



British Embassy
Rome



#ALL4
CLIMATE



Wilton Park

Provisional programme

The Race for our Planet

Friday 1 October 2021 | WP1944

The UK and Italy are working in close partnership to deliver COP26. With a particular focus on real-world action, the UN climate summit will focus on making the goals of the Paris Agreement a reality. It is widely recognised that non-state actors – businesses, cities, regions, investors, universities and NGOs – play a fundamental role in driving forward concrete initiatives to tackle climate change across the world.

Reaching net zero by 2050 is the number one aim of COP26. Only through reaching this goal can countries stay within the Paris target of limiting temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees. At the same time, the climate emergency is already underway, with temperatures soaring, storms raging and crops failing. It is critical to foster greater action for keeping countries, communities and people safe from the impacts of climate change.

The UN-led Race to Zero and Race to Resilience campaigns offer a platform for non-state actors to rally together, moving the global economy to net zero and protecting the most vulnerable from climate impacts:

- **The [Race to Zero](#)** mobilises a coalition of leading net zero initiatives, which now collectively cover nearly 25% global CO2 emissions and over 50% GDP. Led by the High-Level Climate Champions for Climate Action – Nigel Topping and Gonzalo Muñoz – the campaign mobilises actors outside of national governments to join the [Climate Ambition Alliance](#), which was launched at the UNSG's Climate Action Summit 2019.
- **The [Race to Resilience](#)** – the sibling campaign of the Race to Zero – aims to build the resilience of 4 billion people by 2030, catalysing a step-change in global climate resilience. Through a partnership of initiatives, the campaign will focus on helping frontline communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as extreme heat, drought, flooding and sea-level rise.

Running in parallel to Italy's pre-COP in Milan (1-3 October), "Race for Our Planet" is an accelerator event designed to showcase membership to the Races and explore what this means in practice. In this framework we aim to also promote the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero, which creates routes into the Race to Zero for all parts of the financial sector and ensures net zero credibility.

Spotlighting commitments, sharing solutions and identifying key goals will be at the heart of this conversation, which will look to the Adaptation Day on 8 November and Resilience Hub at COP26 as well as beyond the COP at how non-state actors can continue to play a role in years to come. This is closely linked to a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery

With the support of:



from the coronavirus pandemic – a recovery which prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth for the future.

Objectives

- 1) To increase international participation in the Race to Zero and Race to Resilience.
- 2) To encourage real-world, concrete action for reaching net zero and building resilience.
- 3) To demonstrate the commitment of society to a decarbonised economy, building momentum ahead of COP26 where governments must strengthen their contributions to the Paris Agreement.

In association with the British Embassy, Rome, the Ministry of Environment, Rome, Italy4Climate and the Carbon Trust

*(Speakers invited and themes proposed * denotes confirmed)*

Friday 1 October

**Morning
1130-1137
Central European
Summer Time
(CEST)**

Webinar – Race to Zero – Hybrid

*Jill Morris

Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Italian Republic and Her Majesty's non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino

Keynote speaker(s)

*Nigel Topping

UNFCCC High Level Champion

1137-1205

Runners in the Race to Zero describe their commitments

A panel of non-state actors describe commitments; why they have chosen to commit and how they are addressing the challenges

Moderator:

*Jill Morris

Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Italian Republic and Her Majesty's non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino

Panellists:

*Elly Schlein – Video

VP of Emilia Romagna

*Sarah Varetto

Executive Vice President Communications, Inclusion and Bigger Picture, Sky Italy

*Aaditya Thackeray

Minister, Environment and Climate Change, Tourism and Protocol, India

1205-1240

Discussion between the panellists, drawing from questions from the moderator and from the audience, on the opportunities, challenges, necessary conditions and policies, and initiatives needed or being taken to get to Net Zero

1240-1245

Conclusions presented

1245-1330

Break

Afternoon
1330-1337

Webinar – Race to Resilience – Hybrid

Jill Morris

Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Italian Republic and Her Majesty's non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino

Keynote speaker(s)

Nigel Topping

UNFCCC High Level Champion

1337-1357

Runners in the Race to Resilience describe their commitments

A panel of non-state actors describe their commitments; why they have chosen to commit and how they are addressing the challenges.

Moderator:

*Jill Morris

Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Italian Republic and Her Majesty's non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino

Panellists:

*Luisa Volpe

Head, Policy Department, World Farmers' Organisation (WFO), Rome

*Natalia Uribe

Secretary General, Regions4, Bilbao

*Karen Sack

Executive Director, Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), Washington, DC

*Raffaele Cattaneo

Minister of Environment and Climate of Lombardy

1357-1437

Discussion between the panellists, drawing from questions from the moderator and from the audience, on the opportunities, challenges, necessary conditions and policies, and initiatives needed or being taken to build resilience.

1437-1445

Conclusions presented

1445

Webinar ends

This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.

This is an invitation only conference.

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