

Global Cooling Pledge and UNEP Global Cooling Watch Report - Keeping it chill: How to meet cooling demands while cutting emissions

Launch Press Conference Programme

Event: Press conference to launch the Global Cooling Pledge and UNEP Global Cooling Watch Report – Keeping it chill: How to meet cooling demands while cutting emissions

Date: 5 December 2023

Time: 12:00pm to 12:30pm

Venue: Press Conference 1- Zone B8

1. Introduction

As the world warms, and as incomes and populations grow, demand for cooling is increasing rapidly. People need cooling to protect themselves from rising heat; improve human health and wellbeing, keep vaccines viable and food fresh from farm to fork; and reduce pressure on countries' power grids – all while boosting economies by creating jobs and by minimizing productivity losses caused by extreme heat.

Keeping it chill: How to meet cooling demands while cutting emissions shines a spotlight on cooling policy trends, technologies, and investment opportunities – in collaboration with key global stakeholders – to help close the gaps in access, affordability and information. The report undertakes, for the first time, modelling of the direct and indirect emissions from all cooling sectors – including space cooling, cold chain and refrigeration, and transport globally - while considering cooling access needs and evaluating the benefits of a comprehensive approach on a pathway to near-zero emissions from cooling.

Findings from the report have informed the development of the Global Cooling Pledge's targets to be launched on 5 December during Energy & Industry Day. Spearheaded by COP28 UAE Presidency, the Global Cooling Pledge is key to raising ambition and international cooperation on sustainable cooling through collective targets to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions from cooling while increasing overall access to cooling for underserved communities. The Pledge offers state and non-state actors a unique chance to enhance their commitments to climate mitigation, adaptation, resilience, and investments towards sustainable cooling. Achieving the Global Cooling Pledge targets would cut emissions by approximately 78 billion tonnes CO₂e between 2022 – 2050, while achieving multiple benefits and increasing access to cooling. It will enable a comprehensive approach to address the growing demand for cooling, and so delivers jointly on the Kigali Amendment, Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

2. Programme Overview

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| 00-01 min | Welcome and introduction by Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keishamaza Rukikaire, Head of News and Media |
| 01-10 min | Brief remarks by panelists: (3 minutes each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director, UNEP • Mr. Mohamed Gouled, Vice President, Industries, International Finance Corporation the International Finance Corporation (IFC) • Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone |
| 10-15 min | Presentation on the main findings of the report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lily Riahi, Global Coordinator, UNEP-led Cool Coalition |
| 15-30 min | Media Q & A |

3. Speaker Bios

Inger Andersen Executive Director, UN Environment Programme (UNEP)



Inger Andersen is Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. Between 2015 and 2019, Ms. Andersen was the Director-General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Ms. Andersen has more than 30 years of experience in international development economics, environmental sustainability, strategy and operations. She has led work on a range of issues including agriculture, environmental management, biodiversity conservation, climate change, infrastructure, energy, transport, and water resources management and hydro-diplomacy. Between 1999 and 2014, Ms. Andersen held several leadership positions at the World Bank including Vice President of the Middle East and North Africa; Vice President for Sustainable Development and Head of the CGIAR Fund Council. Prior to her 15 years at the World Bank, Ms. Andersen worked 12 years at the United Nations, first on drought and desertification, beginning with the UN Sudano-Sahelian Office. In 1992, she was appointed UNDP's Water and Environment Coordinator for the Arab Region. Ms. Andersen holds a Bachelors from the London Metropolitan University

North and a Masters in Development Economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Mohamed Gouled
Vice President, Industries, International Finance Corporation (IFC)



Mohamed Gouled is IFC's Vice President of Industries. In this capacity, he's responsible for (i) managing IFC's global sector communities of practice and ensuring that lessons of experience from IFC operations contribute to the WBG's global knowledge bank and thought leadership; (ii) leading business development with global clients; (iii) fostering close collaboration across WBG to align sector strategies, implement the Cascade approach, enhance client delivery, and support policy/sector reforms in WBG countries of operation; and (iv) supporting operational process simplification.

A Djiboutian national, Mr. Gouled was previously VP of Risk and Finance from 2017.

He joined IFC in 1999 as an Investment Officer in In 2002, Mr. Gouled joined the Global Financial Markets Department.

Previously, Mr. Gouled was Manager for the Financial Markets Group for Sub-Saharan Africa based in Johannesburg, where he helped build and manage a diverse and high-performing Financial Markets team, significantly increasing the portfolio and reach of IFC's investments in the region. He moved back to Washington at the end of 2009 as Chief Credit Officer in a heightened risk environment where his experience helped guide the EMENA regional investment and portfolio teams as they managed IFC's risks. He was then Director of the Special Operations Department.

Prior to joining IFC, Mr. Gouled worked for the Treasury and the Industry and Infrastructure Departments at the African Development Bank based in Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire.

Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr
Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone



Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE was sworn-in as Mayor of Freetown in May 2018 with a commitment to transform Freetown using an inclusive, data-driven approach to address challenges in the city.

The 3-year Transform Freetown plan details 19 concrete targets across 11 sectors and covers issues ranging from tackling environmental degradation to facilitating the creation of jobs in the tourism sector.

A finance professional with over 25 years of private sector experience in strategic planning, risk management consulting and project management, Mayor Aki-Sawyerr's public sector engagement began with her work during the 2014-2015 Ebola epidemic and her subsequent role as Delivery Team Lead for the second phase of a multi-stakeholder programme to drive socio-economic recovery in Sierra Leone post Ebola.

Mayor Aki-Sawyerr is a Chartered Accountant and holds an MSc in Politics of the World Economy from the London School of Economics and a BSc Hons in Economics from Fourah Bay College.