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SDGs for All Newsletter - August-September 2021 In Retrospect

UN Warned of an Impending Threat from a Climate-Nuclear Nexus



By Thalif Deen

NEW YORK (IDN) — When the United Nations hosted a high-level meeting on nuclear disarmament on September 28, the annual event was characterized by one underlying fact: the participation for the first time of young climate activists who warned of

an impending threat from a Climate-Nuclear nexus.

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Security Challenges We Face Are Climate and Disease, World Leaders Need to Rise Up



By Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama

Fiji Islands Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama is the current Chair of the 18-member Pacific Islands Forum. Addressing the UN General Assembly virtually on September 25, he called on the global community to embrace Fiji's vision of a better, greener, bluer and safer future for

humanity.

SUVA (IDN) — The United Nations report to the UN General Assembly this year is titled “Our multilateral challenges: UN 2:0” a Common Agenda the blueprint for a future that is better, greener, and safer—and I would humbly add, “bluer”. (P17) [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [SPANISH](#) | [THAI](#)

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A Climate Awakening Is Urgently Needed to Save The World's Most Vulnerable



Viewpoint by Georges Rebelo Pinto Chikoti

The writer is Secretary-General of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS).

BRUSSELS (IDN) — Time is fast running out for millions of peoples living in situations of high risk where lives, livelihoods and a safe, secure place to live are all at stake.

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Tale Of Two Peoples' Summits – Who Can Help to Feed the World?



By Kalinga Seneviratne

SYDNEY (IDN) — There were two “Peoples’ Food Summits” held on September 23, one hosted by the United Nations from New York with some world leaders appearing virtually, while the other was hosted completely virtually with peoples’ movements bringing grassroots voices

to the world.

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U.S. Militarism's Toxic Impact on Climate Policy



Viewpoint by Medea Benjamin and Nicolas J. S. Davies*

NEW YORK (IDN) — U.S. President Biden [addressed](#) the UN General Assembly on September 21 with a warning that the climate crisis is fast approaching a “point of no return,” and a promise that the United States would rally the world to action. “We will lead not just with the example of our power but, God willing, with the power of our example,” he [said](#).

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World Food Systems Summit Needs to Recognise Right of Farmers and People Not of Corporations’, Say Critics



By Kalinga Seneviratne

SYDNEY (IDN) — The Heads of State and Government from more than 90 countries are expected to announce



their commitments to transform food systems to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the historic UN Food Systems Summit this

week held virtually from New York. But many civil society and farmers' groups are sceptical about the international community being able to recognize the rights of small-scale farmers to their land and peoples access to affordable food, which are essential to achieving food security and associated SDGs.

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Tackling Global Hunger at Its Roots



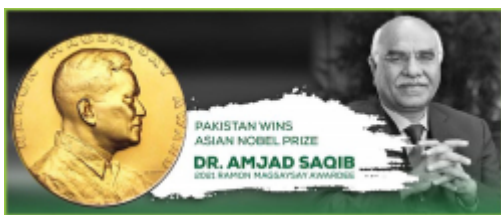
Viewpoint by Bhikkhu Bodhist

Tackling global hunger requires that we identify its fundamental causes and remove these at the roots. This necessitates not only the adoption of transformative policies, but a fundamental change in our own values and attitudes, writes Bhikkhu Bodhi.

NEW YORK (IDN) — The Buddha teaches that to effectively solve any problem we have to remove its underlying causes. While the Buddha himself applies this principle to the ending of existential suffering, the same method can be used to deal with many of the challenges we face in the social and economic dimensions of our lives. (P16) [CHINESE](#) | [HINDI](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#)

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Alternative Noble Prize Recognition for Pakistan's Islamic Community Development Pioneer



By Kalinga Seneviratne

SYDNEY (IDN) — One of the five winners of this year's Ramon Magsaysay Awards—known as Asia's Nobel Prizes—is Dr Muhammad Amjad

Saqib the founder of Pakistan's biggest community development network Akhuwat that is based on Islamic principles of sharing and brotherhood. (P15) [INDONESIAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#)

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Bangladesh's "Affordable Vaccine Pioneer" Wins Asia's Nobel Prize



By Amitava Chowdhury

KOLKATTA (IDN) — One of 2021 Ramon Magsaysay Awards—known as 'Asia's Nobel Prize'—has been awarded



to the Bangladeshi scientist Dr Firdausi Qadri who has played a “key role” in creating more affordable vaccines to combat cholera and typhoid, the Manila-based award foundation said in a statement on August 31.

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Former Ambassador of Jordan Appointed as 'UN Women' Chief



By J Nastranis

NEW YORK (IDN)— Dr. Sima Sami Bahous, 65, a former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, with links to the Royal family, has been appointed the Executive Director of UN Women. [IDN reported on September 6](#) that she was the front runner for the post. UN Secretary-General António Guterres announced her appointment on September 10.

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Amid Widespread Military Conflicts & Civil Wars, UN Promotes the Virtues of Culture of Peace



By Thalif Deen

NEW YORK (IDN)— Since its creation 76 years ago, the United Nations has been preoccupied with one of its primary mandates, namely, maintaining international peace and security.

But over the years, that mandate has been extended to include peacekeeping, peace-building, nuclear disarmament, preventive diplomacy, and more recently, a culture of peace. (P14) [GERMAN](#) | [ITALIAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#)

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Leading Athletes Stress the Role of Sport in Building a Better World for All



By J Nastranis

NEW YORK (IDN) — The United Nations is convinced that sport promotes values such as diversity, tolerance and respect and contributes to the empowerment of women and young people, individuals and communities, as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives. With this in view, the UN Department of Global Communication's office at the country level has initiated SDG Zone at Tokyo, titled "Teaming Up through Sport to Advance the SDGs". (P13)

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Australia and New Zealand React To IPCC Report Warning With Rhetoric Rather Than Action



By Kalinga Seneviratne

SYDNEY (IDN) — The most comprehensive report released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has issued a dire warning to countries in the Pacific region where rising sea levels and increasing temperatures could wipe

out island nations and make dry habitats uninhabitable. But the two major powers in the region—Australia and New Zealand—have reacted to the report with defensive rhetoric rather than moving to implement immediate action to save the region. (P12) [HINDI](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [SWAHILI](#)

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Clean Cooking Technology Important To Achieving Sustainable Energy Access



By Kalinga Seneviratne

SYDNEY (IDN) — In the Asia-Pacific region which is home to about 60 percent of the global population, some 1.6 billion people primarily rely on open fires or simple stoves fueled by kerosene, coal, or biomass such as

wood, dung and agricultural residues for their daily cooking needs, that impacts on climatic change and health hazards. (P11) [GERMAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [THAI](#)

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Published by

The Non-profit [International Press Syndicate Group](#) with IDN as the Flagship Agency
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