



PRELIMINARY AGENDA

The Power of Nature to Advance Economic Growth and Sustainable Development: Implementing the Rio Conventions

 Virtual | June 5, 2025

10:30 - 12:30 (UTC - 4)

Recognizing the vital services ecosystems provide, this meeting will explore the potential of nature-based solutions to address environmental challenges and the role of parliaments in advancing their adoption. Discussions will focus on the core themes of the Rio Conventions: climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and water and drought security. The meeting will also highlight their broader societal and economic benefits, including cost savings, improved public health, economic growth, social well-being, and gender equality.

Interpretation will be provided in English, Spanish, and Portuguese (upon request)

A. 08:30 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 09:30 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 10:30 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 11:30 (UTC – 03:00)
Belize Costa Rica El Salvador Guatemala Honduras Mexico - Mexico City Nicaragua	Colombia Ecuador Jamaica Panama Peru	Antigua and Barbuda Barbados Bolivia Canada - Ottawa Chile - Santiago Dominica Dominican Republic Grenada Guyana Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines The Bahamas Trinidad and Tobago	Argentina Brazil - Brasilia Paraguay Uruguay Suriname

Opening remarks

A. 08:30 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 09:30 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 10:30 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 11:30 (UTC – 03:00)
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Margarita Stolbizer** (Argentina), First Vice-President for South American for the PNCCS

Panel: Nature Knows Best - Holistic Solutions for Thriving Societies

A. 08:40 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 09:40 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 10:40 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 11:40 (UTC – 03:00)
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------

This panel will highlight how nature-based solutions can address environmental challenges while generating economic and social benefits. Drawing on concrete examples, panellists will explore the value of ecosystems in reducing infrastructure costs, enhancing climate resilience, and promoting inclusive development, and examine the role of parliaments in fostering these solutions.

Moderator: Member of the Legislative Assembly **Óscar Izquierdo Sandí** (Costa Rica), Vice-President for Central America for the PNCCS

Panellists:

- *Parliamentary Work to Implement the Rio Conventions*
 - Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Carol Dartora** (Brazil), coordinator of the working group on environmental racism of the Environmentalist Front of the National Congress of Brazil
- *Multidimensional Approaches to Resilience Building and Empowerment of Local Communities*
 - **Candice Ramkissoo**, Senior Technical Officer for Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)
- *Enhancing Land Management through Traditional Knowledge*
 - **Tarcila Rivera Zea**, Founder of Continental Link of Indigenous Women of the Americas (ECMIA), and Member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- *Balancing Development with Conservation and Restoration*
 - **Ignacio Lorenzo**, Director of Technical Advisory on Biodiversity and Climate, CAF Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean

Dialogue

A. 09:40 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 10:40 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 11:40 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 12:40 (UTC – 03:00)
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------

This dialogue session will provide a space for participants to ask questions to experts, share their experiences and challenges with advocating for and supporting nature-based solutions, and discuss actions and parliamentary strategies to implement these solutions in their countries.

Moderator: Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Nelsa Shoraya Suárez** (Dominican Republic), Vice-President for the Caribbean for the PNCCS

- Commentator: **Rubén Contreras**, Head of the Climate Change Section of OEA-SEDI

Closing remarks

A. 10:25 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 11:25 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 12:25 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 13:25 (UTC – 03:00)
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------

- The Honourable **Joseph Isaac** (Dominica), Speaker of the House of Assembly and ParlAmericas Board Member



Follow us on social media.



Select sessions of this event will be recorded and turned into podcast episodes.



This activity is being undertaken with financial support from the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.