



MEDIA ADVISORY

PRESS BRIEFING: Saving peat – the missing link in addressing climate change

November 15, 2016 – Without tackling peat degradation and loss climate change cannot be stopped, a growing number of studies assert. Greenhouse gas emissions from unsustainable peatland management account for up to 5 per cent of total global emissions and are on the rise due to increasing peat degradation and loss from agriculture and fires. Peat fires have drastic consequences for people's health and the environment, and their emissions are massive: In Indonesia, for example, peat fires resulted in daily emissions greater than those of the entire US economy.

The press briefing will discuss the above and introduce the Global Peatlands Initiative, a new global effort that mobilizes governments and leading experts from UN agencies, international organizations and academia in a targeted effort to save the world's largest terrestrial organic carbon stock.

WHEN: Thursday November 17; 10:00 – 10:30 am

WHERE: Press Conference Room 1, Blue Zone

The press conference is webcast live on <http://unfccc.int/>

SPEAKERS:

- **Nazir Foad**, Head Indonesia Peat Restoration Agency (BRG)
- **Martha Rojas-Urrego**, Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention
 - **Erik Solheim**, Head of UN Environment (UNEP)

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