

# Conference of Parties (COP26)

Glasgow, United Kingdom, 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## Mission Report

### Introduction

This post mission report highlights WGEO tasks on 09<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 during the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the UNFCCC in the city of Glasgow, under the presidency of the United Kingdom.

### Delegation

- Eng. Waleed Ali Ahmed Salman, WGEO
- Mr. Abdul Rahim Sultan, WGEO
- Mr. Musaad Al Saleh, WGEO
- Mr. Mohammed Abdul Kareem Al Shamsi, DEWA
- Mrs. Julia Leny, DEWA

### 1. WGEO Observer Accreditation Ceremony:

During COP26, WGEO received the Observer Status Accreditation from UNFCCC on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

#### Benefits of an observer status:

- Global recognition by United Nations for the organization.
- Developing position papers and making formal submissions in response to calls for information and views by negotiating bodies.
- Holding bilaterals with government delegates to share position papers and submissions, and advocate policy perspectives.
- Showcasing and advocacy through press conferences and side events and exhibits,
- whereby observer organizations can network and disseminate their messages and stories to a wide audience.
- Making joint constituency statements in the plenaries and during the high-level segment addressing the conference with concise and impactful messages from a diversity of voices, channelled through constituencies.



*(From Left to right: Mr. Waleed Bin Salman, Vice-Chairman, WGEO, and Ms Maria Misovicova, Head Resource Mobilization and Partnerships, UNFCCC Secretariat)*

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- WGEO Outreach in press & media
- Collaboration with other international organizations
- Outreach to nations ministries of climate change & environment.

## **2. Bilateral Meetings with UN High-Level Champions for Climate Action:**

The role of the UN High-Level Champions is mainly to coordinate annual high-level events to spur even greater ambition and action toward Climate Action. Their work builds on existing initiatives but also supports new and more geographically diverse initiatives.

WGEO Vice-Chairman and delegates were able to shed light on the group's successful actions and achievements so far, but also provided WGEO's full support to the Champions in their efforts to engage the MENA region in their fields of activity. Each party demonstrated an awareness and desire to forge synergies and build up current activities.

WGEO is the ideal partner for the Climate Champion team not only due to the clear alignment with the mission and scope of work between both entities, but also because WGEO plays such a key role in promoting climate action and is the host of UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Center (RCC) Dubai.



*(Left side: Mr. Waleed Bin Salman, WGEO Vice-Chairman,  
Right side: Mr. Nigel Topping, UN High Level Champion for Climate Action)*

### **NEXT STEPS:**

- WGEO Vice-Chairman has invited the UN High-Level Champions to participate and raise awareness and support for the first ever MENA Climate Week in Dubai (2 -3 March 2022).
- WGEO will be drafting a MoU outlining and defining the scope of the new partnership between WGEO and the Climate Champion team for the global offices.

### **3. RCC Dubai MOU Signing Ceremony:**

A signing ceremony was held for the renewal of the UNFCCC & WGEO MoU to collaborate on the establishment of Regional Collaboration Center (RCC Dubai) for MENA and South Asia region. This collaboration supports governments and other stakeholders in the MENA and South Asia region to enhance climate action, to increase their ambition and to implement NDCs, including through carbon markets.



*(From left to right: Mr. James Grabert, Director, Mitigation UNFCCC, Mr. Luca Brusa UNFCCC Secretariat, Mr. Waleed Bin Salman, Vice-Chairman, WGEO)*

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- The RCC Dubai Steering Committee will meet to discuss and finalize the updated work plan for approval by the WGEO Board.

#### **4. Opening Speech at Action for Climate Empowerment:**

The event goal was to further strengthen cooperation between regions by sharing successful experiences/actions for climate empowerment from the Middle East, Africa, and LAC and to show case immediately scalable actions on the field of energy transition where youth and women already have a place in the driving seat.





*(From Left to right: Mr. Waleed Bin Salman, Vice-Chairman, WGEO, H.E. Siméon Sawadogo Minister of Environment Green Economy and Climate Change for Burkina Faso, Ms Maria Misovicova Head, Resource Mobilization and Partnerships – UNFCCC Secretariat, H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma, Chair of The H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma Foundation and Initiator and Leader of the MAMA-LIGHTO Initiative)*

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- Arranging a session during MENA Climate Week

### **5. Launch of WGEO Green Jobs Report:**

The green economy report was launched during the COP26 on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021. The printed copies of the report were distributed throughout COP26 and was also the delivered to the University of Strathclyde.

The report highlights the social gains from driving green economy investments, and assesses their impacts on business, the economy, and social wellbeing, particularly through the sustainability and evolution of jobs and earnings.



**NEXT STEPS:**

- High-level session to be organized during the MENA Climate Week
- Hard copies of the report to be distributed to various government departments and universities through Academia Platform

**6. Bilateral Meeting with UNDP Administrator:**



*(From Left to right: Mr. Waleed Bin Salman, Vice-Chairman, WGEO, and Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, UN Development Programme)*

On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021, bilateral meeting with the UNDP Administrator was held. The discussion centred on the relationship between UNDP and WGEO, as well as WGEO's adaptation of UN policies and processes.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- Discuss and finalize WGEO policies and procedures with United Nations
- Signing agreement with UNDP

### **7. Global High Level Ministerial Event of The Regional Climate Week:**

This is a COP 26 Global High-Level Side Event for a Communiqué Ceremony, to hand over a package of Regional Climate Weeks 2021 outputs to the COP 26 President, followed by an announcement on the Middle East and North Africa Climate Week 2022 (MENACW 2022), as the first Regional Climate Week for MENA next year.

WGEO Vice-Chairman shared remarks in the context of MENA CW 2022.



(From left to right)

- H.E. Mr. Shoda Yutaka, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, the Ministry of the Environment, Japan
- H.E. Ms. Beatrice A. Anywar, Minister of State for Environment, Uganda
- Mr. Abdul Rahim Sultan, Director General of the World Green Economy Organization
- H.E. Dr. Maximiliano Puig, Executive Vice-president of the National Council for Climate Change, Dominican Republic
- Eng. Waleed Ali Ahmed Salman, Vice-Chairman of the World Green Economy Organization
- Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, UN Development Programme



- *Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director, UN Environment Programme*
- *Mr. James Grabert, Director Mitigation Division, UN Climate Change*
- *Ms. Milagros De Camps, Vice-Minister of Environment of the Dominican Republic*
- *Mr. Vivek Pathak, Director of Climate Business, International Finance Corporation on behalf of the World Bank Group*
- *Ms. Janet Rogan, UK Regional Ambassador for Africa and Middle East, COP26 Presidency*
- *Ms. Fiona Clouder, UK Regional Ambassador for Latin America and the Caribbean, COP26 Presidency*
- *Mr. David Moran, UK Regional Ambassador for Europe and Central Asia, Turkey and Iran, COP26 Presidency*

**NEXT STEPS:**

- **Forming a Supreme Committee for the MENA Climate Week (MENACW 2022)**
- **Organizing a press conference for the MENA Climate Week (MENACW 2022)**
- **Implementing Roadshow for the MENA Climate Week (MENACW 2022)**

*End of the Report*