



مجلس حكماء المسلمين
Muslim Council of Elders

COP28
UAE

UN
environment
programme



Global Faith
Leaders Summit
Abu Dhabi 2023

Global Faith Leaders Summit

Uniting Faith Leaders for
Planetary Resurgence

November 6 - 7, 2023

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates



5 November 2023

International participants arrive at Rixos Marina Abu Dhabi

6 November 2023

(times in GST)

Departure from Hotel to Event Venue

AT 8:30am

Instructions: Attendees are required to gather at the hotel lobby at 8:30am. Please be punctual to ensure timely departure to the event venue. Transportation will be provided for all attendees.

OPENING SESSION

AT 9:30am

Venue: Abu Dhabi Energy Center

SPEAKERS

H.E. SHEIKH NAHYAN BIN MUBARAK AL NAHYAN,

Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence of the United Arab Emirates

H.E. ANTÓNIO GUTERRES,

Secretary-General of the United Nations (video message)

HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL PIETRO PAROLIN,

Vatican Secretary of State and representative of His Holiness Pope Francis

HIS EMINENCE PROF. MOHAMED AL-DUWEINI,

Deputy of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif and representative of His Eminence the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Ahmed Al-Tayeb

HIS ALL HOLINESS PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW I,

Ecumenical Patriarch, Patriarchate of Constantinople

H.E. MAULEN ASHIMBAYEV,

Head of the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, Speaker of the Senate of the Republic of Kazakhstan

THE MOST REVEREND JUSTIN WELBY,

Archbishop of Canterbury (video message)

SWAMIJI AMRITASWARUPANANDA PURI,

Head Disciple of Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi (Amma)

DEACON ILYA KASHITSYN,

Representative of His Holiness Kirill I, Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia

THE MOST VENERABLE DR KORI YOSHIHIKO,

Chief High Priest of Nenbutsushu Sampozen Muryojuji Temple

FATHER MINA HANNA BARSUM,

Episcopal Vicar of the Coptic Church in the Gulf Region, Representative of Pope Tawadros

BHAI MOHINDER SINGH,

Chairman of Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ), Birmingham, UK

SISTER MAUREEN GOODMAN,

Director of Brahma Kumaris in the United Kingdom

HIS VIRTUE SHEIKH-UL ISLAM ALLAHSHUKUR PASHAZADEH,

the Grand Mufti of the Caucasus

BREAK

10:30am – 10:40am

CALL FOR ACTION

AT 10:40am

SPEAKERS

JEFFREY SACHS,

Director of the Center for Sustainable Development and Former Director of The Earth Institute at Columbia University

ASIA AL SHEHHI,

UAE Negotiator – Technology, Science, & Innovation

SUSAN HENDERSHOT,

President, Interfaith Power and Light

GRANDMOTHER MONA POLACCA,

Indigenous Leader, The Colorado River Indian Tribe

FAITH AND SUSTAINABILITY

AT 10:50am

SPEAKERS

REV. PROFESSOR DR. JERRY PILLAY,

General-Secretary of the World Council of Churches

K.H. MUHAMMAD CHOLIL NAFIS,

President of the Indonesian Council of Ulama (MUI)

HIS HOLINESS MOR IGNATIUS APHREM II,

Patriarch of Antioch and All the East Supreme Head of the Universal Syriac Orthodox Church

DR. SALM BIN MOHAMMED AL MALIK,

Director-General of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)

H.E. DR. SHEIKH ABDULLAH BIN AHMED AL KHALIFA,

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence

ARCHBISHOP JULIO E. MURRAY,

Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Central America, representing Archbishop of Canterbury the Most Reverend Justin Welby

MS. BANI DUGAL,

Principal Representative of the Baha'i International Community to the United Nations

PROFESSOR DR. ACHARYA LOKESH MUNI,

Founder and President of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti

BREAK

11:40am – 11:50am

SPEAKERS

SHEIKH DR. YAHYA KHALIL THAQOUF,

Chairman of Nahdlatul Ulama – Indonesia

BISHOP DR. THOMAS SCHIRRMACHER,

General-Secretary of the World Evangelical Alliance

HIS EMINENCE TALGAT TADZHUDDIN,

Head of the Higher Islamic Council in Russia

HIS EMINENCE SHEIKH RISHAMA SATTAR JABBAR HILOU,

Head of the Mandaean-Sabeen Sect in Iraq and the World

SHAHZADA HUSAIN BURHANUDDIN,

Representative of the Sultan of Al Bohra Mufaddal Saifuddin

ELDER PATRICK KEARON,

General Authority of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

MRS. SADHVI BHAGAWATI SARASWATI,

Secretary-General, Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and International Director of the Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh

MR. TOKITA HOZUMI,

Representative of the Sukyo Mahikari Foundation

DR. SYAFIQ A. MUGHNI,

Chairman of the Central Board of Muhammadiyah

MS. DEBRA BOUDREAU,

Chief Executive Officer of the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation

DR. IYAD ABUMOGHLI,

Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Faith for Earth Initiative

LUNCH

Rixos Marina Abu Dhabi

AT 1:30 pm

Departure from Hotel to Event Venue

AT 5:00 pm

Instructions: Attendees are required to gather at the hotel lobby at 5:00pm. Please be punctual to ensure timely departure to the event venue. Transportation will be provided for all attendees.

OFFICIAL CEREMONY

Venue: Emirates Palace

AT 5:45pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

JUDGE MOHAMED ABDELSALAM,

Secretary-General of the Muslim Council of Elders

REMARKS BY

H.E. PROFESSOR MOHAMED AL-MAHRASAWI,

Former president of Al-Azhar University, Chairman of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity

HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL MIGUEL ÁNGEL AYUSO,

Prefect of the Holy See's Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue

HIS HOLINESS MAHABRAHMRISHI SHREE KUMAR SWAMI JI,

President of World Humanity Parliament & Bhagwan Shree Lakshmi Narayan Dham

DHARMA MASTER HSIN TAO,

Founder of the Ling Jiou Mountain (LJM)

RABBI DAVID ROSEN KSG CBE,

Former Chief Rabbi of Ireland

BHAI SINGH KHALSA,

Ambassador of Sikhi Religion – Western Hemisphere

SIGNING OF THE APPEAL

AT 11:50 am

Faith leaders sign the appeal and participate in tree planting. Appeal is handed to H.E. Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, COP28 President-Designate

REMARKS BY

H.E. DR. SULTAN AL JABER,

COP28 President-Designate

GROUP PHOTO

RECEPTION DINNER HOSTED BY COP28 PRESIDENCY

Venue: Emirates Palace

AT 7:30pm

7 November 2023

(times in GST)

Departure from Hotel to Event Venue

AT 8:30am

Instructions: Attendees are required to gather at the hotel lobby at 8:30am. Please be punctual to ensure timely departure to the event venue. Transportation will be provided for all attendees.

PLENARY SESSIONS

Venue: Abu Dhabi Energy Center

AT 9:30am

9:30am – 11:00am

Changemakers Majlis: Faith and Science – Connecting the Heart and the Head (1h30)

The Global Religious Leaders Summit brings together faith leaders, scientists, youth, women, business leaders, and decision makers for a Changemakers Majlis that will facilitate discussions on reconciling a strong relationship between religions/spiritual beliefs and science with a common objective of building a more secure and sustainable world. One area of agreement for people across the faith and science communities is that lives, livelihoods, and the environment are worth protecting. This overlapping consensus is an important opportunity for meaningful collaboration during a critical climate change moment. In an intricately connected world where peaceful coexistence is our priority and the effects of climate change are felt near-universally, how can we connect faith-based beliefs and scientific evidence to address pressing climate change challenges and co-design a more sustainable future?

KEY SPEAKERS

DR. MARY EVELYN TUCKER,

Co-director of the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale University

PROFESSOR JOHN GRIM,

Senior Lecturer and Research Scholar in Environmental Studies at Yale University, and Yale Divinity School, Department of Religious Studies

STIENTJE VAN VELDHOVEN,

World Resources Institute Vice-President and Regional Director for Europe

11:00am – 12:00pm

Plenary Discussion - Towards an Integrated Approach (1h)

This panel offers an insightful exploration of global challenges, particularly the issue of climate change, highlighting their interconnected nature. It underscores the importance of recognizing the interdependence of various issues and delves into how a multi-stakeholder approach, including faith institutions, can accelerate implementation efforts, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive strategy to address these complex challenges.

SPEAKERS

DR. FADI DAOU,

Executive Director of Globethics

PROFESSOR JEFFREY D. SACHS,

Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University and Former Director of The Earth Institute.

DR. CARLOS ZEPEDA,

Assistant Director of the Laudato Si' Research Institute

12:00pm – 12:45pm

Plenary Discussion - Interfaith Women Leaders (0h45)

This session illuminates the extraordinary contributions of women representing diverse faith traditions and their leadership in the promotion of environmental sustainability and gender equality initiatives. We will delve deeply into the pivotal role that women hold in the fight against climate change, with a particular focus on the importance of integrating indigenous perspectives.

SPEAKERS

DR. HUSNA AHMAD,

CEO of Global One

REV. SUSAN HENDERSHOT,

President, Interfaith Power & Light Organization

GRANDMOTHER MONA POLACCA,

Indigenous Leader of the Colorado River Indian Tribes

12:45pm – 1:30pm

Plenary Discussion – Youth Faith Leaders (0h45)

This session spotlights the next generation of faith leaders who are addressing their intergenerational responsibilities towards a sustainable future. It encourages dialogue and collaboration between young faith leaders and established figures, fostering an inclusive and forward-looking approach to planetary resurgence. Join us as we explore the dynamic perspectives and collective efforts of emerging leaders in shaping a more sustainable world.

SPEAKERS

SOBIA IBRAHIM,

President of the Faith for Earth Youth Council

DANIEL KOTO DAGNON

Founder of the Eco-Justice organization

ABDELQADER AL SAQQAF,

UAE Youth Delegate to the UN

MIRA AL MHEIRI,

Member of the Emerging Peacemakers Forum

1:30pm – 2:15pm

Presentation - Towards Consolidated Action (0h45)

In this presentation, an expert speaker will unveil a comprehensive proposal for a mechanism and resolution aimed at ensuring the sustained involvement and lasting impact of faith leaders through the year 2030. This presentation acts as a catalyst, sparking discussions about how faith leaders can harmonize their influence and moral authority, paving the way for a collective journey towards a common goal.

SPEAKER

DR. IYAD ABUMOGHLI,

Director, United Nations Environment Programme



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