



**Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America  
XXVIII Regular Session of the CEC Council  
and  
Sessions of the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC)  
9–10 September 2021**

Online Event

**Program of Public Events**

**Thursday, 9 September 2021**

**CEC Roundtable  
The Role of Youth in Ensuring Environmental Justice through Responses to  
Climate Change**

The event will offer an intergenerational discussion on environmental justice and advocacy, and a facilitated discussion about the key role that youth play in facilitating and ensuring environmental justice in North America. This event aims to empower North American youth to build and advocate for solutions to climate change under the scope of environmental justice, regardless of the community they are from.

Panelists will be asked to each take 5 minutes to present their perspectives on the role of youth in ensuring environmental justice through responses to climate change and will respond to a series of prepared questions from the public. At the end of the moderated discussion, there will be time for questions from the audience (through sli.do #CEC28).

**10:00–10:10 Welcoming remarks by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael S. Regan**

**10:10-10:15 Presentations by the CEC**  
Presentation of the agenda and logistics  
Introduction of panelists  
Introduction of keynote speaker and facilitator

**10:15-10:30 Keynote presentation**  
History of advocacy, with a special focus on youth actions during the '70s/'80s and connection between environmental justice and climate change.

[Robert D. Bullard](#), PhD, Distinguished Professor, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs, Texas Southern University

**10:30-10:45 Presentations by panelists**  
Canada: [Iman Berry](#), Co-developer, Green Ummah Curriculum  
Mexico: [Eduardo Lezama](#), Education Coordinator, Re-Earth Initiative

United States: [Justin Onwenu](#), Inaugural Michigan Advisory Council on Environmental Justice and Black Leadership Advisory Council

**10:45-11:45 Facilitated discussion and question period**  
Facilitated discussion with prepared questions  
Questions from the public

**11:45-11:55 Roundtable discussion summary by Robert Bullard, PhD**

**11:55-12:00 Closing remarks by CEC**

### **JPAC Public Forum on Climate Change and Environmental Justice**

#### **Leaving no one behind: working together for more equitable solutions to climate change impacts**

Climate change is impacting communities across North America, giving way to increased events such as flooding, coastal erosion, drought, fires, and heat waves, to name a few. However, not all communities are impacted equally. Vulnerable or historically marginalized communities and their residents are experiencing these impacts more severely due to their exposure and their ability to recover from them. Where they are situated and their residents' health, diets, income, language barriers, and limited access to resources are all factors impacting their resiliency and are often the result of historical policies, programs, and development practices—resulting in inequalities strongly affecting housing, infrastructure, and political representation.

This JPAC forum will focus on potential solutions to increase the resilience of vulnerable or historically marginalized communities by incorporating social considerations in climate programs, housing and zoning policies, infrastructure initiatives, etc., and building partnerships with all stakeholders, including underrepresented groups. The forum will also highlight examples from communities and organizations coming together to find and implement equitable solutions to climate change impacts throughout North America, and how these examples could inform other North American communities.

**13:00–13:10 Opening Remarks by Pedro Moctezuma, JPAC Chair**

**13:10–13:15 Welcoming Remarks by Richard Morgan, CEC Executive Director**

**13:15–13:35 Keynote Presentation: The many facets of climate change and environmental justice in North America**

This presentation will provide an overall picture of climate change and environmental justice issues in Canada, Mexico and the United States and will set the stage for the following panel.

**Leticia Merino Pérez**, PhD, Researcher, Level III, Institute of Social Research, National Autonomous University of Mexico

**13:35–14:05 Panel discussion: Moving forward toward more equitable solutions to climate change: presentations by invited experts**

Vulnerable and historically marginalized communities are more exposed and have greater difficulties recovering from climate change impacts. This panel will reflect on lessons learned from different initiatives and explore ways to reduce these inequalities in building more equitable solutions.

**Robert H. Manson**, PhD, National Investigator, Institute of Ecology (INECOL)

**Earthea Nance**, PhD, Associate Professor, Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs, Texas Southern University

**Alexandra Harrington**, PhD, Executive Director, Center for Global Governance and Emerging Law, Research Director, Centre for International Sustainable Development Law, and Vice-Chair of the Board of Women in Ethics and Compliance Global

**14:05–14:40** **Moderated question and answer period** with experts, JPAC members and virtual participants

**Moderator: Robert W. Varney**, JPAC member

**14:40–14:50** **Update on Submissions on Enforcement Matters: Paolo Solano**, Director, Submissions on Enforcement Matters and Legal Unit

**14:50–14:55** **Report from the National and Governmental Advisory Committee Representatives**

**14:55–15:00** **Closing Remarks by Pedro Moctezuma**, JPAC Chair

<b>Friday, 10 September 2021</b>
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### **Council Public Meeting Climate Change and Environmental Justice**

In accordance with the Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (ECA) Article 3(4), the CEC Council shall hold public meetings in the course of all regular sessions. These public meetings have been held since 1995 and represent a unique opportunity for North American citizens to engage with senior environmental officials and learn about North American environmental collaboration in the context of free trade as well as share their views with the Council. This year’s public meeting will focus on “Environmental Justice and Climate Change Solutions”.

**14:00–14:06** **Welcoming remarks and introduction of video on CEC’s accomplishments by the Executive Director**

**14:06–14:18** **Remarks by Council**

**14:18–14:51 Youth engagement in the CEC**

Highlights from Youth Roundtable

Introduction of Youth Innovation Challenge (YIC) and presentation of winners

Presentation of winning concepts by four YIC winners

Comments by Council

**14:51–15:36 Dialogue with the Council on Climate Change and Environmental Justice Solutions**

Format of the public session by the JPAC Chair

Introduction of invited experts:

- **Tonio Sadik** from Canada
- **Tzinnia Carranza López** from Mexico
- **Gladys Limon** from the United States

Moderated exchange between Council, invited experts and the public (including Q & A with registered participants)

**15:36–15:48 Council Announcements**

**15:48–16:00 Council Session Closing**