

Symposium

The textile industry: the interaction between textiles and the environment

Tuesday 8 November 2022 (12:00 – 15:00 CET)

Speakers Biography



Catherine Chevauché

Chairperson of ISO TC 323

Catherine Chevauché chairs the international technical committee on circular economy (ISO TC323). This committee brings together many experts from 93 countries. It produces future ISO standards that will define circular economy and will support its practical implementation in organisations.

Catherine worked for a water, waste and energy management company. She developed tools to assess environmental and economic performance for industry activities. More recently, she contributed to the implementation of a plan to reduce the company's greenhouse gas emissions as part of the 1.5 trajectory objective.

She is now part of VEOLIA's Strategy and Innovation Department and is supervising a research project on the transition of linear business models towards circular economy for water, waste and energy resource management activities.



Dr. Christian P. Schindler

Director General

The International Textile Manufacturers Federation

Dr. Schindler studied economics at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, from where he graduated in 1994. Between 1995 and 1998 he worked as personal assistant of two Members of Parliament in the German Bundestag, Bonn. In 1998 he joined the Federation of German Wholesale and Foreign Trade (BGA).

Between 2001 and 2004 he studied at the Institute of Economic Policy at the University of Cologne, Germany, where he wrote his thesis and obtained a doctorate degree in 2004.

Dr. Schindler was appointed Economist of the International Textile Manufacturers Federation on October 1, 2004 and was promoted to the position of Director in 2006. At the Federation's Annual Conference in Dubai, UA, in September 2006 he was nominated and elected Director General as of January 1, 2007.

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Valérie Boiten

Senior Policy Officer
The Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Valérie Boiten is a Senior Policy Officer at the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. She works on circular economy policies relevant for fashion and textiles, together with the Foundation's Fashion team. The Ellen MacArthur Foundation develops and promotes the idea of a circular economy, inspiring and working with business, academia, policymakers, and institutions across the globe.

The Foundation's Fashion initiative is dedicated to redesigning the fashion industry, based on circular economy design. This new approach builds an industry that designs products to be used more, made to be made again, and made from safe and recycled or renewable inputs.

Valérie Boiten has published articles and studies on a circular textiles system, including, for example, "Step by step towards the Circular Economy".



Dirk Vantghem

Director General
The European Apparel and Textile Confederation

Dirk joined EURATEX as a Director General in September 2019, representing the interests of over 200,000 European companies in the textiles and clothing industry towards the European Union. His mandate is to promote a competitive, sustainable and innovative European Textiles and Clothing industry. Prior to EURATEX, he worked for EUROCHAMBRES, the European Chamber of Commerce lobby, focusing i.a. on trade policy, internationalisation and entrepreneurship. Dirk has an economic background and holds a Master degree from the College of Europe, Bruges.

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Maria Teresa Pisani

Chief of the Trade Facilitation Section
UNECE

Maria Teresa Pisani is (OIC) Chief of the Trade Facilitation Section at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), where she leads the work on policies and standards for sustainable and digital trade facilitation, and is currently managing a global multi-stakeholder initiative on green and inclusive value chains in the textile and clothing industry. At UNECE since 2011, she has been focusing on trade and environmental governance. Before joining the UN, Maria Teresa has been with the European Commission, and the ILO, and has managed World Bank funded projects for institutional reforms in emerging economies around the world.



Lars Fogh Mortensen

Circular Economy, Consumption and Production Expert,
European Environment Agency (EEA)

Mr. Mortensen works as an expert on circular economy at the EEA with a focus on textiles, plastics and consumption. He joined the EEA in 2003 and initially led work on sustainable consumption and on policy effectiveness evaluations. Prior to joining the EEA, Mr Mortensen has worked in other international organizations including the OECD and the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). He holds a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Copenhagen with specialization in resource economics and economics of developing countries. Mr. Mortensen leads EEA work on textiles and has led publications on environmental impacts of textiles, plastics in textiles, microplastics in textiles and textiles and design among others.