

Taking Climate Action to the Next Level: Realizing the Vision of the Paris Agreement

High-level Signature Ceremony for the Paris Agreement

22 April 2016, 15:15 – 18:00, UNHQ, Conference Room 1

The universal adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the landmark Paris Climate Change Agreement herald a new era of global resolve to address climate change, poverty and sustainable development. Through the Paris Agreement, countries have sent a strong signal to markets and the public that governments are now firmly committed to decarbonizing their economies and to building more resilient societies. Many in both the private and public sectors have already grasped the opportunities presented by this transition ahead of the Paris outcomes. The Secretary-General's 2014 Climate Summit and the Lima- Paris Action Agenda, for instance, played a catalytic role in bringing national and sub-national governments, businesses and civil society together to create low-carbon and resilient initiatives.

Now, with the Paris Agreement providing policy certainty and a clear direction of travel provided by the Paris Agreement, the opportunities – and benefits – for taking climate action are even greater for an ever-greater number of actors. Significantly scaled-up multi-stakeholder climate action initiatives in all countries, along with increased financial support, knowledge sharing and capacity building to developing countries, will enable the world to move from aspirations to transformative action post-Paris. Implementation of the national climate plans that are at the heart of the Paris Agreement will benefit from scaled up climate action by all actors at all levels, while directly contributing to progress on a full range of Sustainable Development Goals, including energy, water, food, transport and others. Strengthened action on climate change is not only possible, it is practical, beneficial and replicable on a larger scale.

This high-level event will focus on highlighting how all actors of society and economy can accelerate action, learn from each other, and replicate and scale successful initiatives and activities that will deliver the transformative implementation of the landmark Paris Climate Change Agreement and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Programme

15:15 – 15:45 "Aspiration to Action" - Setting the scene for implementation

<u>Moderator</u>: Ms. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

- H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, United Nations Secretary-General
- H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft, President of the General Assembly
- Mr. Hoesung Lee, Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- H.E. Ms. Ségolène Royal, President of COP21

15:45 – 18:00 In the Here and Now: perspectives, opportunities and collaborative action

<u>Moderators</u>: Ms. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change & H.E. Ms. Ségolène Royal, President of COP21

The discussion will build around three pillars:

- ➤ "Action that Delivers" Implementing climate action to stay 'well below' 2 degrees
- "Energising Implementation" Accelerating the transformation of our energy systems
- "Climate-proofing development" Strengthening resilience to protect the most vulnerable

The event will also feature Solar Impulse, Akon and a short video by Yann Arthus-Bertrand.

Q&A times will give opportunities to attendees to take part in the discussion and share perspectives.

List of speakers:

- **H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, United Nations Secretary-General:** Ban Ki-moon is the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations. His priorities have been to mobilize world leaders around a set of new global challenges, from climate change and economic upheaval to pandemics and increasing pressures involving food, energy and water. He has sought to be a bridge-builder, to give voice to the world's poorest and most vulnerable people, and to strengthen the Organization itself. Mr. Ban took office on 1 January 2007 and on 21 June 2011, he was unanimously re-elected by the General Assembly.
- **H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft, President of the General Assembly:** On 15 June 2015, the United Nations General Assembly elected Mogens Lykketoft of Denmark to serve as the President of its seventieth session, which runs from September 2015 to September 2016. At the time of his election, Mr. Lykketoft was the Speaker (President) of the Danish Parliament, a position he has held since 2011.Mr. Lykketoft is an economist by training and a veteran parliamentarian and government minister. As chairman of the Social Democratic Party from 2002 to 2005, he was also the opposition leader in Parliament.Since 2010, Mr. Lykketoft has been a regular foreign affairs analyst and commentator with Danish TV2 News, appearing with former Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen of the Danish Liberal Party on the weekly news magazine Ellemann & Lykketoft. Born in Copenhagen on 9 January 1946, Mr. Lykketoft has turned 70 during the Assembly's seventieth session. He has two daughters and five grandsons.
- Mr. Hoesung Lee, Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): Hoesung Lee is the Chair of the IPCC. He is a professor in economics of climate change, energy and sustainable development at Korea University's Graduate School of Energy and Environment in the Republic of Korea. He serves on various boards including as executive member of the Korean Academy of Environmental Sciences; a member of the Asia Development Bank President's advisory board, a council member of the Global Green Growth Institute and an editorial board member of UK based Climate Policy. Hoesung Lee has published extensively in the field of energy and climate change. He was the founding president of the Korea Energy Economic Institute and the former president of the International Association for Energy Economics. He has been involved in the IPCC in various capacities including as Vice-Chair and Working Group III Co-Chair since its Second Assessment Report of 1992. Lee obtained a Bachelor's degree in economics at Seoul National University in 1969 and got his PhD in economics at Rutgers University in the United States of America (USA) in 1975.
- H.E. Ms. Ségolène Royal, President of COP21: Ségolène Royal was born in Dakar (Senegal) on 22 September 1953. She has been in her current ministerial posting since April 2014, and was nominated as President of CoP21 by French President François Hollande in February 2016. She was Minister Delegate for Family Affairs, Childhood and Disability (March 2000 May 2002), Minister Delegate for School Education (June 1997 March 2000), and Minister for the Environment (April 1992 March 1993). She was President of the Poitou-Charentes Region from April 2004 to May 2014 and was a member of the French Parliament for the Deux-Sèvres department numerous times between 1988 and 2007. She was the runner-up for the 2007 presidential election, the first woman in France to be nominated as a presidential candidate by a major party. Minister Royal was also Vice-President and Spokeswoman for the Banque publique d'investissement (French Public Investment Bank), Vice President of Socialist International, and was an advisor to French President François Mitterrand from 1982-1988. Minister Royal attended the Ecole Nationale d'Administration and the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris, and holds a degree in economics. She has written several books.

Ms. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: Christiana Figueres has been Executive Secretary of the UN Climate

Change secretariat since 2010. She has worked extensively with governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector on climate change and sustainability issues, including as a board member of the Clean Development Mechanism, Vice-President of the Climate Change Conference, as well as many non-governmental organizations. Ms Figueres has greatly contributed to literature on climate solutions and holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from the London School of Economics, a certificate in Organizational Development from Georgetown University and honorary Doctorate degrees from the University of Massachusetts and the Georgetown University. She was born in San José, Costa Rica in 1956 and has two daughters.

H.E. Mr. Frank Bainimarama, Prime Minister of Fiji: Hon. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama is the democratically-elected Prime Minister of Fiji after leading his FijiFirst political movement to a decisive victory in the 2014 General Election on 17 September, 2014. Mr. Bainimarama has been the Fijian Prime Minister since 2007. Under his leadership, Fiji has undergone a broad program of social, economic, electoral and constitutional reforms, which led up to the restoration of parliamentary democracy in 2014.

The Prime Minister has made the delivery of basic services – such as clean water, electricity, roads and affordable mobile and Internet – his Government's top priority. He is also committed to rooting out the systemic corruption that has plagued Fiji in the past, as well as generating an investment-friendly environment that creates jobs and grows the economy. The Prime Minister assumed his position after a successful career as Commander of the Royal Fiji Military Forces. The Prime Minister was born in Suva and was educated at Marist Brothers High School.

Mr. Jerry Brown, Governor, State of California: Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown Jr. was born in San Francisco on April 7, 1938. Brown studied at the Santa Clara University before entering a Jesuit seminary in 1956. In 1960, he left the seminary and earned a B.A. in Classics at UC Berkeley and a J.D. from Yale Law School. Following law school, Brown clerked at the California Supreme Court, traveled and studied in Latin America and practiced law. He was elected to the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees in 1969 and became California Secretary of State in 1970. In 1974, he was elected Governor and reelected in 1978. Brown ran several campaigns for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. presidency, and after his governorship, led delegations to China and the Soviet Union, worked with Mother Teresa in India, and studied Spanish in Mexico and Buddhist practice in Japan and served as chairman of the state Democratic Party. In 1998, Brown returned to elected office as Oakland's mayor, and eight years later, was elected California Attorney General. He won a third term as Governor in 2010 and was reelected in 2014. Under Governor Brown, California has forged aggressive climate pacts with world leaders; established the most ambitious emission reduction target in North America; and committed to double the rate of energy efficiency savings in buildings, generate half of the state's electricity from renewable sources and reduce petroleum use in cars and trucks by up to 50 percent by 2030 - all while continuing to grow the economy.

Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): Helen Clark became the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on 17 April 2009, and is the first woman to lead the organization. She is also the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of the heads of all UN funds, programmes and departments working on development issues. Prior to her appointment with UNDP, Helen Clark served for nine years as Prime Minister of New Zealand, serving three successive terms from 1999 - 2008. Helen Clark advocated strongly for New Zealand's comprehensive programme on sustainability and for tackling the problems of climate change. Helen Clark came to the role of Prime Minister after an extensive parliamentary and ministerial career. First elected to Parliament in 1981, Helen Clark was re-elected to her multicultural Auckland constituency for the tenth time in November 2008. Earlier in her career, she chaired Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee.Between 1987 and 1990, she was a Minister responsible for first, the portfolios of Conservation and Housing, and then Health and

Labour. She was Deputy Prime Minister between August 1989 and November 1990. From that date until December 1993 she served as Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and then as Leader of the Opposition until winning the election in November 1999. Prior to entering the New Zealand Parliament, Helen Clark taught in the Political Studies Department of the University of Auckland. She graduated with a BA in 1971 and an MA with First Class Honours in 1974. She is married to Peter Davis, a Professor at Auckland University.

H.R.H. Princess Abzeita Djigma, Founder, Abze Solar: Mossi Princess from Burkina Faso and a direct descendant of Princess Yennenga a famous warrior in the 12th century, H.R.H. Princess Abzeita Djigma is the Founder and CEO AbzeSolar S.A. Board Member of UNISDR Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies, she is also an Energy Focal Point and Regional leader for Africa and the President Senior Advisor External Relations and Gender for the Center Region Council of Burkina Faso (C.R.C). Princess Djigma is the initiator and leader of the 'MAMA-LIGHT® Initiative for Sustainable Energy', a world-wide program that provides access to affordable energy for women, small business and children. The initiative empowers the informal sector, drives the generation of new jobs andcreates a sound basis for gender equality and women empowerment. The program is selected by the United Nations as one of the 14 global breakthrough solutions for achieving the new Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Patrick Dlamini, CEO, Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA): Mr. Patrick K. Dlamini has been Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of DBSA since 1st September 2012. Prior to this appointment, he served as Chief Executive Officer at Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS) Company of South Africa. He also worked for South African Airways (SAA) as the Executive Vice President and General Manager responsible for Cargo as well as the Transnet Limited Business Unit Executive. Mr. Dlamini graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce (B Comm) degree at the University of Durban-Westville. He also holds an Executive Development Programme (EDP) from the University of the Witwatersrand's Business School (WBS) and Advanced Executive Programme from Kellogg School of Management amongst others. Currently doing his Masters of Science in Global Finance. Mr. Dlamini was the chairperson of Civil Air Navigation Services Organization (CANSO) Africa region. He is currently serving as the Chairperson of the Association of African Development Finance Institutions (AADFI) and SADC Development Finance Institutions and also a member of the Institute of Directors (IOD).

H.E. Mr. Khaled Fahmy, Minister of Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt: Dr. Khaled Fahmy is Egyptian Minister of Environment. A senior policy specialist with over 25 years experience in dealing with policy and institutional issues related to economic planning, local goverance, community development and environmental management. Major fields of specialization include institutional and legal aspects of economic planning, community based environmental management, local environmental action plans, impact assessment of environmental policy reform programs, capacity enhancement and advocacy for decentralization, and participatory dialogue and planning.

Mr. Enrique García, President, Development Bank of Latin America (CAF): Enrique García has been the Executive President of CAF – Development Bank of Latin America since December 1991. He was Bolivia's Minister of Planning and Coordination and Head of the Economic and Social Cabinet from 1989 to 1991. Prior to this, he was Vice Minister of Planning and Coordination and a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Bolivia. In the private sector, he has occupied the position of Manager of Operations at Banco Industrial S.A. and sat on the Boards of several industrial and financial institutions. At an international level, he occupied senior positions at the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) for 17 years, including that of Treasurer of the Institution after having performed in other directive positions. He acted as Bolivia's Governor at the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the River Plate Basin Development Fund (FONPLATA), and represented Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Uruguay and Paraguay as a member of the IBRD and IMF Development Committee. He is the Vice President of Canning House, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Dialogue, member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Latin America,

Brookings Institution Global Leadership Council, Advisory Board of the Latin American Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Advisory Committee of the Emerging Markets Institute at the Beijing Normal University, among others. Mr. Garcia holds a B.S. and an M.A. in Economics and Finance from St. Louis University and doctoral studies at the American University.

H.E. Ms. Amira Daoud Haasan Gornass, Chair, Committee on World Food Security (CFS): Amira Gornass has been the Republic of the Sudan's Ambassador to Italy and the Permanent Representative to the Rome Based Agencies, since 2012. In October 2015 she was elected Chair of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for a two year term. Ambassador Gornass was the Deputy Head of Delegation of Sudan that led the G77 & China negotiations on Climate Change and was Chair of the Group in 2009 in Bonn, Barcelona, Bangkok, Tianjin and Copenhagen. Ambassador Gornass has worked for the promotion of the role of women in the Peace Process in Sudan and she was the initiator of the participation of women in the "Netherland initiative for the participation of women in the peace process in Sudan". She has participated in Conferences all over the world. She is involved with civil society associations especially in the fields of environment, women's empowerment and humanitarian assistance, giving special attention to small agricultural schemes for food security. She was the Chair of the Behaviour Enhancement Committee in Khartoum State and was the initiator and editor of the "Green Bulletin", a publication that increased awareness and understanding of environmental issues and their impact on agriculture, food security, health, etc. at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

H.E. Ms. Barbara Hendricks, Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany: Dr. Barbara Hendricks heads the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety. She has been a Member of the German Bundestag since 1994 and was a Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Finance from 1998 to 2007. She holds a doctorate in history.

Ms. Yolanda Kakabadse Navarro, President of World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF): Yolanda Kakabadse is WWF's International President since 2010 and the former Ecuadorian Minister of Environment. Yolanda's work with the environmental conservation movement officially began in 1979, when she was appointed Executive Director of Fundación Natura in Quito, where she worked until 1990. During this time she helped Fundación Natura become one of Latin America's most important environmental organizations and, in 1993, she created Fundacion Futuro Latinoamericano, an organization dedicated to promote the sustainable development of Latin America through conflict prevention and management. She was its Executive President until 2006 and remains as Chair of the Advisory Board. From 1990 until 1992, Yolanda Kakabadse coordinated the participation of civil society organizations for the United Nations Conference for Environment and Development (Earth Summit) in Geneva. From 1996 to 2004 she was President of the World Conservation Union (IUCN), and Member of the Board of the World Resources Institute (WRI) during the same period.In August 1998 Yolanda was appointed Minister of Environment for the Republic of Ecuador, position she held until January 2000. During 2001 she was a visiting professor at Yale's School of Forestry and Environment, USA. She chaired the Scientific and Technology She chaired the Scientific and Technology Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (STAP / GEF) from 2005 to 2008.

Ms. Rachel Kyte, CEO, Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL): Rachel Kyte is Chief Executive Officer of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All. A leading advocate for sustainable development, Ms. Kyte is focused on affordable, reliable and sustainable energy as the key to combating both poverty and climate change. Ms. Kyte drives SE4All's work to mobilize action towards its 2030 goals of ensuring universal access to modern energy services; doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency; and doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix. As Special Representative for the Secretary General she is the point person in the UN for action towards the recently agreed global goal on sustainable energy. Ms

Kyte served until December 2015 as World Bank Group Vice President and Special Envoy for Climate Change, leading the Bank Group's efforts to campaign for an ambitious agreement at the 21st Convention of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP 21). She was previously World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development and was the International Finance Corporation Vice President for Business Advisory Services. Recipient of numerous award for women's leadership, climate action and sustainable development, she is a Professor of practice in sustainable development at Tuft's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. She holds a master's degree in international relations from Fletcher, and a bachelor's degree in history and politics from the University of London.

Ms. Joan Lamm-Tennant, CEO. Blue Marble Microinsurance & Member, Executive Committee, International Insure Society: Joan Lamm-Tennant is the CEO of Blue Marble Microinsurance, a corporation formed by a consortium of eight insurance entities for the purpose of developing service ventures enabling the insurers to enter the microinsurance market. Previously, Ms. Lamm-Tennant was the Global Chief Economist and Risk Strategist of Guy Carpenter & Company, LLC, where she served as an advisor to C-Suite Executives and Board Members of Guy Carpenter's most significant clients. Her expertise includes emerging market strategy, enterprise risk modeling, implementation of risk-based decision processes and high value strategies resulting in capital efficiencies and profitable growth. In 2009, Ms. Lamm-Tennant served as a risk strategist for Marsh & McLennan and formalized the enterprise wide risk oversight function resulting in the appointment of a Chief Risk Officer and a dedicated Board Risk Committee. Prior to joining Guy Carpenter in 2007, Ms. Lamm-Tennant was the founding President of General Reinsurance Capital Consultants (GRCC). Prior to her executive positions in industry, Ms. Lamm-Tennant had a successful academic career. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania and held the Laurence and Susan Hirsch Chair in International Business. Ms. Lamm-Tenannt is the recipient of the 2013 APIW Insurance Woman of the Year and the 2012 International Insurance Society Kenneth Black Award for service and commitment to the advancement of the global industry. She holds a Ph.D. in Finance and Investments from the University of Texas, Austin; an M.B.A. in Finance from St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas and a B.B.A. with Honors in Accounting from St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. Ajay Mathur, Director-General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI): Ajay Mathur is Director General of TERI – The Energy & Resources Institute, and a member of the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change.He was Director General of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency in the Government of India from 2006 till February, 2016, and responsible for bringing energy efficiency into our homes, offices, and factories, through initiatives such as the star labelling programme for appliances, the Energy Conservation Building Code, and the Perform, Achieve and Trade programme for energy-intensive industries. Dr. Mathur was earlier with TERI from 1986 to 2000, and then headed the Climate Change Team of World Bank in Washington DC. He was President of Suzlon Energy Limited, also headed the interim Secretariat of the Green Climate Fund. He has been a key Indian climate-change negotiator, and was also the Indian spokesperson at the 2015 climate negotiations at Paris. He is a global leader on technological approaches to address climate change; recently, he joined the global group of industrial, financial and think-tank leaders to co-chair an Energy Transitions Commission which will suggest ways for companies and countries to move towards climate-friendly energy futures.

Mr. Gérard Mestrallet, Chairman and CEO, Engie: Born in Paris in 1949, Gérard Mestrallet is a graduate of Ecole Polytechnique, Ecole de l'Aviation Civile, Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Toulouse) and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration. He was a Civil administrator in the Treasury and then became Advisor on Industrial Affairs to Jacques Delors, Economy and Finance Minister (1982-1984). In 1984, he went on to become Advisor to the Chairman of Compagnie Financière de Suez. In 1986, he was then appointed Senior Executive Vice President in charge of Industrial Affairs. In February 1991, Gérard Mestrallet became Managing Director of Société Générale de Belgique, and held this position until 1995. In July

1995, he was appointed Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Compagnie de Suez and in June 1997, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Executive Board of Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux until May, 2001, when he was appointed Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Suez. He led the transformation of the Company to build an industrial Group, leader in Energy and Environment in France. Since July 2008, Gérard Mestrallet is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of GDF SUEZ. His appointment in this position has been renewed on 23 April 2012. On 24 April 2015, GDF SUEZ was renamed and became ENGIE.

Mr. Alfred Romuáldez, Mayor, City of Tacloban, The Philippines: Mayor Alfred S. Romualdez first entered politics as Congressman of the City of Tacloban from 1998 to 2001. He was elected as Tacloban City Mayor in May 2007 and is on his third and last term as City Mayor of Tacloban, following his father's nine-year term also as mayor of the city. A man of action, his work ethic is to be out in the field and with the people, at the front line of every emergency. Under his administration, the City Government of Tacloban has received many awards including the Gawad Pamana ng Lahi Award from the Department of Local and Interior Government – the country's highest and most prestigious given for good governance given to a local government unit. He received his education from the Georgetown Prep in Washington, D.C. and several Catholic colleges in the Philippines, and is a devout Christian with deeply rooted family values. The aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan underlined the excellence of his leadership, not only because he rallied the people to rise above their individual and collective tragedies, but most especially by inspiring everyone to rebuild their lives in the city of their dreams.

Mr. Jeffrey Sachs, Director, The Earth Institute: Jeffrey D. Sachs is a world-renowned professor of economics, leader in sustainable development, senior UN advisor, bestselling author, and syndicated columnist whose monthly newspaper columns appear in more than 100 countries. He is the co-recipient of the 2015 Blue Planet Prize, the leading global prize for environmental leadership. He has twice been named among Time Magazine's 100 most influential world leaders. He was called by the New York Times, "probably the most important economist in the world," and by Time Magazine "the world's best known economist." A recent survey by The Economist Magazine ranked Professor Sachs as among the world's three most influential living economists of the past decade. Professor Sachs serves as the Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the Sustainable Development Goals, and previously advised both UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Millennium Development Goals. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg, Austria. Sachs is Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network under the auspices of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

H.E. Ms. Izabella Teixeira, Minister of Environment of Brazil: Born in Brasília, Brazil, Izabella Teixeira is a biologist and holds a Master's Degree in Energy Planning and a Ph.D. in Environmental Planning at COPPE/UFRJ. A civil servant at the Brazilian Environmental Agency since 1984, she has occupied different managing positions at the Agency, as well as at the Ministry of the Environment and at the State Government of Rio de Janeiro. She has also worked as a professor at MBA and environmental courses in different universities - she is an expert in strategic environmental assessment. From 2007 to 2008, Minister Teixeira was the Vice-Secretary of the Environment at the State Government of Rio de Janeiro, until she was nominated for the position of Vice-Minister of the Environment. In May 2010 she was appointed Minister of the Environment and, in January 2011 she has been reappointed to that position by the new President of Brazil.