

MULTILATERALISM MATTERS TO BUSINESS: VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM ON PARTNERSHIP SOLUTIONS AT UNGA 75

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 AT 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM EST

Updated 8 September 2020

The United States Council for International Business (USCIB) All In UN 75 Campaign and the International Organization of Employers (IOE), under the auspices of the Business and Industry Major Group to the UN in NY, will convene a virtual symposium on Multilateralism Matters to Business: Partnership Solutions at UNGA 75 on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 7:30 am – 9:30 am EST.

There are many positive examples of business cooperation and contribution in the multilateral system, most recently with companies, employers and business organizations stepping forward in their communities and across the UN to marshal global solutions and solidarity. As we strive to #buildforwardbetter, the private sector regards inclusive multilateralism as indispensable for the future we want.

The virtual symposium will bring high level voices from business, member states, the UN and other stakeholders together on the urgent need for inclusive multilateralism on the occasion of UN75. Speakers will underscore the commitment and enthusiasm of business in all its diversity to advance sustainability and recovery imperatives hand in hand with the UN. High level representatives and leading experts from the private and public sectors will discuss:

- support to MSMEs and SMEs,
- informality,
- job creation,
- regulation,
- debt relief,
- partnership building, and
- inclusive growth

Invited speakers (not all speakers are confirmed)

- **H.E. Evelyn Wever-Croes**, *Prime Minister, Aruba*
- **H.E. Ambassador Munir Akram**, *Permanent Representative of Pakistan and President of ECOSOC*
- **Johnny C. Taylor**, *CEO, SHRM*
- **H.E. Liu Zhenmin**, *Under-Secretary-General, Economic and Social Affairs*
- **Claus Stig Pedersen**, *Head of Global Sustainability & Public Affairs, Novozymes*
- **Ayman Cherkaoui**, *Coordinator, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection*

Interested participants can register [here](#).

7:30 AM – 8 00AM: OPENING SESSION: “THE FUTURE WE WANT, THE UN WE NEED VIA PUBLIC PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION”

This session will focus on showcasing private sector efforts developed to help UN Member States achieve the SDGs and Agenda 2030 and on highlighting the business community’s commitment to advance sustainability and recovery hand in hand with the UN and other relevant stakeholders.

- *Roberto Suarez Santos, Secretary General, IOE*
- *H.E. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General, Economic and Social Affairs*
- *H.E. Ambassador Munir Akram, Permanent Representative of Pakistan and President of ECOSOC*

8:05 AM – 8:40 AM: AN OPEN DIALOGUE: BUSINESS VISION FOR THE UN DECADE OF ACTION, DELIVERY AND RECOVERY PRIORITIES AND PRACTICAL SYNERGIES

Leading experts from the private and public sector will have an open dialogue on priority areas of focus in converging the UN 2030 Agenda and Covid19 response and recovery, including job creation and the future of work, inclusive growth, debt relief support to MSMEs, and partnership building on the ground. Invited speakers include:

- *Evelyn Wever-Croes, Prime Minister Aruba*
- *Johnny C. Taylor CEO SHRM*
- *Alexander N Sohkin , Russia Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP)*
- *Beate Andrees, ILO Special Representative to the UN and Director of ILO NY office*
- *Ms. Marina Walter, UN RC - Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Aruba, Curacao and Saint Maarten*

8:40 AM – 9:15 AM: A RAPID FIRE ROUNDTABLE: BUILDING BLOCKS FOR ACTION / REBUILDING FORWARD TOGETHER

This session will be a fast-moving conversation among panelists, who will consider the opportunities afforded by business-facing multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance sustainable development, and how both national governments and the UN system can incent, enable and mainstream those types of collaborations, particularly during the challenges of the lockdown, while via more inclusive multilateralism. Invited speakers include:

- *Claus Stig Pedersen, Head of Global Sustainability & Public Affairs, Novozymes*
- *Ayman Cherkaoui, Coordinator, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection*
- *Matthias Thorns, Deputy Secretary-General, IOE*
- *Sandra Wu, Wen-Hsiu, Chairperson and CEO, Kokusai Kogyo*
- *Daphne Yong-d'Hervé , Director, Peace and Prosperity, International Chamber of Commerce*
- *Christiane Cunningham, Director of European Regulatory Affairs, Deloitte*
- *Sangita Reddy, President, Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

9:15 AM – 9:30 AM: CLOSING COMMENTS

- *Peter Robinson, President & CEO, United States Council for International Business (USCIB)*

9:30 AM: ADJOURN