



World Development Foundation

2016-17
Annual Report



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2016 22 December – A Holiday Endorsement:
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Dominica Relief

Special Sections:

H. E. Ambassador Henry Mac Donald
Named President, WDF

A Look Back at the Transformational
2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations
During the 70th Anniversary of the UN
UN General Assembly Hall, NYC





World Development Foundation

Academic Research • Conferences
United Nations Relationships
Public/Private Partnerships

The United Nations 2030 Challenge to the world are the Sustainable Development Goals. These goals have been formally adopted. However, the ways and means to achieve these goals will be driven by civil society. The World Development Foundation accepts those goals as the successful vision for our programs. WDF encourages the success of the UN SDGs and, generally, works for a lasting peace based on shared prosperity for all human beings.

The World Development Foundation is a U.S.-based, 501c3 not-for-profit, tax exempt organization, and emanates from Dr. Xiangang GUO's renowned publishing and academic careers to study global and national development strategies.

The World Development Foundation develops academic information, organizes conferences and forums, promotes research, education, and public/private partnership projects supporting and facilitating global development, cooperation between governments and international NGOs as well as the formation of a high-end 'world development club' to contribute toward common, shared development throughout the world.

WDF: A Strong & Positive Presence at the United Nations

Since 2015, the World Development Foundation team has brought together Globalization Dialogues based on creating new public-private partnerships to help enact the Sustainable Development Goals.

2015 NGO CONFERENCE AT THE UNITED NATIONS

SAVE THE DATES
22-26 August 2015
UN Headquarters and New York City Venues

Honoring the Past Recognizing the Present Imagining the Future

Join Permanent Missions, UN Agencies, High-Level Staff, Very Special Guests, and Civil Society from Across the Globe Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations and Its Special Relationship with NGOs.

To learn more, email info@2015ngoconference.org or check our website at www.2015ngoconference.org

NGO Pre-Conference Weekend Splash
22-23 August
Various NYC Venues

Let the conference set you up!

Make a Splash: Present your work pre-conference in NYC.

Make a Point: Arrange pre-conference events to reinforce your presence.

70 Years Later, If you would like our shared responsibility to a new generation to register@2015ngoconference.org

Contribute your ideas to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by attending

UN SDGs for World Development Conference

23 May 2016 . United Nations . Conference Room 6

The challenge of the UN 2030 Agenda to the world is to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 for the good of mankind. Civil society will drive the achievement of these goals.

The World Development Foundation recognizes the importance of the 17 SDGs and their successful realization. The SDGs for World Society will serve as civil society's petri dish for the UN agenda to fulfillment.

2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT FOR UN SDGS AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Bringing the UN DPI/NGO Conference Home to UNHQ
24-26 August, 2016
UN General Assembly Hall and Other Locations of the UN
Register at www.globalwdf.org

Endorsements: the Permanent Missions to the United Nations:
★ Ukraine
★ Canada
★ Republic of Korea
Produced with Sole Sponsorship by the World Development Foundation

1) Participation is free.
2) The 2016 NGO Summit at the United Nations is an NGO sponsored event at the United Nations, with Lead Endorsement from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations. The project seeks to reprise some elements from the recent UN DPI Conference and build upon those for and among the NGO community it wishes to serve.

FINAL REGISTRATION ON EVENT! ABOVE prior to 3PM today

Public-Private Partnerships: Member State Initiatives to Ensure the Success of the SDGs

Presented by the Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations

TUESDAY • MAY 23, 2017 • 10AM – 5PM
UN Conference Room 4, UNHQ, NYC

Public-Private Partnerships Ensure the Success of the SDGs

Co-Chairs:
His Excellency Ambassador Henry MacDonald, Mission of Suriname
Bruce Knotts, Chair, NGO DPI Executive Committee

The PPP conference brings together Heads of State, UN High Officials, Global Corporate and other Business Leaders, Innovators, and Investors together to share perspectives on creating successful public-private partnerships that encourage and empower new economies while supporting the success of the Sustainable Development Goals. Introducing the Caribbean Guyana Shield Area eco-tourism program as part of UN World Tourism Organization's International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development. Also planned: Media Launches for both the Heads of State and First Ladies of the World Summits, planned for Fall 2017, to encourage further SDG support.

Special Guests include, among others:
His Excellency Mr. Peter Thomson, President, General Assembly
His Excellency Former President, Haiti, Michel Martelly
His Excellency Former President, Peru, Alejandro Toledo
Alfred R. Berkeley, Former President, NASDAQ
Jack Guy Lafontant, Prime Minister of Haiti
Amir Dossal, Founder, Global Partnerships Forum
Jeff Smith, Fordham University Law School, Sustainability Initiative
David Post, IBM Watson and Tara Nathan, MasterCard
Mr. Kazi Afzalur Rahman, UNWTO Deputy Special Rep to the UN
Along With Many Other International, Special Guests

The conference is free to all participants.

Public-Private Partnerships: Member State Initiatives to Ensure the Success of the SDGs is presented free to all registrants, under the auspices of the World Development Foundation, Dr. William D. Coker, President. Parakee Square and Casino Plan are Project Managers for the two-day proceedings to be held in the UN Main Conference Room 4 on Tuesday 23 May, from 10AM-5PM in New York City. Information: contact@globalwdf.org NON-UN Badge holder's Register TODAY before 3PM (See above for fee). The Conference will be waived on UNTY.

GLOBALIZATION DIALOGUES 2017

Please join us for some light-fare Holiday cheer as WDF celebrates civil society's 2016 accomplishments and looks forward to important new projects in 2017:

The banner under which a new, engaging series of dialogues with civil society Begins ...

The World Development Foundation, Inc. is a U.S. based, 501(c)3 not for profit, tax exempt organization.

The World Development Foundation is a U.S. based, 501c3 not-for-profit, tax exempt corporation dedicated to promoting global development in ethical and safe ways that help to enact the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and the overall Mission of the United Nations.

Dr. Henry Leonard MacDonald

Named President, World Development Foundation

**Ambassador and Former Permanent
Representative to the United Nations
joins WDF, October 2017**

Ambassador Mac Donald was born in Suriname and received his legal education at the Law Faculty of the Anton de Kom University in Paramaribo, (1994) and at the American University in Washington DC, where he obtained an additional Masters of Law in “Law and Government” at the Washington College of Law (2003). He acquired Post-Doctoral honors from the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the International Labor Organization (ILO), the Universities of Utrecht and Amsterdam in the Netherlands, and the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium.

Dr. Henry Mac Donald received an Honorary Degree in Doctorate for Philosophy in Humanities and the Golden Rule International Award for his international work on gender equality and women’s empowerment at the United Nations.

Ambassador Mac Donald has been a guest Professor at various Universities and Colleges in the United States and is one of the few scholars who publishes frequently in English in the Surinamese Law Journal.



Ambassador MacDonald was a senior legal advisor on human rights topics and a principal speech writer for his Government on development, legal and diplomatic matters. He represented Suriname as its Principal Expert before all Human Rights Treaty Bodies at the United Nations (e.g. the Universal Periodic Review (2011); the UN Committee Regarding the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2009 and 2015); the UN Committee for the Rights of the Child (2007); the UN Committee against the Discrimination of Women (2002), and at the Organization of American States such as at the Moiwana hearings before the Inter American Commission on Human Rights (2003) and the Inter American Court of Justice in 2004.

His Excellency Ambassador Dr. Henry Mac Donald Named President, World Development Foundation



Since his first arrival at the United Nations ten years ago, he served on several occasions as Chairperson of the CARICOM Caucus of Ambassadors to the United Nations and as Chair of the GRULAC Regional Grouping.

He was a Vice President of the 65th General Assembly, in which capacity he served on numerous occasions as Acting President.

He was also very instrumental in having the two only Surinamese Human Rights Experts being elected in respectively the Human Rights Committee (2010 & 2014) and the ECOSOC Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2012).



He was the Chairperson of the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee, generally referred to as the Third Committee for the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

On November, 2012, he orchestrated a unique combined Second and Third Committee Event on Communication for Development at the UN.



Ambassador Mac Donald has been a leading force for gender equality, as an early member and proponent of the HEFORSHE movement, begun by Ms. Emma Watson. He also pioneered the Barber Shop Conferences at the United Nations, furthering the work of UN WOMEN at Headquarters.



Prior to being named President, Dr. Mac Donald moderated the 23 May Conference at the United Nations endorsing public-private partnerships as a common-sense approach to involving all stakeholders in the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals.

PPP Conference Concept Paper

The Best UN Policies, Encouraged by NGO Passion, require
Private Sector Investment To Achieve SDG Success

Heads of State, UN High Officials, Global Corporate and other Business Leaders, Innovators, Investors and others joined together to share perspectives on the new economy as they are witnessing it. They provided insight, best practices, and their long-range predictions regarding the growth of new economies in developing regions throughout the world. Panelists and speakers addressed programming being developed within fascinating new public-private partnerships and encouraged by Member States, NGOs, and private companies, themselves. Building new economies will be private industry's and civil society's shared responsibility. Public-Private Partnerships, in tourism, banking, and elsewhere will help us implement and verify the success of the UNs 2030 Agenda.

"How might new emerging economies propel our conversations in ways that re-shape every aspect of life, in developed and developing regions of the world? The SDGs are poised to help nations by encouraging further economic development. Building new economies will be private industry's and civil society's shared responsibility. Public-Private Partnerships, for social action impact, will help us implement and verify the success of the UNs 2030 Agenda.



"The SDGs are poised to help nations by encouraging further economic development. In a new economy, sweeping changes will inevitably flatten the world further by allowing innovations, new corporate structures, and new currency formats to redefine current business models into model businesses: adding value to the markets in which they ultimately benefit,"

WDFs President, Dr. Xiangang Guo, explains.

Dr. Guo concludes, "Public-Private Partnerships, in tourism, banking, and elsewhere will help the UN enact and quantify SDG rewards, while providing real, new opportunities for investor ROI."



As an example, during the day, I led a discussion on the Caribbean Guyana Shield Area Eco-Tourism Project (in recognition of the UN World Tourism Organization's International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development). Also, the day will feature panels as broad as a high level corporate partners' panel, former Heads of State, UN staff views, and the launch of the First Ladies of the World Summit in the Fall."

-His Excellency Ambassador Henry MacDonald, (Former) Permanent Representative, Mission of Suriname to the United Nations. Ten-year tenure.

The Public Private Partnerships Conference: Member State Initiatives to Ensure the Success of SDGs
was presented in cooperation with the World Development Foundation.



***Public-Private-Partnerships:
Member State initiatives to Ensure the Success of the SDGs***

Presented by the Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations

TUESDAY · MAY 23, 2017 · 10AM-5PM

UN Conference Room 4, UNHQ, NYC

Public-Private Partnerships Ensure the Success of the SDGs

Co-Chairs:

***His Excellency Ambassador Henry MacDonald, Mission of Suriname
Bruce Knotts, Chair, NGO DPI Executive Committee***

The PPP conference brings together Heads of State, UN High Officials, Global Corporate and other Business Leaders, Innovators, and Investors together to share perspectives on creating successful, public-private partnerships that encourage and empower new economies while supporting the success of the Sustainable Development Goals. Introducing the Caribbean Guyana Shield Area eco-tourism program as part of UN World Tourism Organization International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development.

Special Guests include, among others:

His Excellency Former President, Costa Rica, Oscar Arias (Invited)

His Excellency Former President, Haiti, Michel Martelly

Dr. Edwin Carrington, Former Secretary General of the Caribbean Community

Amir Dossal, Founder, Global Partnerships Forum

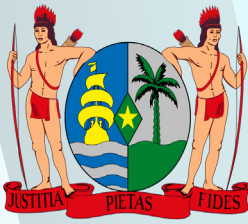
Jeff Smith, Fordham University Law School, Sustainability Initiative

David Post, IBM Watson and Tara Nathan, MasterCard

Other International, Special Guests To Be Confirmed

The conference is free to all delegates.

Public-Private Partnerships: Member State Initiatives to Ensure the Success of the SDGs is presented free to all registrants, under the auspices of... His Excellency Ambassador Henry MacDonald and the Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations. The program is produced and developed by the World Development Foundation, Dr. William Guo, President. Patrick Sciarratta and Cristina Fan are Project Managers for the two-day proceedings, to be held in the UN Main Conference Room 4 on Tuesday, 23 May, from 10AM-5PM, in New York City. Information: Click the link above this flier, or contact@globalwdf.org. Confirmation and instructions on how to access the conference (if you do not have a UN pass) will be in the Eventbrite notice. The conference will be televised on UNTV.



Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations
in cooperation with
The World Development Foundation
present



**Public Private Partnerships:
Member State Initiatives to Support the SDGs
23 May 2017 • Conference Room 4 • United Nations**

Press Release

Government officials, corporate leaders, NGOs and investors from around the world gathered at the United Nations on 23 May 2017 to engage in a focused dialogue on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP): Member State Initiatives to Ensure the Success of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) hosted by the Permanent Mission of Suriname, in cooperation with the World Development Foundation. “Good, far-reaching policies earning sincere endorsement, will not grow nor endure without private investment” said Henry Mac Donald, Permanent Representative of Suriname to the United Nations, to open the conference. Ambassador Mac Donald went on to further explain that private sector investors have been successfully able to obtain financial returns on their bottom lines while at the same time benefiting the bottom half of the world as they struggle for sustainability.

The session was inaugurated by the President of the General Assembly, Peter Thomson, followed by an in depth speech on the topic by the Principal Representative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for the Caribbean and Latin America.

The morning panel sessions underscored the importance of the United Nations, in its role as a global convener and catalyzer of people, to serve as a platform to bring the private and public sectors together in an effort to harness the power of all stakeholders. A highlight of the morning included a candid discussion between Michel Martelly, former President of Haiti, and Amir Dossal, Founder and President of the Global Partnerships Forum. President Martelly emphasized that poverty serves as the ultimate obstruction to development and it is outside investment, through public-private partnerships, that can serve as the first link in the chain to improving lives.

In the afternoon panel sessions Ambassador Mac Donald along with His Excellency Rudolph Michael Ten-Pow, Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations, unveiled a new sustainable eco-tourism plan for the Caribbean Guyana Shield Area in recognition of the UN International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017. Ambassador Ten-Pow, quoting a sentiment made earlier by Mr. Dossal, stressed that it was time “to start doing what we need to do” and encouraged countries to create bankable projects that will be able to attract the investment sector. In a later panel corporate leaders echoed this same notion and instructed both sectors to focus on their own core competences, while also recognizing that a shared mission is not necessary so long as the goals remain complementary.

Since the private sector accounts for roughly 90% of jobs globally, public-private partnerships will be integral to implanting and verifying the success of the U.N. 2030 Agenda. In line with SDG 17 (the Revitalization of Global Partnerships), private industry and civil society will need to share the responsibility of building new economies. The public and private sectors, along with governments, must come together to set standards and goals in order to drive this global initiative.

23 May Conference at the UN A Retrospective Overview

The day-long conference began with a discussion between Amir Dossal and a recent, regional Head of State. They discussed the need for the private sector to join the campaign for successful Sustainable Development Goals. UN staff weighed in on current and proposed programming to encourage multi-stakeholder involvement in the success of the SDGs. The conference also featured the media launch of the First Ladies of the World (FLOW) Summit, set for Fall 2017. Other highlights included presentations by corporate leaders who are seeking ways to combine value-added propositions for their bottom lines through adherence to the Goals.



Opening – **Henry MacDonald**
and **Dr. Xiagang Guo**
Met by UN President of the
General Assembly
H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson

Ms. Jessica Faieta
ASG, UNDP Director of the
Regional Bureau
for Latin America and the
Caribbean

Amir Dossal, President
Michel Martelly, and Dr. Guo

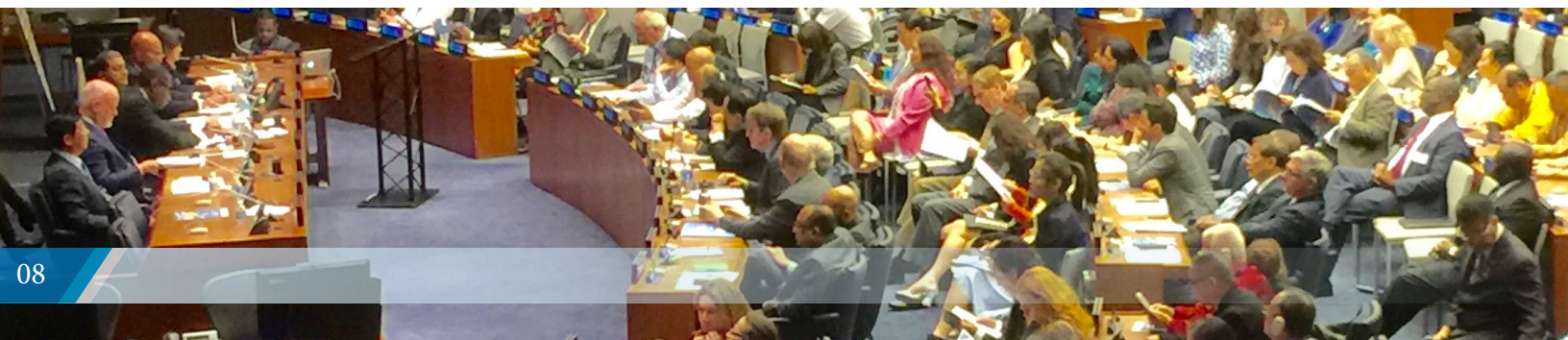


United Nations Secretariat: On
Creating and Endorsing Public-
Private Partnerships
Bruce Knotts, Moderator
Chantal Line Carpentier,
UNCTAD
David Stillman, Public-Private
Alliance Foundation
Javier Cortés, Head of UN
Global Compact
Local Networks for the
Americas
Mr. Kazi Afzalur Rahman,
UNWTO Deputy
Special Representative to the
United Nations



Chen Zongjian, President,
Porter Group, China
Special Guests Plenary: A
Conversation on Public
Private Partnerships
Pan Yuejian, President,
Shenzhen Qianhai E-Commerce,
China
Alfred R. Berkeley, Former
President, NASDAQ

Discussion, Permanent
Representatives:
His Excellency Rudolph
Michael Ten-Pow
His Excellency Henry
MacDonald
Suriname and Guyana Missions
to the United Nations
Mr. Kazi Afzalur Rahman,
UNWTO
Deputy Special Representative



23 May Conference at the UN A Retrospective Overview

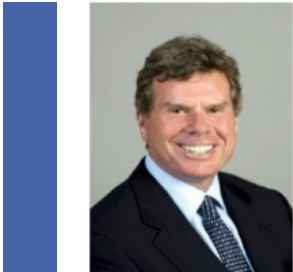
Special Guests: A “Conversation on Public Private Partnerships” (Q&A)

Jeff Smith, Moderator, Fordham University Law School, Sustainability Initiative

David Post, IBM Watson

Tara Nathan, MasterCard

Scott C. Ratzan, President, ABInBev Foundation



Special Guests – A Globalization Dialogue with The New Economy Panel 1

While Building Regional Relations, How Should Public-Private Partnerships Proceed?

Antonio Rodrigue, Haiti Minister of Foreign Affairs

Wilson Laleau, Chief of Cabinet, President Moise, Haiti

Special Guests – A Globalization Dialogue with The New Economy Panel 2

While Building Regional Relations, How Should Public-Private Partnerships Proceed?

Mei Dehui, President, Zhongjinsheng Investment, China

Dr. Li Chengyi, President, Beijing Chengyi Medical Institute, China

Chen Qingkui, President, Jinan Keming, China

“First Lady” Funds and The Economic Empowerment of Women

Pilar Stella, Co-Founder

First Ladies of the World Summit

Natalie Gonnella-Platts, Deputy Director

Women’s Initiative, Bush Institute

Matthew Swift, Co-Founder, Chairman CEO, Concordia



*Executive Producer Dr.
Xiangang Guo with Co-Chairs
Bruce Knotts and Ambassador
MacDonald*



Public-Private Partnerships: Member State Initiatives to Ensure the Success of the SDGs

The Conference Announces a Major, Public-Private Partnership

The Caribbean Guyana Shield Area: A New Eco-Tourism Product

During the International Year of Sustainable Tourism For Development, 2017

Public Ministries, Civil Society, and the Private Sector will soon unite to promote a new global tourism package:

The Caribbean Guyana Shield Tourism Area

Excellencies Ambassador **Henry MacDonald** and Ambassador **Rudolph Michael Ten-Pow** shared videos and plans for a new travel destination that plans to flourish with public private partnerships. Three neighboring, friendly countries unveiled plans to combine efforts and draw new tourists to one of the most exciting and under-visited paradises on the planet: the Guyana Shield. French Guyana, Suriname, and Guyana form a trio destination most travelers have never seen or known. Through public private partnerships coming this year, expect this to change.

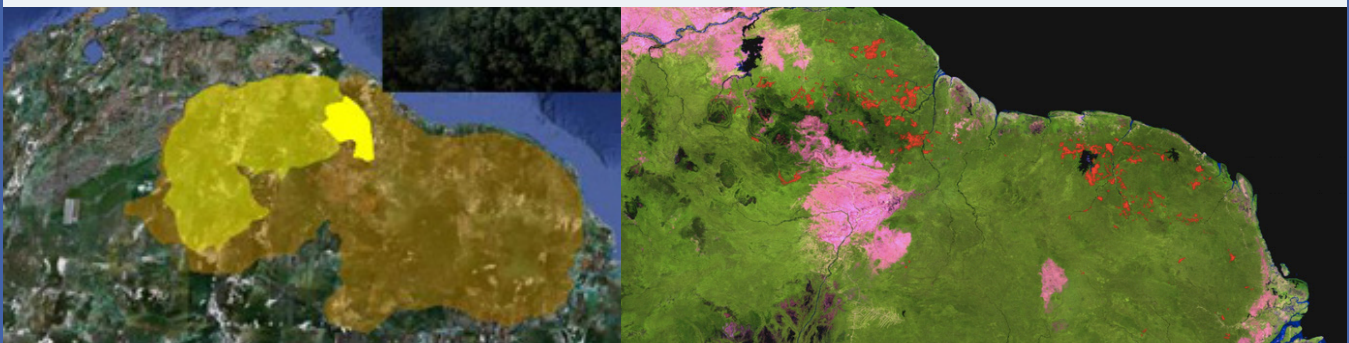
This session was a main focus of the conference. The panel provided an early introduction to an initiative which will require private investment, local management and ownership – the Guyana Shield Area for eco-tourism will now begin planning that is sustainable on all levels, benefits local communities and the general development efforts of all three nations, while delivering support for the Sustainable Development Goals.

The project is being developed during an important and related “Year” for the UN World Tourism Organization. The Guyana Shield hopes to emulate the best and most important aspects of the UN WTO International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017 goals throughout its development, marketing, and implementation.

Next steps include a public statement of cooperation among all parties, introducing the services and beauty abounding within the Shield areas of Guyana, Suriname, and French Guyana – and joining with private partners to release and market this new tourism product to the world. The World Development Foundation has agreed to assist in supporting these initial efforts throughout 2017.

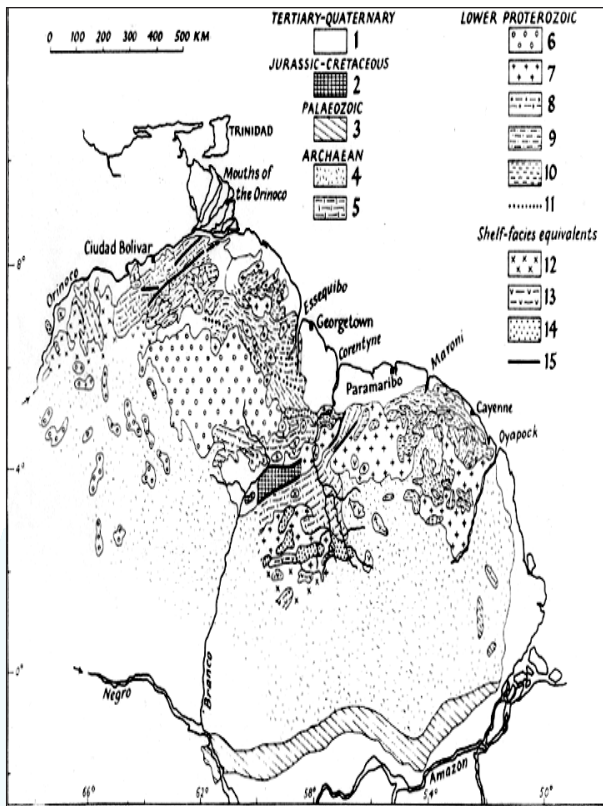


SPECIAL GUEST, **KAZI AFZALUR RAHMAN**, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UN WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS DISCUSSED INFORMATION RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL YEAR, 2017, WITH SUPPORT FOR THE GUYANA SHIELD. ALL ARE INVITED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT UNWTO AND IY 2017, HERE: (<http://www.tourism4development2017.org/join-the-celebration/>)



The day-long conference began with a discussion between Amir Dossal and a recent, regional Head of State. They discuss the need for the private sector to join the campaign for successful Sustainable Development Goals. UN staff weighed in on current and proposed programming to encourage multi-stakeholder involvement in the success of the SDGs. The conference also featured the media launch of the First Ladies of the World (FLOW) Summit, set for Fall 2017. Other highlights included presentations by corporate leaders who are seeking ways to combine value-added propositions for their bottom lines through adherence to the Goals.

The Guyana Shield Area



The **Guiana Shield** is one of the three cratons of the South American Plate. It is a 1.7 billion-year-old Precambrian geological formation in northeast South America that forms a portion of its northern coast. The higher elevations on the shield are called the Guiana Highlands, which is where the table-like mountains called tepuis are found. The Guiana Highlands are also the source of some of the world's most spectacular waterfalls such as Angel Falls, Kaieteur Falls and Kuquenán Falls.

The Guiana Shield underlies Guyana (previously British Guiana), Suriname (previously Dutch Guiana) and French Guiana (or Guyane), as well as parts of Venezuela, Colombia, and Brazil.

The Guiana Shield is one of the regions of highest biodiversity in the world, and has many endemic species. The region has over 3000 vertebrate species: 1168 fresh water fish, 269 amphibians (54% endemics), 295 reptiles (29%), 1004 birds (7.7%), and 282 mammals (11%). Plant life is equally rich and 13,367 species of vascular plants have been found, approximately 40% of which is considered endemic.



The shield is overlain by the largest expanse of undisturbed tropical rain forest in the world. Guianan rain forest is similar in nature to Amazonian rain forest and known protected areas include the Iwokrama Forest of central Guyana, Kaieteur, Kanuku National Park of southern Guyana, the UNESCO World Heritage Site Central Suriname Nature Reserve of Suriname, and the Guiana Amazonian Park in French Guyana.

- Wikipedia 2017

Conference Reaction With Special Thanks 23 May



Special thanks:

- Secretary General’s Office at the United Nations
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United Nations NGO DPI Executive Committee
- United Nations World Tourism Organization
- Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations
- Permanent Mission of Guyana to the United Nations
- Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations
- Government of Haiti

IBM
 Mastercard
 ABInBev Foundation
 Fordham University
 Ms. Hawa Diallo
 Ms. Jenny Chen



Conference Reaction

23 May



Conference Reaction

23 May



Special Celebration 22 Dec. 2016

*season's greetings to you and yours from the
World Development Foundation*



Thursday
DECEMBER 22nd
Delegates Dining Room
4th Floor | 3:30PM-5PM

Please join us for some light-fare Holiday
Cheer as WDF celebrates civil society's 2016
accomplishments and looks forward to
important new projects in 2017:

GOLOBLIZATION DIALOGUES 2017

The banner under which a new, engagigg series of dialogues with civil society
Begins ...

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Greetings from WDF by the Program Director, Patrick Sciarratta

Thank you all for joining us.

We hope you enjoy the opportunity this afternoon to meet and greet others who have contributed to NGO programming in relation to UN goals and mission during the past year.

First and foremost, I would like to give thanks to our sponsors and organizer for this event - and several other events at the UN during the past year. Please give a warm round of thanks to the World Development Foundation and my good friends,

**Dr. William Guo, founder and director, and
Ms. Cristina Fan, Assistant to the Director.**



Thank you both for your support this year.

I also want to thank everyone here who has helped me in 2016 personally understand and appreciate the meaning and value of the Sustainable Development Goals. At the outset, before Jakob Trollback gave us the visual understanding of each goal, and before other leaders from the UN and civil society clarified the fact that these are not the UNs SDGs, but ours, I saw them as complicated, now I appreciate the SDGs and their implications as ... complex, like a fine red wine. So this I now understand and love the SDGs and have made their understanding my own.

There are many people who could not be here today, because of travel, family commitments, work, and well, shopping. But a few of you are here: those who made a great difference to the success of the premiere year of the SDG challenge through motivation of constituents and their vision that helped guide us through this first exciting year of their existence.

May I ask Cristina to hand the mic to a few of our guests, we'd love to hear a very brief recap regarding some of what you and your organization achieved in 2016.

Amir Dossal Hanifa Mazoui Chantal-Line Carpentier Bruce Knotts Scott Carlin
Hawa Diallo Ravi Kakara Michelle Leon Linda Stillman

The World Development Foundation, WDF, and by extension my own Vinculum Foundation, worked to support NGO DPI where we might, as other opportunities we found to serve civil society and several Permanent Missions to the United Nations at the highest levels.

Allow me to close with a short review of what we at WDF hope to accomplish in the coming year. With all of these plans, we seek YOUR cooperation, collaboration, and inclusion.

In 2017, the W. D. F. will begin a new series aimed at enabling civil society to comment and expand upon, as well as to add value and new ideas to specific points of management, economic empowerment, regional development, and the new economy, especially in relation to the developing world, women, youth, and the SDG Challenge. We are calling these the **Globalization Dialogues at the United Nations**. They will include topics like the new economy, empowering women entrepreneurs from the developing world, the economic challenges and opportunities inherent within the SDGs for developing and small island states.

We will also sponsor a few special multi-cultural exhibitions that will feature a developing and sponsoring Member State, presenting together; during a period where they may be working together on SDG development programming. These will be art exhibits first, but imply the bi-lateral relationship between these cooperating countries, too.

We plan to launch and help develop existing public-private partnerships in the developing states we work alongside. We have already petitioned CSW to allow us to fund the media launch of the First Ladies of the World Summit, scheduled to take place during the UN General Assembly, and pledge to offer our services and support, wherever possible and invited, to assist other NGOs, Missions and our colleagues within the UN system.

In my own opinion, we are entering a dark time of isolation and separation. This house is one of the few places preaching inclusion and cooperation, through visionary member state and civil society objectives and programming. Only here do I see a positive, global future being articulated and so this dear institution must be supported with all our will and by all our efforts going forward. I hope in my heart that you all agree and will share those thoughts with others, on the vital importance of the United Nations, right now, today - as we gather we gather with our families during this festive time.

Please keep WDFs programming and desire for collaboration in mind during the coming year; we hope to work with many of you in 2017 and encourage you to invite us into your processes.

And, finally, to all, we wish everyone a pleasant Holliday season and the most surprising successes possible in troubled times, during the new year.

Peace out 2016. Thank you for all you did and accomplished in the name of United Nations goals and Mission and thank you especially for coming by today to share some time and reflections with us all.



- 
- Endorsements: the Permanent Missions to the United Nations:
 - ★ Ukraine
 - ★ Canada
 - ★ Republic of Korea
 - Produced with Sole Sponsorship by the World Development Foundation

2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT FOR UN SDGS AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Bringing the UN DPI/NGO Conference Home to UNHQ

24-26 August, 2016

UN General Assembly Hall
and Other Locations at the UN

Register at www.globalwdf.org



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2) The 2016 NGO Summit at the United Nations is an NGO sponsored event at the United Nations, with Lead Endorsement from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations. The project seeks to reprise some elements from the recent UN DPI Conference and build upon those for and among the NGO community it wishes to serve.

This informative session was presented by the Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations, with initial support from the Missions of Canada to the United Nations and the Republic of Korea to the United Nations. The aim of this important, major NGO gathering was to 'reprise' successful aspects of the 66th annual UN DPI NGO Conference, that took place in Gyeongju, Korea at the end of May: "Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together."

Of further interest, the Summit began discussions on new ideas for SDG implementation, reporting, and verification with actual programming that fulfills the challenges presented by the UN SDGs. The event's moderator was Bruce Knotts.



The Summit discussed new technologies and policies being developed in civil society and encouraged by Member States toward the realization of the UNs fifteen year challenge to implement and verify the success of its 2030 Agenda.



UN High Officials, Leaders of the UN DPI Conference, Innovators, Youth Activists and others join together to present concepts, themes, new ideas, and emerging partnerships taking place throughout the world that encourage discussion regarding of the next phase of SDG development.



Presented with the support and direction of the World Development Foundation



World Development Foundation

Program Notes

*Originally titled the **2016 NGO Summit for the SDGs**, the Lead Endorser, Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations, altered the title slightly, keeping much of the original programming intact. The final title used for the gathering was:*

Public Private Partnerships for the Success of the Sustainable Development Goals

Recognizing the Success & Finding NGO Consensus to Move Forward After The UN DPI 66th Annual NGO Conference

**“Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together”
24, 25, and 26 August 2016**

This informative session was free and registration was open to all. It was presented with the endorsement of the Permanent Missions of Ghana to the United Nations. **Bruce Knotts**, Chair of the NGO DPI Executive Committee led the three-day proceedings as Conference Chair, held in Conference Room #1 on the UN campus in New York City. **Patrick Sciarratta** developed the program with the sole support of the World Development Foundation, **Dr. William Guo** and **Cristina Fan**, directors.

- The aim of this event was to continue discussions on NGO responsibilities for SDG implementation, reporting, and verification as a full partner in the UNs 2030 global challenge for development. What actual programming and partnerships will fulfill the challenges presented by the UN SDGs, the outcome documents, and other discussions concluded at the recent UN DPI Conference last May in the Republic of Korea? What other Public Private partnerships were possible that would help ensure SDG success?
- This three-day event enabled NGOs, the media, and others who were not able to attend the successful gathering in Korea, as well as prepare all those in civil society to answer the challenges and opportunities posed by the SDGs and provide input on future steps. The gathering reflected other efforts to move public and private partnerships, alongside UN efforts, to ensure maximum success for the SDGs over the coming 15 years.
- Historically, civil society may have had less of a role in planning the global development agenda. This summit empowered civil society to collaborate in a way that may in some ways shape the SDGs for years to come. The UNs 2030 Challenge has determined that an urgent call must reach from **Member States, the UN global staff, to civil society, all working together** on the roadmaps for SDG success.

The Sessions was opened by Conference Chair **Bruce Knotts**, with additional welcomes from the President of the UN General Assembly, **H.E. Mogens Lykketoft**, followed by official UN welcomes from **H.E. Ambassador Oh Joon**, Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea to the United Nations, offering the Host Nation Welcome from the 66th Annual UN DPI Conference last Spring, followed by **H.E. Ambassador Marc-André Blanchard**, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations, a long time supporter of civil society as an active participant in SDG success.

A highpoint of the Opening featured artist **Jakob Trollback**, the creator of the SDG visual element, who reminded us that communicating the goals in all ways was essential to people understanding and accepting them as their own.

Other welcomes were provided by representatives of the mayor of New York City, Helen Clark of UNDP, as well as **Jeffrey Brez** and **Bruce Knotts**, representing UN DPI and NGO DPI, who helped lead the initial conference on the topic in the Republic of Korea at the 66th Annual DPI Conference on May 31, June 1 and 2, 2016.

Part of the mission of this event was to spur on public private partnerships in the civil society sector, in order to help promote SDG success across all sectors. The events began with a recap of recent past efforts, from the Korea DPI conference to the present. Titled: Coming from, Going to: Starting at the Outcome, Where Next? was moderated by a former DPI Conference Chair, **Jeffery Huffines** and featured the reflections of **Ms. Diana Bas** (Executive Director, UNDP), and **Scott Carlin**, DPI Conference Co-Chair, Korea. From there the conference captured some of the highlight panels from the DPI Conference:

The Right to Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Learning Spaces, moderated by **Bruce Knotts**, Conference Chair, with Panelists: **Leslee Udwin**, Founder and CEO, Think Equal, **Joseph S. Akoro**, Founder and CEO, RenfoCap Centre, **Rurik Nackerud**, Elisabeth Morrow School, Little School Technology Integration, and **Carol Bangura**, Doctor of Public Health Candidate, Senior Development Officer, NGO Representative to the United Nations.

STEAM for Global Citizenship to Power the SDGs, moderated by **Dr. Eunhee Jung**, Executive Director, IVECA International Virtual Schooling, with Panelists: **H.E. Ambassador Riadh Ben Sliman**, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the UN, **H.E. Ambassador Choonghee Hahn**, Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea to the UN, **Babette Allina**, Executive Director, Government Relations and External Affairs, RISD, Dr. Robert Swap, Research Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia Extraordinary Professor, Environmental Sciences and Management, the Potchefstroom Campus of the North West University, South Africa, and **Ann Woo**, Senior Director, Corporate Citizenship, Samsung Electronics in NA.

Several other important roundtable discussions ensued. These were based more generally on the topic of public private partnerships for the success of the SDGs:

Global Citizens as Stewards of the Planet: Partnerships for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, **moderated by Mr. Amir Dossal**, Founder and Chairman, Global Partnership Forum, with Panelists: **Bryan Maygers**, Executive Blog Editor, Huffington Post, **Dan Connors**, Aris Wind and Solar, and **Gopal Patel**, Director, The Bhumi Project.

Small Island Development and the SDGs - An Ongoing Member State Discussion with Civil Society, Moderated by, **Dr. Radhika Iyengar**, Center for Sustainable Development, Earth Institute, Columbia University, with Panelists: **H.E. Ambassador Caleb Otto**, Permanent Mission of Palau to the UN, and **H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Sareer**, Permanent Mission of Maldives to the UN.

ADDENDUM 1 – Notes From A Panel

Round Table 3 - moderated by Mr. Amir Dossal

Amir Dossal: Our panel will be slightly different. If you will agree, we all know the problem, and dare I say - we also know the solutions. I apologize that we have an unbalanced agenda which we will correct soon. Let's start, and after each of the panel members will introduce their work we will move on to questions from the audience.

Bryan Maygers, Executive Blog Editor at the Huffington Post: Typically, journalists are cynical. They don't report on good news but on what's broken. We decided it's not the best way to look at things. We are mission driven, and we want to empower people to make the world a better place, but we also decided it's good for business: We focus on what's working. We live in a world where people spend a lot of time Online, and people increasingly define themselves by what they share Online. People don't want their image Online to be overly negative all the time, so good news and facebook equal lots and lots of shares. Therefore, we focus on positive videos about fixing and improving the world. These stories receive incredible engagements from readers around the world. We are now also trying to see how we will have those videos connect people to taking a specific action in support of the particular issue.

Dan Connors of Aris Wind and Jim Smith of Airsynergy: Electrification of the developing world is still a vision, and there's a lot to be done. We have tangible progress, yet 1.3 billion people still don't have access to electricity.

The two companies create wind turbines that can produce electricity with very little wind compared to standard turbines. There are two products: Remote Power Unit - a smaller off grid unit used especially for light, with a limited amount of power, and Total Energy Solution, which is larger and can produce much more power. With those wind turbines, we can harness winds from areas that normally are not suitable for wind based electricity production (such as a vast portion of Africa).

We are directly involved in SDG 17 (partnerships), and since electricity is needed for other SDGs we are indirectly involved in them too. We currently have about 12 RPUs in the Caribbean and more elsewhere, and 5 TES in Europe. We are moving at a good pace towards economic profit. We would be honored to have the UN to put a turbine here outside the headquarters. There are five units in Europe of TES.

Gopal Patel, Director of the Bhumi project: This project's goal is to engage the Hindu community to address environmental issues. Bhumi means Mother Earth in Hindi. We also work with multi faith organizations, such as Greenfaith. When approaching the question of how involve people in environmental action, faith can offer networks and can offer wisdom. Research has shown that if you combine all religions, they own 25% of land. They run 50% of all schools, and have the 3rd largest investing block. Declarations of many religions on climate change and climate justice came out recently. In Paris, the Summit of Conscience gathered a hundred poets, religious leaders and artists and asked "Why do you care" about the environment.

We have to understand that people view the world differently and we can't impose our own views on the whole world. Last year we took part in a groundbreaking study. we formed focus groups of 5 major religious traditions and we asked what kind of language speaks to you when it comes to the environment.

Based on the study, we figured out, for example, that in East Asia we shouldn't use the word "justice". This concept comes from a Judeo- Christian worldview and it doesn't speak to people in the East. Instead, we should use "Earth care", "moral challenge", "balance", "action", "personal pledge", "integral ecology". "journey", "wake up" etc.

Amir Dossal: Before we move on to questions from the audience, please tell us in 30 seconds: What will you commit for the implementation SDGs?

Dan Connors and Jim Smith: We are a commercial enterprise but we commit to a public-private partnership. 11 of our used products were donated. 3 are in schools, community colleges. (goal 17)

- *Gopal Patel: My commitment is my life. I commit to dedicate myself to the cause. The SDGs aren't new, they're just re-branding. My job is to empower people, and also to just to be a good person.*

- *Bryan Maygers: My commitment and the commitment we try to embody at Huffpost is to not lose hope. It's very easy to despair after reading a lot of bad news. There are solutions everywhere, It's just a matter of empowering people to feel they can take part in them.*



Felix Dodds: Addendums 2a and B

Links to related blogs, below.

Guest Blog Jacqueline Burton: Habitat III: Local governments are key to achieving international development goals

<http://blog.felixdodds.net/2016/09/guest-blog-jacqueline-burton-habitat.html>

Guest Blog by Yunus Arikan: A kiss of life to HABITATIII before Quito? Insights on key issues at the last informals ahead of HABITATIII Conf.

<http://blog.felixdodds.net/2016/09/guest-blog-by-yunus-arikan-kiss-of-life.html>

Guest Blog by Franziska Schreiber: From global goals to local action: What's needed to truly localize the SDGs?

<http://blog.felixdodds.net/2016/09/guest-blogby-franziska-schreiber-from.html>

Republished from Inter-Press Service News:

The Sustainable Development Goals:

One Year On by Felix Dodds

<http://blog.felixdodds.net/2016/08/republished-from-inter-press-service.html>

Latest Book: [The Water, Food, Energy and Climate Nexus: Challenges and an Agenda for Action](#) edited by Felix Dodds and Jamie Bartram.

Addendum 3 – Bruce Knotts, Conference Chair *Report on August NGO Conference*

Bruce Knotts

The August NGO Global Summit was a great follow up to the Gyeongju conference and to discuss the Gyeongju Action Plan. The four roundtables paralleled the four roundtables in Gyeongju, while adding new insights and perspectives in light of the Gyeongju Action Plan. The discussion of the SDG icons and how they were formed was new and interesting. So, was Leslee Udwin's description of her Think Equal curriculum designed to educate the global citizens of tomorrow. Eunhee's panel on STEAM was particularly well-done.

I have heard many favorable comments concerning conference and it has done a great deal to build momentum and support for an international day of education for global citizenship. The quality of the speakers and the organization of the information was of the highest quality. It is because of this very high quality of the presentations that it's so sad that the audience was not larger. I've been told there is a video record, which I hope can be disseminated widely. The presentations deserve to be seen by a very wide audience.

The financial and content support of the World Development Foundation was crucial to the quality of the presentations. The participation of Permanent Representatives and Deputy Permanent Representatives of the Republic of Korea, Canada, and others including small island states gave the conference depth and perspective. High level UN officials from DPI, UNESCO and other parts of the UN system added to the important information provided by business leaders and academics.

The conference was not as expansive as originally designed due to the withdrawal of Ukrainian sponsorship. By the time Ghana stepped forward, we could no longer host workshops or have as expansive a conference as originally designed. Frankly having to make cuts to the program and keeping only the best and most relevant probably made the final product even better. Often less is more. - Bruce Knotts



**2016 NGO
Global Summit
for UN SDGs**
at the United Nations 



Respectfully Submitted by Patrick Sciarratta, September 12, 2016
Conference Director, and
Co-Chair, Development Sub-Committee, 66th Annual UN DPI Conference

Contribute your ideas to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by attending

UN SDGs for World Development Conference



23 May 2016 . United Nations . Conference Room 6

The challenge of the UN 2030 Agenda to the world is to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 for the good of mankind. Civil society will drive the achievement of these goals.

The World Development Foundation recognizes the importance of the 17 SDGs and the vital role of NGOs in their successful realization. The “SDGs for World Development” program at the UN will serve as civil society’s petri dish for initiating ideas on how to move the agenda to fulfillment.

Presented by World Development Foundation
unworld@outlook.com

Attendance is Free; Seating is Very Limited.
Please make your reservation today with
Mr. Ihor Dlaboha: ihor@vnclm.org

Concept Note

UNSDGs for World Development Conference

SDG Success and the Global Citizen: Education for a New Planet "After Political Commitment, Implementation"

This informative session is presented by the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations and sponsored by the World Development Foundation. The aim of this event is to help build virtual delegates for the upcoming 66th annual UN DPI NGO Conference, taking place in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, at the end of May: "Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together." Of further interest for the event is to begin discussions on new ideas for SDG implementation, reporting, and verification with actual programming that fulfills the challenges presented by the UN SDGs. The event's moderator is Patrick Sciarratta, president and founder of The Vinculum Foundation.

Join in the discussion and learn about new technologies and policies being developed in civil society and encouraged by Member States toward the realization of the UNs 15-year challenge to implement and verify the success of its 2030 Agenda.

UN High Officials, Leaders of the UN DPI Conference, Innovators, Youth Activists and others join together to present concepts, themes, new ideas, and emerging partnerships taking place throughout the world that encourage discussion regarding of the next phase of SDG development.

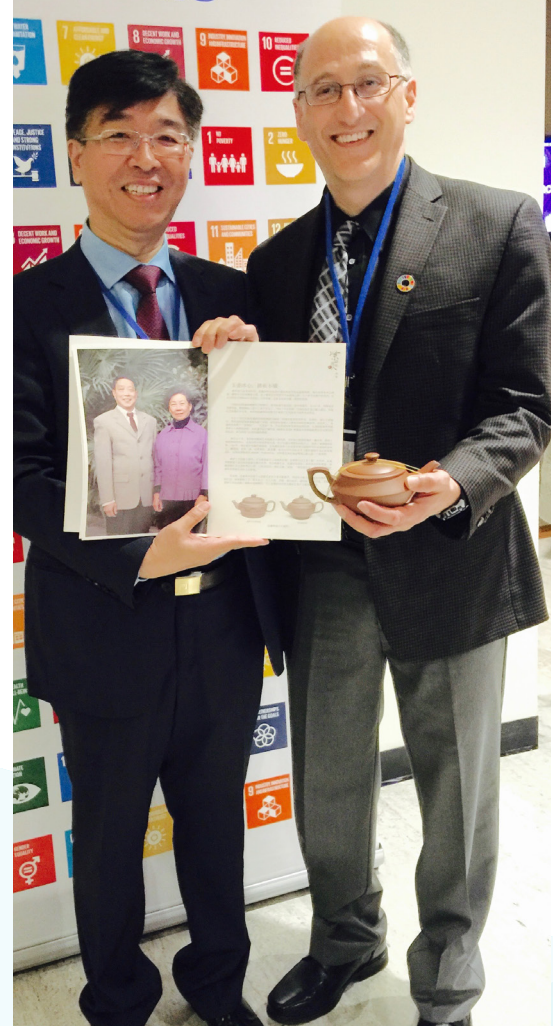
Invited speakers include:

His Excellency Aubrey Webson (Antigua); Counselor and Deputy Permanent Representative Andriy Tsymbaliuk of Ukraine; noted Civil Society leaders Jeffery Huffines; co-chairs of the UN DPI/NGO Conference Jeff Brez and Scott Carlin; Bruce Knotts, chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee; Ecuadorian Youth Activist Michelle Leon; Renewable Energy Engineer Dan Connors; sustainability leader Danielle Kayembe; Cristina Isabela of the WDF, announcing a new music competition for the SDGs; and philanthropist and WDF Founder and author Dr. William Guo, among many others.

All UN pass-holders, media, and non-UN pass-holders are welcome to attend but seating is very limited. Reservations are encouraged for all and especially required in advance for non-UN pass-holders to Security at least 48 hours prior to the event.

**Presented by the World Development Foundation
in support of the 66th UN DPI/NGO Conference in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea.com**

Conference Pictures and Notes



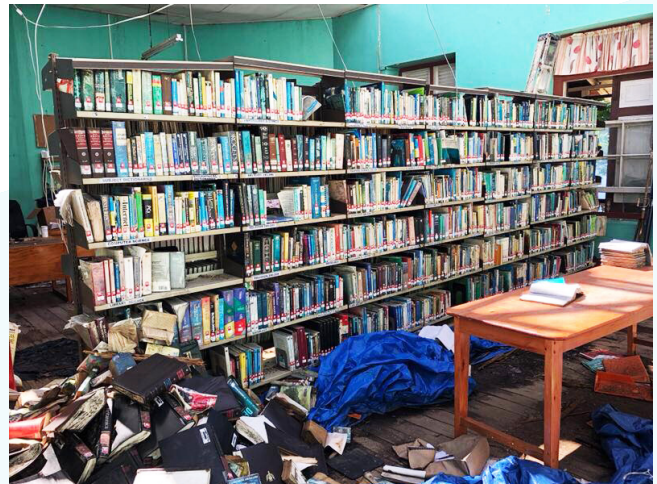
This event was actually a preparatory conference prior to the major UN DPI NGO Conference scheduled only for Korea, later in May. This gathering enabled members of the UN community unable to attend to learn more about the topics and to encourage all to tune in on UNTV for coverage of the major events, streaming live, daily, on the UN website.

Development for Dominica Before and After the Hurricane

The World Development Foundation is active, year round, visiting and assisting in the developing world. In the past year, Dr. Guo and the WDF team have visited and assisted in development with personal and WDF donations to Sierra Leone, Haiti, Mexico, Grenada, and Dominica, to name a few.

Prior to the storms there, WDF was instrumental in upgrading the safety and tools for two fishing communities in Dominica, during the team's last visit.

Dominica is an example of a beautiful community of people. Dr. Guo watched the recent crisis with concern; he both understands its impact on development while contributing to the repairs that will make development possible again in the future.



WDF leadership with H. E. Ambassador Loreen Bannis-Roberts, Permanent Representative, Mission of the Commonwealth Dominica to the United Nations. WDF and its founder are committed to assisting Dominica as it recovers from the devastating hurricane of 2017. Strong Institutions, Strong Public-Private Partnerships, Stronger Nations to Build Back better with the SDGs.



Upcoming Event in
Late 2017 or Spring 2018
Dates To Be Announced



World Development Foundation

Travel, Tourism, and Transformation:

A Globalization Dialogue Promoting Sustainable Tourism
as a Roadmap to National Pride, Economic Development,
and World Peace

Produced by the World Development Foundation

Recognizing the UNWTO's International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017

Sustainable Tourism Policies Promote a Healthy Planet

When Cultures Meet, Suspicious Fears Retreat

Join us: Recognize and Celebrate the UN World Tourism Organization's focus on
Sustainable Tourism for Development

Celebrate with Select Member State and other High Level UN Officials, NGOs, and
private sector investors, all working toward SDG-related tourism development
partnerships right now ...

TTT - Proposed Overview

Travel, Tourism, and Transformation:

A Roadmap to National Pride, Economic Development, and World Peace

Travel and Tourism: wonderfully relaxing, splendidly entertaining, and a great escape from the work-a-day world.

Yet travel is also a key to national and global development and the success of the Sustainable Development Goals. Written behind the words in several key SDGs, sustainable tourism builds local pride, increases good paying, long term jobs, and reinvests in the community when development is led by local managers, working with international investors. For an example:

Eco-tourism is eventually at the heart of many sustainable goals; it greens our planet, humanizes our cities, and promotes intercultural dialogue. From a larger, happier workforce to a healthier planet, sustainable eco-tourism holds many benefits for virtually every country on the planet.

The purpose of this conference, led by the Permanent Missions of Suriname and Guyana to the United Nations along with presentation involvement from the World Development Foundation will demonstrate ways in which eco- and cultural-tourism, for examples, promote worthwhile, sustainable development – through the global cooperation that is necessary for planet-beneficial tourism products to thrive.

More broadly, this type of global development echoes to the very heart of the UNs 2030 Challenge.

The TTT Conference is presented with recognition from, in cooperation with, and in celebration of the **United Nations World Tourism Organization's International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017**. We offer this event to introduce the **Caribbean Guyana Shield Area** as a template for the best in new eco-tourism development with in the framework of UNWTOs International Year and discuss other, related sustainable tourism for development efforts.

All will be welcomed to join us for this two-day, free-to-the-public event. Free registration on Evenbrite. Dates and full schedule will be announced after January 1, 2018.



Producers, Excellencies Ambassador Henry MacDonald and Dr. Xiangang Guo, pictured center and right, with Program Director, Patrick Sciarratta, left.

A Major Celebration The 70th Anniversary of the United Nations



2015 NGO Conference at the UN

August 25
UN General
Assembly Hall

26 and 27
UN Main
Conference
Room

Special Events
Each Morning
and Evening

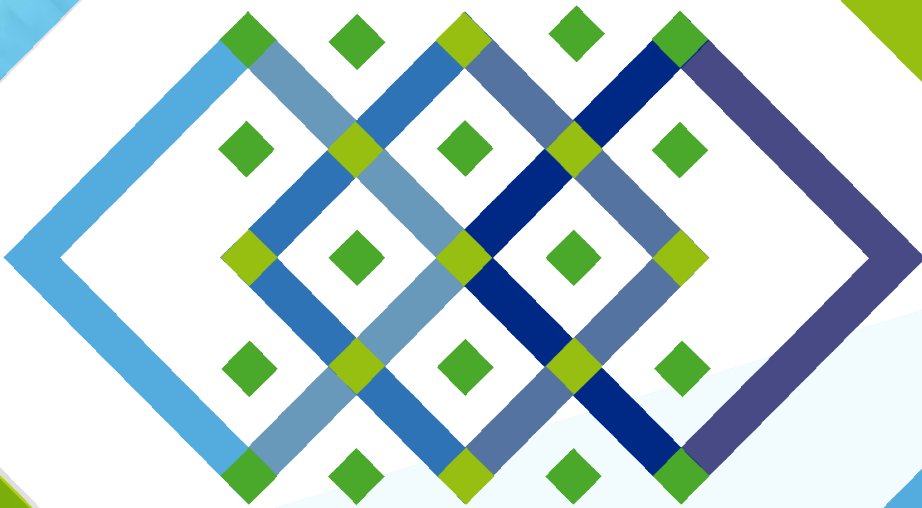
UNHQ, NYC



2015 NGO CONFERENCE

AT THE UNITED NATIONS

25-27 August 2015
UN Headquarters, NYC



Honoring the Past,
Recognizing the Present,
Imagining the Future

Sponsored by
**The Permanent Missions of
Canada, Denmark, Republic of Korea,
São Tomé and Príncipe, Suriname,
and Ukraine to the United Nations**
Support in Part by
World Development Foundation, Inc.



Join Us in Support of the
Seventieth Anniversary of the United Nations

2015 NGO Conference at the UN Highlights

Conference Welcome and Overview

Patrick Sciaratta, Conference Director Welcome Address
H.E Mr. Kaha Imnadze, Acting President of the General Assembly

Member State - Lead Endorsers Welcome

H.E. Ambassador Yuriy Sergeyev, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the UN
H.E. Ambassador Guillermo Rishchynski, Permanent Representative of Canada to the UN
H.E. Mogens Lykketoft of Denmark, Incoming President of the 70th Session of UN General Assembly
Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations & Deputy Executive

Civil Society and the United Nations: A 70-year Relationship

Moderator: Ravi Karkara, Deputy Executive Director, DPI
Bruce Knotts, Chair of the NGO / DPI Executive Committee
Dr. Christine Durbak, Founder & Chair, World Information Transfer
Roberto Borrero, Indigenous Leader; UN Programs Coordinator, International Indian Treaty Council
Jeffery Huffines, Chief UN Representative, CIVICUS
Rosa Lizarde, Board Member, Global Call to Action Against Poverty

Special Guest Speakers

Dr. Xiangang Guo, President, World Academy of Development Sciences
Chairman, World Development Foundation
Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Environmental Activist & Lawyer (Including Feature length film)
H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's
Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning (Including Video)

Honoring Those at the UN Who Bring Civil Society Forward

Dr. DeLois Blakely (Queen Mother of Harlem) – Honored by U.S. Congressman Charles Rangel
Sister Joan Kirby – Honored by Bruce Knotts Amir Dossal – Honored by Laura Turner Peggy Kerry –
Honored by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry

First-Ever Sustainable Fashion and Global Development Focus at the UN

Camilla Barungi, Entrepreneur & Super Model

The Oculus – A Virtual Reality Experience

From a Refugee Camp to the Bedside of Ebola Patients: You Are There in two virtual reality scenes

Two full days of conversations and presentations followed.

Evening activities included receptions and a gala Hudson River Cruise along Manhattan Island



2015 NGO Conference Co-Sponsors

Join Us in Support of the
Seventieth Anniversary of the United Nations



World Development Foundation



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Under the patronage of
UNESCO



TWENTY-FOURTH INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS OF MINISTERS AND HIGH-LEVEL AUTHORITIES OF TOURISM

**March 21 and 22, 2018, Georgetown
The Cooperative Republic of Guyana**



Group Photo of The XXIV Inter-America Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism

The XXIV Inter-America Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism was held in Georgetown, Guyana on March 21 and 22, 2018. The theme of the first OAS Ministerial Conference in the Guianas was: **“Connecting the Americas through Sustainable Tourism”**.

The following themes were addressed:

- forging strategic business alliances for developing sustainable tourism;
- importance of Product Innovation in Connecting the Americas;
- multi Destination Travel to Promote market opportunities;
- building Resilience in the Tourism Sector in the Americas.



H.E. Sydney Allicock, Vice President and Minister for Indigenous Affairs of Guyana



Mr. Donald Sinclair, Director General of Tourism at the Ministry of Business in Guyana

Opening by the President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana

The Conference was officially opened by H.E. Brigadier David Granger, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, who offered his country as the gateway to Latin America, since Guyana is the single English-speaking country in South America. President Granger also reaffirmed March 21 as International Day of Forest, an affirmation that Guyana is serious in becoming a “GREEN STATE.”

President Granger informed the meeting that tourism connects countries, markets, peoples, and services throughout the hemisphere. Tourism can contribute to the development of the Americas and to the wellbeing of future generation by becoming more sustainable.

President Granger urged the conference to seek solutions to ensuring that the Americas would be able to catalyze their tourism potential by increasing annual tourist arrivals.

Besides representatives from OAS member states, stakeholders from the private sector and the tourism industry also participated. The aviation sector, travel companies, airlines, the Guyana Tourism Board, and hotels also showcased their products. Copa Airlines Vice President of marketing, Christophe Didier; Kayla Reece of Fly Jamaica; and Ivan Lopez Villalba gave presentations. Suriname Airways was also present at the opening session.

The aviation industry is growing rapidly in Guyana and the main port of entry, the Cheddi Jagan International Airport (CJIA), will complete its first phase of US\$150 million expansion and modernization in 2018. There are also plans to turn the frontier airstrip at Lethem into an international regional airport.



The Eugene Correia International Airport shared its 5, 10 and 15-year development plans at the Conference. In the near future, this airport also plans to extend the runway to accommodate larger aircrafts and private jets. The terminal is currently too small and will have to triple in size to accommodate projected growth for the next two decades.

The WDF-LAC attended as an observer, since the Organization has been keen in promoting the Guiana Shield region as an upcoming and very promising sustainable tourism venture for adventure, Amazonian, forestry and green fanatics. WDF-LAC used its presence in Georgetown to introduce this idea to the Caribbean Tourism Organization, various Governments in mainly Central America, businesses and NGOs based in Georgetown.

Henry Mac Donald of the WDF-LAC also spoke privately with the First Vice-President and Minister for Indigenous Affairs of Guyana, H.E. Sydney Allicock, the Honorable Dominic Gaskin, Minister of Business of Guyana and Ms. Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development of the OAS.

Suriname was officially represented at the Conference by Ms. Liselle Blankendall, Charge d' Affaires a.i. at the Embassy of Suriname in Guyana. It is important to inform that Suriname was invited by Mr. Hugh Riley, CEO and Secretary General of the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) to join the Organization in order to enjoy the benefits and services of the group. Guyana is a member of the CTO.

Main speakers at the conference were, among many others: Honorable Dominic Gaskin M.P., Minister of Business of Guyana; H.E. Nestor Mendez, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS (video); Ms. Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral development at the OAS; Mr. Donald Sinclair, Director General at the Department of Tourism at the Ministry of Business; Dr. Richard Brown, CARICOM Director of Single Market and Sectoral Programs; Mr. Alejandro Varela, Deputy Regional Director for the Americas, UNWTO; Captain Jagmohan Singh, Vice President of operations at Caribbean Airlines, Ms. Julia Reifer Jones, CEO LIAT; Mr. Christopher Didier, Sales Vice president, COPA Holdings; Mr. Pablo Chalen, Commercial Director, travel Retail Latin America; Mr. Hugh Riley, CEO and Secretary General of the Caribbean Tourism Organization; Dr. David Singh, Director Conservation International Guyana; Ms. Catherine Hughes, Minister of telecommunications of Guyana; Ms. Sandra Howard, Vice Minister of Tourism of Colombia.

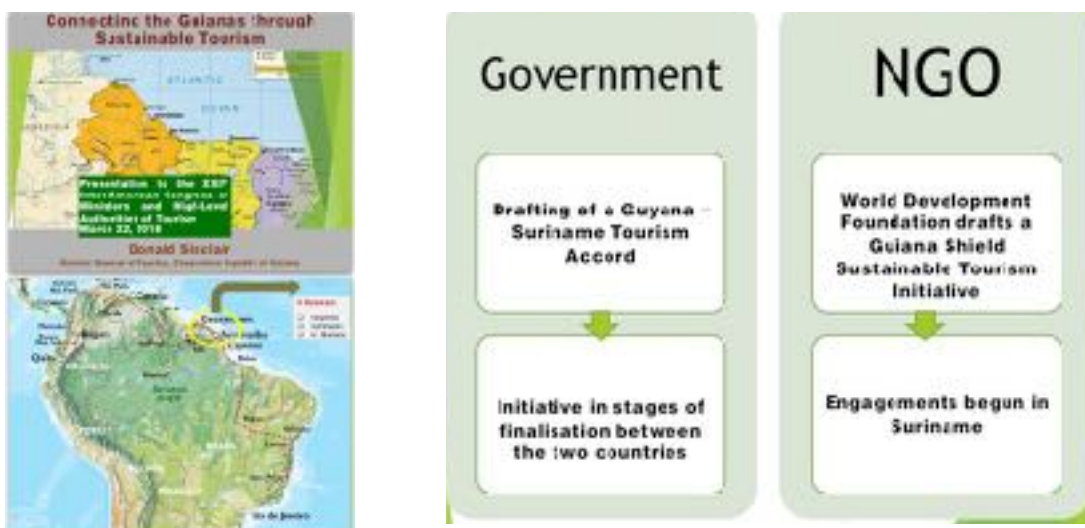
WDF, Report 24th OAS
Congress of Ministers of
Tourism, Georgetown,
Guyana





CONNECTING THE GUIANAS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE TOURISM:

The power-point presentation by the Director General of Tourism, Mr. Donald Sinclair focused largely on the development of the Guyana Shield region as a new, unique, green and future international tourism destination. In the presentation entitled “Connecting the Guianas through Sustainable Tourism”, the Director General brilliantly expressed the various previous initiatives, taken by all 3 Guianas to develop the region as a potential tourism destination:



2 slides for the report where the Guyana Shield presentation is being addressed

- **The Guianas Trail (GT) - a Guyana Tourism Private Sector Initiative of 2003;**
- **The Combined Amazon Tourism Project (CATP) – Initiative of the Suriname Tourism Foundation (2005 – 2007);**
- **The Amazon Caribbean Tourism Trail (ACTT) – Initiative of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO - 2009).**

The outcomes of these three initiatives were as follows:

- ***GT: Guyana and Suriname tourism bodies did not meet to develop and implement concrete plans. The initiative stalled at the official level, however the tour-operators links on the ground, continue;***
- ***CATP: there were meetings held involving operators from Suriname and French Guiana. Brochures were made and published. Changes of officials on the French side slowed down the process and progress was ultimately halted;***



- ***ACTT: The initiative involved Guyana, Suriname and the state of Para in Brazil. A destination manual was produced and launched at ITB 2010. There was a clear basis laid for later initiatives for cooperation in tourism.***

With respect to Government to Government initiatives he mentioned that Guyana and Suriname drafted a Tourism Accord last year and that the initiative is presently in stages of finalization between both countries.

On the NGO side the Director General mentioned that the World Development Foundation recently launched a Guyana Shield Sustainable Tourism Initiative. The Permanent Mission of Suriname at the United Nations launched the engagement. Both Ambassadors of Guyana and Suriname took the bold step to present that idea at a well-attended Public Private Partnership Conference, organized by Suriname in May 2017 at the United Nations in New York.

With regard to specific points of focus in order to move forward, Mr. Sinclair touched on the following important matters:

- ***Creation of connected itineraries based upon outstanding natural and cultural attractions;***
- ***Constant monitoring to ensure quality assurance;***
- ***Increasing transportation links;***
- ***Shared product research and information gathering;***
- ***Border port travel facilitation;***
- ***Agreement regarding appropriate standards.***

With respect to the future promotion of the Guiana Shield, the Director General highlighted the following key topics:

- ***More effective use of resources through joint promotional activities – trade fairs, road shows etc.; regard to the future promotion of the Guiana Shield he finally mentioned the following key topics:***
- ***Cooperation in branding of the Guianas product and use of websites, social media and other online campaigns.***



H.E. Dominic Gaskin
Minister of Business of Guyana



The Declaration of Georgetown: Connecting the Americas through Sustainable Tourism (CIDI/TUR-XXIV/RP/doc.3/18).

WE, THE MINISTERS AND HIGH-LEVEL AUTHORITIES OF TOURISM OF THE MEMBER STATES:

1. Recognize the importance of continuing to work towards expanding connectivity and increasing sustainable tourism within the countries of the Americas, including through forging alliances or strengthening them where they already exist, among public and private stakeholders.
2. Encourage the establishment and strengthening of public-private partnerships among the different actors of the tourist sector that contribute to improving the connectivity of the sub-regions of the Americas and promote the development of sustainable tourism.
3. Encourage the competent authorities of other tourism related sectors, such as transportation, security, infrastructure, etc., to analyze and implement, when possible, coordinated policies to achieve optimal development in connectivity and increase sustainable tourism benefits.
4. Encourage relevant authorities to adopt air transportation policies that enhance connectivity for the benefit of travelers, shippers and the tourism and business sectors. *(Agreed ad referendum of the delegation of Argentina - 2/8/2018)*
5. Request that the General Secretariat collaborates with other regional agencies in undertaking an impact study regarding the impact of the sharing economy on the tourism accommodation sub-sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to address and provide recommendations on, inter alia, the best arrangements that can successfully incorporate the share accommodation alongside the formal accommodation sub-sector.
6. Will continue to work so that the development of tourism in the region is conducted within the framework of sustainability, focusing on its three pillars: environmental, socio-cultural, and economic.



7. Request the authorities of the Congress (TROIKA and CITUR Authorities) to begin planning the formulation of a sustainable community tourism development management model for the Americas, using as a basis the existing national models and initiatives, and taking into account the context of each country, to strengthen the integral development and the growth of the sector in the region.
8. Urge the CITUR to support the sharing of best practices on travel and tourism facilitation, including visa facilitation, to promote intra-regional and multi-destination travel among countries of the Americas.
9. Instruct the General Secretariat to submit for the consideration of the Authorities of the Congress, at its Planning Meeting to be held no later than July 31, 2018, a work plan based on the guidelines contained in this Declaration and that contribute to the implementation of the commitments of the Medium-Term Strategy to Enhance Tourism Cooperation and Competitiveness in the Americas.
10. Request the OAS General Secretariat to work with regional and international organizations and other relevant institutions in identifying adaptation strategies and plans which strengthen resilience, mitigate the impact of natural disasters on the tourism sector, and support tourism business recovery in a disaster's aftermath in OAS member states, with a focus on resource mobilization for the execution of identified initiatives, including, implementation of the actions contained in the Multi-hazard Contingency Planning Manual for the Caribbean Tourism Sector (OAS/CDERA).



Vote of Thanks to the People and Government of Guyana

At the conclusion of the Congress, the Declaration of Georgetown on Connecting the Americas Through Sustainable Tourism was adopted and the Ministers and high Level Authorities of Tourism encouraged the establishment and strengthening of Public Private Partnerships among the different actors of the tourist sector that contribute to improving the connectivity of the sub-regions of the Americas and promote the development of sustainable tourism, and commitment to continue the work so that the development of tourism in the region is conducted within the framework of sustainability focusing on its three pillars: environment, socio-cultural and economic.





LINKS TO PRESS RELEASES:

Travel Wire News:

Historic OAS tourism Congress for Next week, 25 Countries Confirm Attendance So Far:
<http://tavelwirenews.com/historic-oas-tourism-congress-for-next-week-25-countries-confirm-attendance-so-far-771797>

Cata Tourism Agency:

<http://www.catatourismagency.org/cata-expondra-modelo-de-promocion-multidestino-en-congreso-interamericano-de-la-oea/>

Caribbean News Now:

Guyana's President Opens OAS Tourism Conference in Guyana - By Ray Chickrie:
<https://guyaneseonline.wordpress.com/2018/03/22/guyanas-president-opens-oas-tourism-conference-in-guyana-by-ray-chickrie/>

Guiana Shield Tourism Initiative takes Center Stage at the UN:

http://www.caribbeannewsnow.com/news/newspublish/home.print.php?news_id=34568

OAS Tourism Conference put spotlight on Guiana Shield initiative:

<http://wp.caribbeannewsnow.com/2018/03/28/oas-tourism-meeting-puts-spotlight-on-guiana-shield-initiative/>

You tube:

OAS Ministerial Tourism Conference could be used to push Guyana's Tourism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NVE-uleYovU>

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