

**SCHEDULE OF UN ACTIVITIES
THAT MAY OF INTEREST TO ISA MEMBERS**

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Additions to this section are welcome.

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March 2023 – August 2023

Event	Description	Date / Location	For more information
UN 2023 Water Conference	<p>Billions of people worldwide still live without safely managed drinking water and sanitation, even though access to both services has long been defined as a human right. Water and poverty are closely linked. Without water, there is no development, and without development, it is impossible to eradicate poverty from the Earth.</p> <p>The UN 2023 Water Conference is expected to adopt the Water Action Agenda as a main outcome representing voluntary commitments of countries and stakeholders to meet the global water-related goals and targets. The Conference will open on 22 March marking the World Water Day 2023.</p>	<p>22–24 March 2023</p> <p>New York, USA</p>	<p>https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023</p>
Regional Stakeholder Consultations: advancing solutions towards a nature-positive trade	<p>Trade plays a significant role in fueling economic growth and development. While increasing evidence associates trade with negative impacts on biodiversity and people, in an economy with over 50% of the global GDP dependent upon nature, trade can and should also be part of the solution to protect and restore nature and promote sustainable development. Responding to advance solutions for a nature-positive trade, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is hosting a Series of Regional Stakeholders Consultations in 2023, convening a diversity of stakeholders to discuss regional priorities and challenges, and identify opportunities for the region to move towards a sustainable trading system and value chains of agricultural commodities, in harmony with nature and supportive of a sustainable socio-economic development. The Consultations will take place in a hybrid format.</p>	<p>27–28 March 2023</p> <p>San Paulo, Brazil</p>	<p>https://www.unep.org/events/conference/regional-stakeholder-consultations-advancing-solutions-towards-nature-positive</p>

<p>International Day of Zero Waste 2023</p>	<p>The United Nations General Assembly on 14 December 2022 proclaimed 30 March as the International Day of Zero Waste, to be observed annually. The Day is aimed at promoting zero-waste initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</p> <p>The United Nations Environment Programme and UN-Habitat are expected to facilitate the observance of the International Day of Zero Waste.</p>	<p>30 March 2023</p>	<p>https://www.unep.org/events/un-day/international-day-zero-waste-2023</p>
<p>Open-ended Working Group on Ageing for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older people</p>	<p>The Chair of the General Assembly Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons, invites Members of the Working Group, “A” status National Human Rights Institutions, non-governmental organizations with ECOSOC Status and previously accredited organizations to the Working Group, as well as United Nations Funds, Programmes, Specialized Agencies and other UN Entities, to provide: Substantive inputs on the two focus areas of the thirteenth session, namely "Right to Health and Access to Health Services" and “Social Inclusion”; Substantive inputs, in the form of normative content for the development of a possible international standard on the protection of the rights of older persons to “Economic Security” and the "Contribution of Older Persons to Sustainable Development.”</p>	<p>3–6 April 2023</p>	<p>https://social.un.org/ageing-working-group/thirteenthsession.shtml</p>
<p>Action NOW: Protecting the Rights of Older Adults The Need for a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons</p>	<p>A Side Event at the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing Sponsored by the International Sociological Association and HelpAge International.</p>	<p>4 April 2023 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. EDT New York City, USA</p>	<p>Join Zoom Meeting https://jgay-cuny.zoom.us/j/83365963659?pwd=UVo4VjNuUGNIYkhWMI-VtUDY4OGxlUT09 Meeting ID: 833 6596 3659 Passcode: 026151</p>
<p>ECOSOC Youth Forum 2023</p>	<p>The UN Economic and Social Council’s (ECOSOC) 2023 Youth Forum will take place in April 2023, during ECOSOC’s 2023 session. The Youth Forum is an annual initiative of the ECOSOC President, which has evolved into a key platform where young people can contribute to policy discussions at the UN through their collective ideas, solutions, and innovations.</p>	<p>18–20 April 2023 New York City, USA</p>	<p>https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/ecosoc-youth-forum</p>
<p>Civil Society Townhall with the 77th President of the United Nations</p>	<p>As H.E. Csaba Kőrösi, President of the General Assembly, has stated since the beginning of the 77th session, it is critical to engage with civil society organizations, youth representatives and academia to define transformative solutions for our global challenges. While Member States remain the decision-</p>	<p>20 April 2023</p>	<p>https://indico.un.org/event/1004314/</p>

<p>General Assembly H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi</p>	<p>makers of the United Nations, all stakeholders must assume their role as decision-shapers. As the world is in the midst of an unprecedented set of interlocking crises, and we are in the midway point of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it's worth recalling that no actor has a monopoly over good ideas. The Town Hall meeting aims to bring relevant data, perspectives and contributions from civil society to the United Nations. It will serve as the platform for brainstorming on how to develop and enhance the tools, resources, inputs, and processes to "turbo charge" the implementation of the SDGs until the next SDG Summit in 2027. Recognizing the crucial importance of civil society engagement in the work of the UN, it is important to note that the Town Hall is not part of the formal preparatory process of the 2023 SDG Summit. As such, no outcome is expected following the event. The Town Hall will include concluding reflections by the co-facilitators of the political declaration of the 2023 SDG Summit, H. E. Mr. Fergal Tomas Mythen, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations and H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations.</p>		
<p>4th Global Conference of the One Planet network's Sustainable Food Systems Programme - THE TRANSFORMATION WE NEED</p>	<p>The conference will be virtually broadcasted via livestream, open to everyone. In addition, a limited number of participants representing national and sub-national governments, civil society organizations, farmers associations, scientific organizations, UN Food Systems Summit (UN FSS) Coalitions, youth organizations and a range of further food systems actors will be invited to participate in person in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The conference will contribute to the 2023 Stocktaking Moment of the UN Food Systems Summit follow-up process, by focusing on how food systems need to be transformed to overcome the multiple deeply rooted and interlinked crises of climate, biodiversity, conflict, energy, prices, hunger, malnutrition, and health to achieve the SDGs.</p>	<p>24–27 April 2023 Ha Noi, Vietnam & online</p>	<p>https://www.unep.org/events/conference/4th-global-conference-one-planet-networks-sustainable-food-systems-programme</p>
<p>24th session of the Working Group on the Right to Development</p>	<p>At this session, the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development will continue reviewing progress made in the implementation of the right to development. It will hold an interactive dialogue with the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the right to development and the Special Rapporteur on the right to development and consider the second revised draft convention on the right to development.</p>	<p>15–19 May 2023 Geneva, Palais des Nations, Conference Room XX, Geneva / Hybrid</p>	<p>https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/events/2023/24th-session-working-group-right-development</p>
<p>International Day for Biological Diversity 2023</p>	<p>Biological diversity is often understood in terms of the wide variety of plants, animals and microorganisms, but it also includes genetic differences within each species – for example, between varieties of crops and breeds of livestock — and the variety of ecosystems (lakes, forest, deserts, agricultural landscapes) that host multiple kind of interactions among their members (humans, plants, animals).</p>	<p>22 May 2023</p>	<p>https://www.cbd.int/biodiversity-day</p>

	<p>Biological diversity resources are the pillars upon which we build civilizations. Fish provide 20 per cent of animal protein to about 3 billion people. Over 80 per cent of the human diet is provided by plants. As many as 80 per cent of people living in rural areas in developing countries rely on traditional plant-based medicines for basic healthcare. But loss of biodiversity threatens all, including our health. It has been proven that biodiversity loss could expand zoonoses - diseases transmitted from animals to humans- while, on the other hand, if we keep biodiversity intact, it offers excellent tools to fight against pandemics like those caused by coronaviruses.</p>		
World Environment Day 2023	<p>World Environment Day is the biggest international day for the environment. Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and held annually since 1973, it has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach. It is celebrated by millions of people across the world.</p>	5 June 2023	https://www.unep.org/events/un-day/world-environment-day-2023
ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2023	<p>The UN Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2023 will take place in June 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland, during ECOSOC's 2023 session.</p> <p>The Humanitarian Affairs Segment enables Member States, UN entities, humanitarian and development partners, the private sector, and affected communities to discuss emerging and pressing humanitarian issues.</p>	21–23 June 2023 Geneva, Switzerland	https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/humanitarian-affairs-segment
Global launch of the 2023 GEM Report on technology and education	<p>The 2023 Global Education Monitoring Report on technology and education will be launched on Wednesday 26 July in Montevideo, in an event hosted by Fundación Ceibal and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay.</p>	26 July 2023 15:00 – 17:00 Montevideo, Uruguay (hybrid event)	https://www.unesco.org/gem-report/en/articles/global-launch-2023-gem-report-technology-and-education
Asia Pacific Adaptation Forum (8th APAN Forum)	<p>Considered Asia-Pacific's largest and longest-standing gathering of adaptation practitioners to share information, knowledge and best practices in adaptation and resilience-building, the APAN Forum is the biennial flagship event of the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network Secretariat, hosted within the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. The 8th APAN Forum will be hosted by the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, the Korea Environment Institute – Korea Adaptation Center for Climate Change and Incheon Metropolitan City as part of the Korea Global Adaptation Week (KGAW) 2023. Representatives from governments, financing institutions, academia and research, international organisations, UN agencies, civil society organisations, youth organisations and the private sector, among others, will participate in the 8th APAN Forum to work together to build and strengthen partnerships across sectors for adaptation action.</p>	28 August–01 September 2023 Incheon City, Republic of Korea	https://www.unep.org/events/conference/asia-pacific-adaptation-forum-8th-apan-forum

	<p>The Forum will also provide a space to reflect on the Cop27 outcomes and highlight regional lessons learnt, needs and challenges to serve as inputs into Cop28 discussions to be held at Expo City Dubai, United Arab Emirates in 2023.</p>		
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