



SPEAKER: UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa

EVENT TITLE: “Building a shared future for all life”

DATE: May 2022

LENGTH: 5 minutes.

I am pleased to share this opportunity to recognize the important work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on this important day.

Our organizations share so much together.

We were borne of the same Rio Convention 30 years ago.

Our mandates were forged during a time when issues related to biodiversity, climate change and desertification were coming to the forefront of public attention.

The world, through these Conventions, made a lasting, collaborative commitment to take specific action on each of these items.

The world may have significantly changed during the intervening years.

But the facts have not.

The science is clearer than ever.

In fact, thanks to the dedication and hard work of so many scientists and researchers, we have a *better* understanding of the challenges we face on multiple environmental fronts.

And we can see where there is still so much work ahead — with limited time to do it.

We know that unprecedented changes in climate and biodiversity, driven by human activities, have combined and increasingly threaten nature, human lives, livelihoods, and well-being around the world.

Not someday.... right now.

We must act as rapidly as possible to limit the damage and build a more resilient and sustainable future — together.



Clearly, climate change and biodiversity — and desertification — are deeply entwined.

Working together only makes sense.

The good news is that we have made progress.

We have broken down some barriers that have existed and we are sharing information on a greater scale and we are looking for opportunities to join forces in order to address the many challenges to world faces.

But there is always more we can do.

So, let me take this opportunity to reiterate that UN Climate Change will continue to strongly support the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

And let me once again congratulate the CBD for its invaluable service to people throughout the world.

Thank you.