



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

25 February 2011

Excellency,

On 9 August 2010, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the High-level Panel on Global Sustainability to “reflect on and formulate a new vision for sustainable growth and prosperity, along with mechanisms for achieving it”. Consisting of renowned world figures, the Panel will issue a final report at the end of 2011 to provide an input into relevant intergovernmental processes, including the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 and conferences of the parties to intergovernmental conventions.

In order to promote dialogue between the Panel members and the United Nations Member States, I am convening an informal Interactive Dialogue with the Global Sustainability Panel on 16 March, from 10 am to 1 pm, with several Panel members, including Her Excellency, President Tarja Halonen of Finland, and His Excellency, President Jacob Zuma of South Africa. I attach for your reference the draft programme for this event. Updated information is available on the website of the President of the General Assembly.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Joseph Deiss

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

**INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S HIGH-LEVEL PANEL ON GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY**

Wednesday, 16 March 2011 · United Nations Headquarters

Background

On 9 August 2010, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the High-level Panel on Global Sustainability to “reflect on and formulate a new vision for sustainable growth and prosperity, along with mechanisms for achieving it”, in light of the growing strain placed on our planet by climate change, biodiversity loss, food insecurity and other interlinked challenges. Co-chaired by H.E. Mrs. Tarja Halonen, President of Finland, and H.E. Mr. Jacob Zuma, President of South Africa, the Global Sustainability Panel (GSP) consists of 22 authoritative world figures who work together to produce a comprehensive blue print for a low-carbon, sustainable future. Their final report will be issued at the end of 2011 and feed into relevant intergovernmental discussions such as the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

Programme

The Interactive Dialogue with the Global Sustainability Panel offers an opportunity for Member States to hear from some of the Panel members on the work of the Panel as well as to share their views and suggestions.

Time	Programme
10 – 10:15 am	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss, President of the General Assembly• H.E. Mrs. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General (tbc)
10:15 am – 12:50 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Mrs. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland and Co-Chair of the Global Sustainability Panel• H.E. Mr. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa• H.E. Mrs. Luisa Dias Diogo, Member of the Parliament and former Prime Minister of Mozambique• Others members of the GSP (tbc) <p style="text-align:center"><i>Member States are invited to engage actively in the discussions with the Panel members.</i></p>
12:50 – 1 pm	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Janos Pasztor, Executive Secretary of the Global Sustainability Panel• H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss, President of the General Assembly