# [***OFFICIAL UNEA-6 SIDE-EVENT SEAWEED AS A NATURE-BASED SOLUTION TO TACKLE THE TRIPLE PLANETARY CRISIS: CLIMATE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND POLLUTION***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6B8S-H3V1-DYTH-G107-00000-00&context=1516831)

States News Service

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**Body**

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Background

We are currently facing a triple planetary crisis of climate change, ***biodiversity*** ***loss***, and pollution. These crises are undermining nature's ability to provide ecosystem services that support human and non-human well-being. They threaten the potential growth of seaweed, a powerful and multifaceted nature-based ocean solution.

Seaweed forests are known for their nutrient remediation qualities, especially when it comes to nitrogen and phosphorus, and their role in preserving coastal ***biodiversity***. Along with corals and seagrasses, seaweed participate in maintaining the balance in oceanic ecosystems. Seaweed is also a low-carbon ocean economy product and considered a high-value source of protein for humans and livestock. It is a sustainable non-plastic substitute and a bio stimulant. In addition, there is a growing global interest in seaweed cultivation as a scalable solution to climate change that may provide environmental and social co-benefits as part of the advancement of resilient and climate smart aquaculture.

As an official side-event during the UN Environmental Assembly 6, this event aims to increase knowledge and understanding of how seaweed ecosystems can support coastal fisheries, provide food and medicine, mitigate climate change and ocean acidification, and improve water quality.

Programme (EAT time)

13:30-13:35 (5 min) Moderator Vincent Doumeizel, UN Global Compact Welcome and run of show

13:35-13:45 (10 min) Leticia Carvalho, Head of Marine and Freshwater Branch, UNEP Welcome and opening, background on the importance of the UNEA and the theme this year, seaweed at UNEP

13:45-13:55 (10 min) H.E. Tsimanaoraty Paubert Mahatante, Minister for Fisheries and Blue Economy of the Republic of Madagascar High Level Remarks

13:55-14:05 (10 min) Dr. Vivi Yulaswati, Deputy for Maritime Affairs and Natural Resources, Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, Indonesia High Level Remarks

14:05-14:10 (5 min) Rod Fujita, Associate Vice President Research and Develop, Lead Senior Scientist, EDF Seaweed addressing climate change crisis

14:10-14:15 (5 min) Dr. Carlos Duarte, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology Seaweed addressing climate change crisis

14:15-14:20 (5 min) Caroline Hooft-Slootweg, Co-Founder, Kelp Blue Seaweed addressing ***biodiversity*** crisis

14:20-14:25 (5 min) Valerie Hickey, Global Director Environment Natural Resources and Blue Economy, World Bank Seaweed addressing ***biodiversity*** crisis

14:25-14:30 (5 min) Ines Schiller, CEO, Vyld Seaweed addressing pollution crisis

14:30-14:35 (5 min) David Jose Vivas Eugui, Legal Officer, Trade, Environment, Climate Change, UNCTAD, lead UNCTAD representative in the INC on plastic pollution Seaweed: the trade, environment and gender dimension

14:35-14:37 (2 min) Vincent Doumeizel Recap of the meeting

14:37-14:45 (7 min) Sanda Ojiambo, ASG and CEO, UN Global Compact High Level Closing Remarks

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