

SAVE THE DATE / UNGA VIRTUAL SIDE EVENT SEPTEMBER 27 2021 · 09.00–10.30 EDT (NEW YORK) · 15.00–16.30 CET (STOCKHOLM)

Rethinking Pandemic Prevention:

Healthy Ecosystems for People and Planet

Hosted by H. E. Per Olsson Fridh, Minister for Development Cooperation of Sweden, and [the Coalition to Prevent Pandemics at the Source](#)

Our life on this planet depends on a healthy biosphere. Human and ecological health cannot be separated. As we degrade and destroy the ecosystems we inhabit, we undermine not only the planet that is our home – we harm our collective health. The impact of a global pandemic is immeasurable, including on the lives of the poor and vulnerable. Most past pandemics originated

from spillover of a virus from an animal to a person, including SARS, HIV, influenzas and almost certainly COVID-19. Negative human impact on ecosystems increases the risk of such zoonotic spillover. This is preventable. Steps to overcome the nature and climate crises will also help prevent the emergence of a new pandemic. This calls for joining forces.

Speakers at the event will include the following:

H. E. PER OLSSON-FRIDH, Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden

RT. HON. HELEN CLARK, former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Administrator UNDP, co-chair Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response

DR. AARON BERNSTEIN, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, lead International Scientific Task Force [report](#) on preventing pandemics at the source

DR. YEWANDE ALIMU, Director, Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

DR. CRISTIÁN SAMPER, CEO, Wildlife Conservation Society

MR. CARLOS MANUEL RODRÍGUEZ, CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility

Additional high-level speakers to be confirmed.



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