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Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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Director of the World Evangelical Alliance Sustainability Center Appointed as a Member of the UN Faith Council

(Bonn, 24.10.2019) The Director of the World Evangelical Alliance Sustainability Center (WEASC), Matthias Böhning, has been appointed as a member of the Faith Advisory Council for the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development.

As a first reaction, Böhning made the following statement:

“It is with great gratitude and honor that I accept the appointment as a member of the Faith Advisory Council to the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development. This appointment fills me with deep appreciation. I particularly thank Iyad Abumoghli, Principal Co-ordinator of the Faith for Earth Initiative of UN Environment and member of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force, for his generous nomination. As the representative of the World Evangelical Alliance Sustainability Center to the Faith Advisory Group, I look forward to working together with faith-based partners and the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development. My wish is to contribute to a more systematic cooperation between faith-based organizations and UN agencies, with the aim of tackling challenges related to sustainable development together”.



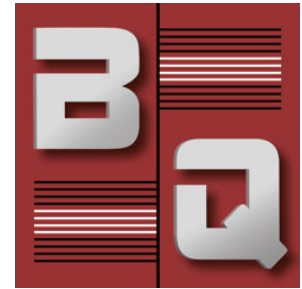
Representatives of various faith traditions at a side event in the context of the Faith for Earth Initiative at the UN Environment Assembly (2019)
© WEASC

The Advisory Group of Faith-Based Organizations to the United Nations Interagency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development was established in September 2018 and is composed of the UN system's faith-based partners, reflecting the diversity of religions, regional and national presence, and covering thematic areas which mirror

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A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwonline.com

Department of Theological Concerns of World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/pdf/TN-47-1-Jan-2018.pdf

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebende-haende.de

International Institute for Islamic Studies (IIIS) of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.islaminstitute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF) of the World Evangelical Alliance (International Headquarter, German Branch Tübingen, EU-Office Brüssel)
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary (Bonn, Linz, Zürich, Prague, Tirana, Istanbul, São Paulo, Delhi)
www.bucer.org

missiotop – Evangelical Forum for Missions, Cultures and Religions (German Evangelical Alliance)
www.missiotop.org

Office of Intrafaith and Interfaith Relations of the World Evangelical Alliance

Theological Commission of the European Evangelical Alliance
www.europeanea.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/

UN Bonn liaison for inter-religious concerns of WEA

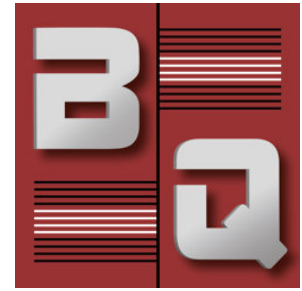
WEA Sustainability Center
www.wea-sc.org

World Evangelical Alliance – Office Bonn

SOS World (Brussels)
www.sosworld.be/page-daccueil/

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the UN's mandate. To date, each major faith tradition is represented on the Council. The Advisory Group is tasked with providing strategic advice to UN agencies and offices on engaging with religious actors to realize the Agenda 2030. The Advisory Group is committed to uphold multilateralism and international human rights through multi-faith collaboration around the Sustainable Development Goals.

The United Nations Interagency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development was set up in 2010. It aims to provide policy guidance around engaging with faith-based actors, deepen UN system staff capacities on intersections of religion with the UN pillars of development, human rights and peace and security dynamics, as well as provide strategic policy guidance. The UN Interagency Task Force involves 20 UN system entities and is chaired by Dr. Azza Karam of the United Nations Population Fund.

Matthias Böhning's appointment to the multi-faith advisory council of the United Nations was also discussed at the recent inaugural visit of the new Secretary General of the German Evangelical Alliance, Dr. Reinhardt Schink, to the WEA Sustainability Center in Bonn. He congratulated Mr. Böhning on his new responsible and challenging task. Dr. Reinhardt Schink wished him the blessing and



Matthias Böhning with the new Secretary General of the German Evangelical Alliance, Dr. Reinhardt Schink © WEASC

preservation of our Lord Jesus Christ, the presence of the Spirit in all deliberations and the authority of the Father to be a clear evangelical voice at the UN level.

Downloads and Links:

- **Photo 1:** Representatives of various faith traditions at a side event in the context of the Faith for Earth Initiative at the UN Environment Assembly (2019) © WEASC
- **Photo 2:** Matthias Böhning © Leonard von Bibra
- **Photo 3:** Matthias Böhning with the new Secretary General of the German Evangelical Alliance, Dr. Reinhardt Schink © WEASC
- Website of the WEA Sustainability Center: <https://wea-sc.org>
- Annual Report 2018 of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development: https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27504/UN_IATF2018.pdf

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