

## Weaving Net Zero into Fashion's Future

### COP 29 Event

Concept Note

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**Date:** 16 November 2024

**Time:** 10:30-12:00

**Location:** Nasimi

#### **Background:**

In 2018, with the support of UN Climate Change, the [Fashion Industry Charter](#) was established to provide a platform for the fashion industry to collaborate toward reaching net-zero emissions by 2050, aligning with global efforts to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Although companies are making strides toward their commitments, deeper and closer collaboration is needed to achieve net zero. The fashion industry's climate impact extends across every stage of the value chain—from raw material extraction and production to manufacturing and transportation, —necessitating coordinated and systematic efforts to drive meaningful change.

Looking ahead, countries' submission of new nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in early 2025 provides an opportunity to drive more ambitious national climate targets and translate climate goals into practical policy frameworks that incentivize and support sustainable practices within the fashion sector. Clear, supportive policies can enable companies to innovate and adopt sustainable models faster, bridging the gap between high-level goals and on-the-ground action.

However, securing the funding needed to achieve net-zero goals presents a pressing challenge for the value chain of the sector. The transition to sustainable practices demands substantial investment across all stages of the value chain, and companies are actively seeking innovative financial solutions to bridge this gap. From green bonds to impact investment, various financing mechanisms are urgently needed to make sustainable development accessible to businesses of all sizes and locations.

This event will bring together fashion brands, suppliers, investors, policy makers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to discuss key levers for transformation and explore how progress can be accelerated collectively. Speakers will share hands-on insights from the field, exploring key themes such as transparency, accessible finance, and the development of supportive policy frameworks.

#### **Format**

The event will feature panel discussions and will be streamed online.

## Event Agenda

Saturday, 16 November 2024	
10:30-10:35	<p><b>Opening remarks</b></p> <p>Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary, UN Climate Change</p>
10:35-10:40	<p><b>Keynote</b></p> <p>Matthew Guenther, TAL Apparel Ltd, Environmental Sustainability Director</p>
10:40-11:05	<p><b>Panel Discussion 1: Real-World Stories: Navigating the Journey to Net Zero in the Fashion Industry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>This session will feature signatories of the Fashion Industry Charter sharing real-world insights into their progress, successes, and the challenges they face in reaching net-zero goals. With disclosure and transparency as core principles of the Fashion Charter, the session will also explore key industry trends to assess current position and identify where further action is needed.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker 1:</b> Laura Hohmann, Associate Director, Sustainable Supply Chains, CDP  <b>Speaker 2:</b> Stefan Seidel, Senior Director Corporate Sustainability, PUMA  <b>Speaker 3:</b> Muhammad Fauz ul Azeem, General Manager, Corp. Sustainability &amp; Chemical Management, Interloop  <b>Speaker 4:</b> Henrik Sundberg, Global Climate Impact Lead, H&amp;M Group</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Shari Friedman, Managing Director of EURASIA</p>
11:05-11:10	<p><b>Spotlight on Financing Climate Action in Fashion</b></p> <p>Lewis Perkins, President and CEO, Apparel Impact Institute</p>
11:10-11:35	<p><b>Panel Discussion 2: Financing Transformative Climate Action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>The journey towards net zero requires substantial investment, risk management and innovative financial mechanisms across the entire value chain. This panel discussion will emphasize the urgent need for creating a sustainable, equitable financial system and accelerate innovative, accessible financing solutions that align with global and national climate targets for mitigation and adaptation</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker 1:</b> Saqib Sohail, Responsible Business Projects, Artistic Milliners  <b>Speaker 2:</b> Hilen G. Meirovich, Climate Change Head, IDB Invest  <b>Speaker 3:</b> Elrika Hamdi, Deputy Head of the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) Secretariat</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Shari Friedman, Managing Director of EURASIA Group</p>

<p>11:35-11:55</p>	<p><b>Panel Discussion 3: Policy Pathways for Sustainable Supply Chains</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>As governments pursue accelerated climate action with more ambitious NDCs, the private sector will play a crucial role in implementation. This panel brings together industry leaders and policymakers to explore existing frameworks, challenges and collaborative opportunities for translating NDCs into clear policies that drive investment across the value chain.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker 1:</b> Kehua Hu, Sustainability Stewardship Director, China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC)</p> <p><b>Speaker 2:</b> Dr. Farhina Ahmed, Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Speaker 3:</b> Representative of Government of Viet Nam - (TBC)</p> <p><b>Speaker 4:</b> Representative of Government of Pakistan - (TBC)</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Shari Friedman, Managing Director of EURASIA</p>
<p>11:55-12:00</p>	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p>Eliot Whittington, Executive Director, Chief Systems Change Officer, Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership (CISL)</p>