

Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

Sustainable Infrastructure
Sustainable Tourism
Education for Sustainable Development

5-7 of October 2022
Nicosia-Cyprus

AGENDA

"Blockchain Eco-System for UN Charter Values and SDGs",

"Game Changer" to "Regenerate the Planet and Regenerate Europe"

October 6th, 2022 – **13:10-14:40**

Room 7/Graduate School of Cyprus Institute

English [Live and Hybrid]

Digitalization can propel us towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, (SDGs). Digital disruption creates an historic opportunity to reshape finance. Digitalization can have a transformative impact by empowering people in financing. Catalytic opportunities can harness digitalization in aligning finance with the SDGs. Barriers and digital risks need to be overcome. Governance innovations are pre-conditions for harnessing digitalization in delivering financing¹

The side event aims to discuss how can Governments through implementing and applying the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters² contribute to a 'global initiative', under the High Patronage of H.E. Csaba Körösi,

¹ Executive Summary : <https://unsdg.un.org/resources/peoples-money-harnessing-digitalization-finance-sustainable-future>

² adopted on 25 June 1998 in the Danish city of Aarhus (Århus) at the Fourth Ministerial Conference as part of the "Environment for Europe" process.

President of the 77th UN General Assembly, aiming to bring together 100+ networks and platforms to envisage a **blockchain eco-system and its situation room in support to the UN Charter values and the SDGs (BC100+)** with a particular attention on sustainable finance ?

And this while, the UN General Assembly 2022(UNGA) passed a resolution recognizing the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment as a human right and called upon States, international organizations, businesses, and other stakeholders to “scale up efforts” to ensure a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment for all.

The side event will explore opportunities for **twin BC100+ initiatives aiming to use and apply the Aarhus Convention (global treaty, entered into force on 30 October 2001) and the Escazú Agreement (the first regional environmental agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean, entered into force on 22 April 2021 after being ratified by 12 countries).**

Proposals should contribute to the UN Summit for the Future (SfF) September 2023 and the vision of UN Secretary-General António Guterres of UNGA 77 as “*a time to recalibrate multilateralism and strengthen the foundations of global cooperation*” as well as ‘*Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*’, a common objective of UNDESA and UNFCCC in view of COP27th (Egypt)and COP28th (United Arab Emirates).

The-EPE, think tank.



Facilitator and Rapporteur : Raymond Van Ermen, The-EPE

Preliminary Agenda

Time	<i>Title of presentation</i> Name, Affiliation
13:10-13:15	<i>Introduction</i> Mr Raymond Van Ermen
13:15-13:30	<i>Relevance of the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers</i> Ms. Iordanca-Rodica Iordanov (Republic of Moldova), Chair of the Aarhus Convention Task Force on Access to Information
13:30-13:45	<i>European Blockchain Partnership potential contribution (online)</i> Ms Nena Dokuzov, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, Slovenia
13:45-14:00	<i>Which blockchain eco-system ?</i> Mr Jeff Bandman, Global Blockchain Business Council – Digital Finance (GDF)
14:00-14:15	<i>The BC100+ Initiative</i> Ms Mariana de la Roche, the International Association for Trusted Blockchain Applications (INATBA)
14 :15-14 :35	<i>Opportunities for joint initiatives on the use of blockchain technology for improving environmental governance and supporting transformation to green and circular economy by applying the Aarhus Convention, its Protocol on PRTRs and the Escazú Agreement for Latin America and the Caribbean</i> All panelists
14:35-14:40	<i>Conclusions</i>