the human right to enjoy a clean and healthy environment.

The Structure of the high-level panel: The Panel takes place on Tuesday 7 December 2021 between approx. 11: 00 – 12:30 (CEST Time) in a virtual zoom room.

Moderated by – Dr. Abdulaziz ALWASIL, Saudi Permanent Representative in Geneva

Speakers:

- **Prof. Petteri TAALAS,** Secretary-General, WMO
- **Dr. Ayman GHULAM,** CEO National Center for Metrology
- **Mr. Asim AHMED,** Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for the Maldives
- **Dr. Mohammed QURBAN,** CEO National Center for Wildlife Development
- **Dr. Khaled AL-ABDULKADER,** CEO National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combat Desertification
- **Dr. Hany EL SHAER,** IUCN Regional Director - West Asia
- **Ms. Noura Alissa,** Senior International Policy Analyst, Ministry of Energy

Agenda:

1. Opening Statement – Dr. Abdulaziz ALWASIL, Saudi Permanent Representative in Geneva
2. Short Video
3. Interventions by the speakers
4. Q & A
5. Wrap up

Technical modalities: To participate in the event, you are kindly requested to join the Zoom meeting via the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89583940330?pwd=eDhiMlYxYm1RUjRCZUV3R0hlaDIVQT09>

Meeting ID: 895 8394 0330

Passcode: 717321

