

Promoting partnerships in the European Overseas

*From the “Guadeloupe Roadmap”
To the UNFCCC COP 21*

**Tuesday 20 October 2015
16:00-18:30
Room ASP 3E2
European Parliament (Brussels)**

English-French Interpretation

Chaired by:

Maurice Ponga MEP

One year after the Message from Guadeloupe Island was adopted at the international conference on biodiversity and climate change, and in the light of the upcoming COP 21, this event will take stock of the on-going efforts and initiatives in the Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). It will gather the European Institutions, Member States, and ORs and OCTs actors to discuss how to tackle global issues and meet international targets.

Taking into account the global importance of the biodiversity found in ORs and OCTs, as well as the challenges they are facing, the debate will address how partnerships can be fostered to support ORs and OCT actors, which is called for in the EU Biodiversity Strategy. Further, the event aims to catalyze European action in these seven regions, which also account for the largest marine domain in the world.

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Carole Martinez, Coordinator of the IUCN European Overseas Program, carole.martinez@iucn.org

Opening session

16h00 – 16h30

Welcoming address by Maurice Ponga MEP

High level statements:

George Pau-Langevin, French Minister of Overseas

H.E. Dr. Bernard Whiteman, Prime Minister of Curaçao, Chair of the Overseas Countries and Territories Association

Theodore Saramandis, Head of Task Force - Overseas Countries and Territories, European Commission

Roundtable 1: Combating biodiversity loss in the EU Overseas, a critical component of CC strategies

16h30 – 17h00

- 2' Introduction by moderator
- 5' Presentation by Mr Stefan Leiner, Acting Director “Natural Capital” & Head of Unit “Biodiversity”, DG Environment, European Commission
- 5' Comments by Professor Philippe Joseph, University of Antilles, Martinique
- 5' Comments by Maina Sage, Member of the French Parliament, French Polynesia
- 5' Comments by Louis-Joseph Manscour MEP
- 8' Questions from the audience and wrap-up by moderator

Roundtable 2: Reinforcing and building resilience: initiatives and commitments from the EU Overseas in view of the CoP21

17h00- 17h30

- 2' Introduction by moderator
- 5' Presentation by Humberto Delgado Rosa, Director “Mainstreaming Adaptation and Low Carbon Technology”, DG Climate Action, European Commission
- 5' Comments by Frédéric Blanchard, Director of Biodiversity Projects, French Guiana
- 5' Comments by Michel Porcher, IFRECOR, France
- 10' Questions from the audience and wrap-up by moderator

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Roundtable 3: The Green and Blue Economy for inclusive and sustainable growth in the EU Overseas – concrete examples

17h30- 18h00

- 2' **Introduction by moderator**
- 5' **Presentation by Armand Beuf, Policy Officer Science, Technology and Innovation cooperation with Pacific countries, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission**
- 5' **Comments by Cedrick Tilma, Representative of the Government of Aruba to the European Union**
- 5' **Video Message from Ricardo Serrão Santos MEP**
- 10' **Questions from the audience and wrap-up by moderator**

Conclusions

18h00 – 18h30

- 5' **Wrap-up by the moderator**
- 10' **Comments by Daniel Calleja Crespo, Director-General for the Environment, European Commission**
- 10' **Closing remarks by Maurice Ponga MEP**

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