

NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY Special UN Ocean Conference Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2017 from 1PM-4PM: the Baha'i International Offices, Suite 120

Safe, Sustainable Water through Technology & Education for Our Healthy Ocean

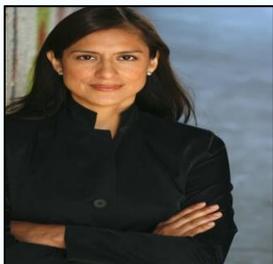


H.E. Mr. Odo Tevi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations. Since May 2014, Ambassador Tevi became Vanuatu's Permanent Representative/Ambassador to the United Nations, New York in May 2014. Apart from this role, Ambassador Tevi also assumed other international roles at the UN. He is currently the Chairman of UN Disarmament Commission, was the Chairman of the Special Committee on UN Charter and Strengthening of the Role of the Organization and also was Chairman of the Asia Pacific Group, Vice-President for the UN Pledging Conference for Development Activities and Chairman of the joint Vanuatu and UN Consultative Forum on ICPD and National Sustainable Development Plan. He was extensively involved in the negotiation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN's Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR). From 2013-2014, Odo became an international consultant and did assignments for the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Union

and the Melanesian Spearhead Group. For the latter he investigated whether the four countries (Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) should adopt a common currency. From 2003 to 2013, Odo was the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Vanuatu. During this period, he was also Vanuatu's Alternate Governor to the International Monetary Fund. His major achievement as Governor of the central bank during his 10 year stint was that Vanuatu was able to achieve monetary and financial stability and this was translated into record high economic growth. This was achieved despite the challenges imposed by the 2008 global financial crisis. Before becoming Governor, Odo was Head of the Macroeconomic Policy Division at the Vanuatu Ministry of Finance and Economic Management. Odo has a Bachelor of Economics degree from the University of Papua New Guinea. He then obtained a Masters of Arts (Development Economics) from the University of Sussex, UK. He has a graduate diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors and also an Advanced Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation from New York University. He did his executive training at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government and also at Columbia University Business School. Odo and his wife Sharon have three young children and are residing in New York. Odo is an avid reader and loves music.



Professor Jan W. Dash, NGOCS-DNY Lead Adviser on Climate Change and Managing Editor of the Climate Portal website. Professor Dash is the Editor of the Climate Statement: Summary and Recommendations to Governments of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, delivered to leaders at the Copenhagen climate conference and updated yearly. He is a Matchmaker for the Climate Science Rapid Response Team providing scientific responses to media questions. He is the author of the "one-liner" responses to climate contrarian fallacies. He has worked for years in risk management and wrote a book about it. The 2nd edition will contain a chapter on Climate Risk Management. Professor Dash is an Adjunct Professor at the Courant Institute NYU and is a research scholar at Fordham University. He has a PhD in physics, was Director de Research at the Centre de Physique Theorize in Marseille France, and has published over 50 scientific papers.



Ms. Natalia Vega-Berry, Founder/CEO of The Global Brain & Producer of the World Ocean Festival. After earning a M.A in Global Sustainability at UCLA, Ms. Vega-Berry now combines her very unique experience in the Ad Industry with her deep passion and knowledge for building a more sustainable world through the creation of "THE GLOBAL BRAIN." Natalia focusses her work on issues and ideas that matter – particularly in respect to the Environment and how to use business, creativity and innovation to solve the current environmental and social challenges we face in the world. The Global Brain is currently working as strategic partner for several United Nations projects. Her current initiative is the organization of the World Ocean Festival in partnership with the office of the Mayor of New York in support of the United Nations Ocean Conference happening in June 2017. She is an Honorary Adviser for the NGO Committee for Sustainable Development-NY to support their mission

to monitor and influence the implementation of the commitments and agreements adopted by the United Nations that pertain to sustainable development as an Environmentalist and Ocean protector. Ms. Vega-Berry, also travels very often to remote locations mostly to reconnect with nature as a source of inspiration and creativity. One of her "wish" projects is to lead a wilderness retreat for creative leaders. She recently relocated from Los Angeles to beautiful Boulder, CO where she lives with her family. With a major Degree in Communications and Marketing, she worked for the most prestigious Ad Agencies: Ogilvy and Publicis among others, establishing her career in the Advertising Industry for over 20 years. As a seasoned Executive Producer, she received awards and recognition from The Clio Festival, New York Festival, Fiap among others. Her Advertising Agency experience includes managing and supervising projects for Fortune 500 Companies such as: Verizon, Anheuser Busch/ Budweiser, MillerCoors Brewing Company, Procter and Gamble, Splenda, Unilever, Allstate Insurance, Bally Total Fitness, Sears, Honda Motors, Toyota, Pepsi, Walmart among others. Back in 2008, she decided to shift her career towards her long time passion: Environmental & Social Issues. She started a two year research project on Environmental Health, Neuroscience, Systems Thinking, Integrative Medicine and Mindfulness Meditation Practices as tools to spark creativity, innovation and leadership.



Mr. Dan Shepard, UN Ocean Conference Focal Point for Outreach & Information Officer for United Nations Department of Public Information. Mr. Shepard was the Lead Climate Change Support Team within the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. He was the point person on sustainability issues for the UN Department of Public Information, and has been involved on communications for sustainable development for the UN at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 and Rio+20. He supported the UN system's efforts on climate change since the Bali Conference in 2007. Climate change, biodiversity loss, food security, livable cities and water—all issues that involve economics, quality of life, and the environment—are among these issues that he deals with. From Bali through the preparations for the Paris Climate Conference, he has worked to promote the UN's efforts to address climate change and he has coordinated a UN interagency group that works on climate-related communications issues. In addition to his work on sustainability issues, he has also worked, in his ten years with DPI, on a range of topics ranging from the adoption of the Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to the problem of overfishing. He has also served as editor of the United Nations Development Programme magazine, CHOICES, and also, for UNDP, worked on advocacy issues that included small arms and the rebuilding effort that followed the 2004 tsunami.



Mr. Sam Barratt, Chief of Public Advocacy and Communications for UN Environment Programme. Mr. Barratt together with his colleagues across UN Environment, he oversees all of the public campaigns and advocacy which range from addressing the illegal trade in wildlife, air quality and ocean plastics as well as delivering all the activities around World Environment Day. He's been here just 6 months and prior to working at the UN, Sam worked for the campaign group Avaaz and Oxfam. He is keen to try and move the UN from being a government facing institution that produces large policy documents, to one that inspires and connects with citizens around the world. He's a Brit recovering from Brexit, a hopeful Watford FC fan and can also be found on **twitter at @sambarratt** if you want to get in touch after this event.



Mr. Asi Meskin, Co-Founder & General Manager for North America of Bowhead Technology. Mr. Meskin has vast experience in business development for tech across continents, creating corporate deals facilitating investments and forming global strategic partnerships, with over 15 years of experience. He has executed, managed and negotiated global corporate deals with the likes of Warner Brothers, First National Bank, Pango, TBWA, Lancet, Disney and many more. He works in Israel, China and the US. As the Co-Founder of Bowhead Technology, he is dedicated to solve children's wellness issues via IOT technologies, gamification and interactive content. Their first product, Gululu, is a three-in-one product that combines a design bottle, a healthy tracking device, and an educational game. Gululu helps children stay hydrated by caring for a virtual pet. As kids drink more water from Gululu, their virtual pet grows and makes friends, and the kids develop a healthy habit. Gululu partners with Generosity on a mission to hydrate the world! For every Gululu bottle sold - we will provide clean

drinking water for life to one child in a developing country.



Mr. Christopher Spezzano, Founder & President of the Form & Matter Foundation. At nineteen Mr. Spezzano began doing international aid work and helped with AIDS outreach and teaching children how to read at a Liberian refugee settlement. He then taught a variety of subjects in rural villages in a number of developing countries, supported conservation efforts and biological research in the Amazon Rainforest, taught in Riker's Island prison, and volunteered with a number of charities and organizations dedicated to planetary wellbeing. He has been to the front lines and seen a wide spectrum of humanity's problems and also the opacity of the global aid system. At the start of his international aid work, it became obvious that there was a big disparity between the efficacy and accountability of the planet's aid organizations. The Form & Matter Network is an extension of his heart and mind.

After graduating with a degree in political science and sociology from Columbia University in the City of New York, he was able to fully devote himself to building the Form & Matter Network and a technology-powered charitable foundation with the ability to transform the international aid process.



Ms. Patricia Lineth Cervantes Rodriguez, Ambassador MY World Mexico 2030 in charge of the Tijuana Waterkeeper Program's Citizen Quality Monitoring Laboratory. Ms. Cervantes Rodriguez holds a degree in Chemical Engineering from the Faculty of Chemical Sciences and Engineering (FCQI) of the Autonomous University of Baja California (UABC). She is currently an Ambassador to MY World Mexico 2030, in charge of the Tijuana Waterkeeper Program's Citizen Quality Monitoring Laboratory, collaborates in the Amigos del Mar Restaurant Certification Program, the Integrated Water Management Program in the River Basin Tijuana and is responsible for Youth Environmental Volunteering in the organization Border Environmental Education Project AC (PFEA). MY World México is a network of organizations, movements and individuals working at the local, national and international levels for the implementation, monitoring, financing, follow up and socialization of SDGs in

Mexico. She was honored with a commemorative plaque of distinction by the UABC for her leadership and promotion of environmental care at the university campus and awarded the Honorary Mention in the 2014 State Youth Award in the Scientific-Environmental category for her outstanding performance in the investigation of the quality of the sea water. She has given several lectures on environmental care with emphasis on water in various educational institutions and has participated as a facilitator in workshops on environmental education and seawater quality in collaboration with PFEA, the American Consulate and UABC, along with which has more than 6 years of experience in environmental volunteering at local and national level.



Ms. Emilie McGlone, Director of Peace Boat US, New York Office. Ms. McGlone has been working with Peace Boat since 2004 and currently is the United Nations liaison and Director of the New York-based office of Peace Boat US, a non-profit organization working to promote peace, sustainable development and respect for the environment through educational programs organized onboard the Peace Boat, a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on peace voyages. Peace Boat holds Special Consultative Status with the Social and Economic Council of the United Nations and works in partnership with UN representatives, Nobel Peace Laureates and community leaders from around the world to create opportunities for international cooperation focused on environmental sustainability, cultural awareness and peace education. Emilie works to foster youth education and develops specific programs to learn about important global issues onboard the Peace Boat. Founded in 1983 and nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008, Peace Boat has sailed on over 93 global voyages, carrying more than 60,000 people to more than 100 countries. Peace Boat has recently launched a new initiative to build an Ecoship to sail in 2020, showcasing green technology and design, while inspiring positive change to radically reduce our carbon footprint. Peace Boat is a committed campaigner for the Sustainable Development Goals, sailing with the Global Goals Logo on the hull of the ship. Peace Boat's Ecoship Project will build the world's most sustainable passenger ship. A flagship for the SDGs, Ecoship seeks to address ocean acidification with reduced carbon emissions and significantly reduce marine pollution. It was presented as the first voluntary commitment from civil society to the Ocean Conference preparatory meeting in February. For more information about the Peace Boat, please visit www.peaceboat.org



Mr. Brian Park
New York Based Photographer
Photo Exhibition Titled: "Energy From"

As part of its strong commitment to protecting Patagonian wilderness and raising awareness about the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Peace Boat US organized a special program focusing on climate action during the 93rd Global Voyage as the ship sailed through the majestic fjords of Patagonia. Photographer Brian Park traveled on the Peace Boat from Chile to Peru as part of the program to raise awareness about the precious natural resources found in Patagonia. The exhibition "Energy From" features images from the glaciers, rivers and oceans that sustain the wildlife of the southern hemisphere and was made possible by Peace Boat US, ETS (Energy Thought Summit) & SA P.



We thank our Co-Sponsors for their support of this meeting: the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations; Form & Matter Foundation; Bowhead Technology & Gululu; The Global Brain; Peace Boat-US, NYO; MY World Mexico 2030; the Huairou Commission; Global Family; Africa Development Interchange Network; Global Family for Love & Peace; Salvation Army; WFUWO; ICW; UNA-USA Council of Organizations; the NGO Committee on Social Development; AE Focus; CoNGO and the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development.

"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change"

