

## High level South South Cooperation in action - Protecting Tropical Peatlands Together — a Triple win for the Climate, People and the Planet

Peatlands are unique ecosystems that offer a triple win for the climate, people and the planet. Peatlands are enormous carbon sinks, they protect unique biodiversity, control water supply and quality, cool the atmosphere, prevent floods, and more, providing essential ecosystem services which people's lives depend on. Despite their importance and the extent of the threats they face, tropical peatlands are one of the least understood and monitored ecosystems. As peatlands become more accessible through development and investments in large-scale commodity production, their functions are put at risk.

The Global Peatlands Initiative focuses on building a better understanding of peat status and trends while supporting countries in their efforts to improve policies for peatland conservation, restoration and sustainable management.

This session will highlight the steps being taken by key peatland countries to tackle urgent challenges and imminent threats to peatlands. These Southern leaders will share knowledge, experiences and ideas to help others leap forward and avoid disasters, learning from mistakes of the past. The Global Peatlands Initiative partners will share progress, innovations, discoveries and ongoing commitments. The event will celebrate the achievements so far such as the Brazzaville Declaration on Peatlands, partnership commitments, and the launch of the International Tropical Peatlands Center and its Paludiculture Platform for managing tropical peatlands. We will invite partners to share their experience and join in to support the effort through academic fellowships, innovation, technology transfer and best practice sharing.

## **Panelists:**

Siti Nurbaya, Minister of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia Arlette Soudan-Nonault, Minister of Environment and Tourism, Republic of Congo

Jochen Flasbath, State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), Germany Francisco Rilla, Director of Science and Policy, Ramsar Convention Prof. Hans Joosten, Greifswald Mire Centre

## **Moderator:**

Tim Christophersen, Director, UN Environment

Saturday, 1 December 2018, 16.00-17.30 Room Wien 1-2 You are invited for Food and Drinks and ideas sharing



Register to watch the online livestream **here**.

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