



Collaborative UN System Side Event

A global sustainability framework for Critical Raw Materials required for low-carbon transitions

8 November 2022 | 18:30 - 20:00 hrs (EGY)
Side event room 1 (Akhenaten)

Collaborative UN System Side Event

A global sustainability framework for Critical Raw Materials required for low-carbon transitions

8 November 2022 | 18:30 - 20:00 hrs (EGY)
Side event room 1 (Akhenaten)



**WORKING GROUP
ON TRANSFORMING THE EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**



**WORKING GROUP
ON TRANSFORMING THE EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Objective:

Identify collaboration opportunities for globally harmonized approaches to sustainable production and use of large quantities of critical raw materials (CRMs) essential to deploying low-carbon technologies.

Context:

Massive quantities of critical raw materials (CRMs) will be needed to deploy low-carbon technologies required for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Ensuring transparent and responsible production of CRMs is also essential to de-risk investments, including those underpinned by climate finance. Progress toward a circular economy will be necessary to reduce the environmental and carbon footprints. A standardized and harmonized approach to CRM production focusing on environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects at a global level will be essential to ensure the sustainable supply of CRMs. The side event will focus on the urgency to develop a robust sustainability framework to ensure the CRMs needed for low-carbon transitions. The framework for CRMs will, among other things, include aspects of (i) Social acceptance, (ii) ESG-focused requirements, and (iii) sustainable and integrated resource governance.

Key questions:

- How rapidly will the demand for CRMs required for energy and green transitions grow over the next two decades?
- How can the climate finance and investment opportunities support sustainable production and use of CRM, including promoting circularity?
- How vital is credible, harmonized and up-to-date information and knowledge on CRMs and their movements in the value chains?
- How can human rights, including the right to a healthy environment, guide the development of CRMs?
- How essential is international cooperation in ensuring a sustainable supply of CRMs?

PROGRAMME

Moderator: **Mr. Dario Liguti**, Director, Sustainable Energy, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Welcome: **Ms. Olga Algayerova**, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Panel 1: Vision and Policy

Why are critical raw materials essential in the low-carbon energy, mobility and digital transitions? Is a global strategy required to ensure sustainable production and use?

H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP27 and UN Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

Ms. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Ms. Marit Y. Kitaw, Interim Director, African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC)

Mr. Antonio Almonte, Minister of Energy and Mines, Dominican Republic and Ex-temporary Host Country Head, Mine Ministries of the Americas Conference (CAMMA)

Panel 2: Collaboration on Sustainability Framework

How can financing and sustainable production of critical raw materials be ensured through a global sustainability framework?

Mr. Antonio Pedro, Acting Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Mr. Ambroise Fayolle, Vice President, European Investment Bank

Ms. Lily Cole, Climate Activist and UNECE Advisor, United Kingdom Speaker, United Kingdom*

Conclusions and way forward

Mr. Dario Liguti, Director, Sustainable Energy, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

*TBC