

CVF Virtual Climate Summit

November 22, 2018

The CVF Virtual Climate Summit at the level of Heads of State/Government on November 22, 2018 will be strategically held after the release of the IPCC 1.5°C Special Report (released on October 8th 2018) and ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference COP24 at Katowice, Poland, to allow leaders of all nations to take into account the latest scientific findings and translate them into a sound policy response. CVF Chair President Hilda Heine of the Republic of Marshall Islands announced the Summit on 27th of June, 2018 during the Sixth GEF Assembly at Da Nang, Vietnam.

Key objectives of the Summit

- **Promoting Enhanced Action:** Provide a leadership level platform for vulnerable countries to demonstrate and raise ambition;
- **Cultivating Solidarity and Global Cooperation:** Provide a mechanism for non-member nations to enhance ambition in solidarity to Climate Vulnerable Forum of nations;
- **Raising Public Awareness and Support:** Provide a unique and inclusive internet- and social media-based opportunity for information diffusion and raising the level of public support to their leaders stepping up on national climate action and utilizing opportunities for a safer world;
- **“Successful Talanoa”:** Sustain and amplify political support and momentum for the successful conclusion to the political phase of Talanoa Dialogue at UNFCCC COP24.

About the Summit

The Summit will spread across all time zones over 24 hours with an opening and closing ceremony by President of the Republic of Marshall Islands. 10 Thematic Sessions will intersperse with the leader statements. After the official closing of the summit, various summit partners are invited to stream their videos of actions addressing climate change.

The event will be the first ever online global political Summit, avoiding greenhouse gas emissions, increasing inclusivity and enhancing impact of its outcomes. It will release an ‘outcome document’ on behalf of participating leaders delivering individual statements (pre-recorded videos or written) to be aired on the online Summit platform on November 22, 2018. The audience – governments, global companies, cities, states, civil society and media – is encouraged to engage interactively by commenting on the secure platform, or via social media using the hashtag: **#VirtualClimateSummit**. The event will include “plenary” statements and “thematic discussions” on key topics each convened by expert organizations.

In order to highlight the importance of women’s leadership in climate action, President Heine of the Marshall Islands appointed a special group of accomplished, all-women ‘Summit

Champions' who are taking the message of the Summit to all countries. The group is structured as follows –

- Christiana Figueres, former Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC (co-chair)
- Rachel Kyte, CEO of Sustainable Energy for All (co-chair)
- Jennifer Morgan, Co-Executive Director, Greenpeace International
- Laura Tuck, Vice President, World Bank
- Laurence Tubiana, CEO European Climate Foundation (ECF)
- Senator Loren Legarda, Senate of the Philippines
- H.E. Mary Robinson, The Elders
- Naoko Ishii, CEO, Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director, Oxfam International

Background

The CVF was founded in 2009 as a platform for those nations, which are most vulnerable to, and suffer the worst impacts from, climate change. There are currently 48 CVF member countries¹. Through the [Forum's 2016 Vision](#) adopted at Marrakech, CVF members undertook to seek maximal resilience, to emerge as wealthy nations, and trigger efforts by all to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, encouraging other nations to act by preparing mid-century low-carbon long-term development strategies and strengthening their national climate targets by 2020. The CVF Virtual Summit is designed to reinforce this commitment and encourage others to urgently join the movement.

more info at: www.virtualclimatesummit.org, www.thecvf.org

Resources

- Summit online platform –
<https://www.virtualclimatesummit.org/>
- Summit announcement -
<https://thecvf.org/virtual-leaders-summit-to-raise-climate-ambition-and-accelerate-action/>
- President Heine's tweet on summit participation -
https://twitter.com/President_Heine/status/1054308762608115714

¹ See: <https://thecvf.org/members/>