Science and Policy Forum

OPENING

11:30-12:00, 13 May 2019

Assembly Hall, Palais des Nations

Moderator

Andrew Revkin, National Geographic

Mr. Andrew Revkin is one of America’s most honored writers on environmental sustainability and the role of communication innovation in fostering progress on a finite, fast-forward, noisy planet. In 2018, he joined the staff of the National Geographic Society as Strategic Adviser for Science and Environmental Journalism to help expand support and grants for global sustainability-focused journalism. This move follows three decades of ground-breaking journalism, including 14 years at The New York Times as a reporter and 6 after his Dot Earth blog moved to the Opinion section in 2010. He began writing on climate change in the 1980s and never stopped. Revkin has won most of the top awards in science journalism.

From 2010 to 2016, he was also senior fellow for environmental understanding at Pace University, where he developed courses in online communication and filmmaking focused on sustainability. He has written acclaimed books on humanity’s weather and climate learning journey, global warming, the changing Arctic and the assault on the Amazon rain forest. In spare moments, he is a performing songwriter.

He holds a Bachelor degree in Biology from Brown University, United States of America and a Master degree in Journalism from Columbia University, United States of America. He also received an Honorary Doctorate in Humanities/Humanistic Studies from Pace University, United States of America.
Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for DRR

Mami Mizutori is the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, and head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, based in Geneva, Switzerland. She assumed her role on 1 March 2018.

The role of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is to support countries and stakeholders in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030). The Special Representative ensures the strategic and operational coherence between disaster risk reduction, climate change and sustainable development agendas as well as the linkage with the UN Secretary General’s prevention agenda and with humanitarian action. Ms. Mizutori served for twenty-seven years in various capacities in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to joining the UN, Ms. Mizutori was Executive Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, University of East Anglia, UK, since 2011. Ms. Mizutori graduated in law from Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo and obtained a Diploma in International Studies from the Diplomatic School of Spain. A Japanese national, Ms. Mizutori speaks Japanese, English and Spanish.

Flavia Schlegel, ISC Special Envoy for Science in Global Policy

Dr Flavia Schlegel has had a distinguished international career which includes positions at UNESCO and as a Science Diplomat in Washington DC, USA and Shanghai, China. Before joining the ISC, Dr Schlegel was the Assistant Director General for UNESCO’s Natural Sciences sector. During her tenure, she oversaw UNESCO’s response to multilateral development agendas such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework on disaster risk reduction and the Samoa Pathway. Prior to her time at UNESCO, Dr Schlegel established Swissnex China – the Swiss house for science, technology, innovation, and culture in Shanghai – a trans-disciplinary institution supported by public and private funding. Dr Schlegel holds a Medical Doctorate and a Master’s Degree in Organizational Development.

Jacqueline McGlade, Professor of Resilience and Sustainable Development at the Institute for Global Prosperity, University College London, and Professor at the Maasai Mara University in Kenya

Professor Jacqueline McGlade was appointed Chief Scientist at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in early 2014. She also holds the post of Professor in Environmental Informatics in the Department of Mathematics at University College London, from which she took
leave to take up the position of Executive Director of the European Environment Agency between 2003 and 2013. Prior to this, she was Director of the Centre for Coastal and Marine Sciences of the UK Natural Environment Research Council, Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Warwick, Director of Theoretical Ecology at the Forschungszentrum Jülich and Senior Scientist at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in the Federal Government of Canada. Her research is focused on the governance of resources and environmental informatics with particular reference to ecosystems, marine resources and climate change. She has over 200 peer-reviewed papers, articles, books and legal submissions and has produced and presented a number of TV and radio series and programmes plus three feature films. She has been awarded international prizes and honours from Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Monaco, Romania, Sweden, UK and the USA. Professor McGlade has held a number of key advisory roles and chairs at national level, including Trustee of the Natural History Museum and Board Member of the Environment Agency, at European level, including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and at international levels including for the United Nations and the Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research.