



## Bi-Weekly Press Briefing 13 May 2022

13-05-2022 | Press Conferences

### Story

#### Announcements

Santiago Mantorana, for the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), stated that on 17 May, the ITU would celebrate the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) with a spotlight on older persons and healthy ageing. This annual celebration of information and communication technologies marked the founding of ITU and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865. Mr. Mantorana explained that WTISD-22 would put the spotlight on digital technologies for older persons and healthy ageing, reflecting a defining demographic trend of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The high-level panel would be held at the ITU on 17 May at 1 pm, and accredited media were invited to attend. More information is available [here](#).

Christian Lindmeier, for the World Health Organization (WHO), informed that an embargoed virtual press conference on the First Global Report on Assistive Technology would be held today at 3:30 pm. This technology referred to any devices that assisted people in their daily lives.

The Health for All Film Festival Awards ceremony 2022 would also be held mainly online today, at 5 pm. Speakers/jurors would include actresses Sharon Stone and Emilia Clarke.

WHO would hold a virtual press briefing ahead of the World Health Assembly on 16 May at 3 pm. Speakers would be: Peter Singer, Special Adviser to Dr. Tedros; Steven Sullivan, WHO Legal Adviser; and Timothy

Armstrong, Director, Department of Governing Bodies at WHO.

Speaking for the World Trade Organization (WTO), Ms. Vellucci informed that members of the media who had not already been accredited and who wished to attend the WTO 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference, taking place in Geneva from 12 to 15 June, could now apply for accreditation. The deadline for receiving applications would be 18 May 2022 at 6 pm Geneva time. Journalists and media representatives who had been accredited last year and had confirmed their wish to keep their accreditation were not required to re-apply. They would have already received an e-mail from the WTO confirming their accreditation status. The main Press Centre would be located on the gallery level of the WTO new building, with approximately 160 workstations.

Regarding the killing of the Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh in Jenin, Ms. Vellucci said that the Spokesperson of the Secretary-General had spoken on this issue, and the latest remarks from the 12 May noon press briefing were available [here](#).

Ms. Vellucci further informed that on 17 May at 9:15 am, there would be a hybrid launch of the report “Unprecedented and Unfinished: Covid-19 and Implications for National and Global Policy”. Speakers in Room B-128 would be: Peter Gluckman, President, International Science Council; Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction; Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organization; and Mathieu Denis, Acting CEO and Science Director, International Science Council; while Salim Abdool Karim, Vice President, International Science Council, would connect by Zoom.

On 17 May at 12:30 pm, UN Women would hold a hybrid press conference on Gender Dynamics in Humanitarian Crises: Lessons learned from the Rapid Gender Analyses of Ukraine and Moldova. Speakers would be: Erika Kvapilova, UN Women Representative Ukraine; Delphine Pinault, CARE Humanitarian Policy Advocacy Coordinator & UN Representative in Geneva; and Dominika Stojanoska UN Women Representative Moldova.

Finally, on 18 May at 10 am, there would be a hybrid press conference on the State of the Global Climate in 2021, with speakers Petteri Taalas, WMO Secretary-General, and Omar Baddour, Head, Climate Monitoring Division at WMO.

Ms. Vellucci informed that the Committee on the Rights of the Child was concluding this morning its review of the report of Djibouti.

The Committee Against Torture was concluding this morning its 73<sup>rd</sup> session and would issue its concluding observations on the six countries whose reports had been reviewed during this session: Iceland, Cuba, Iraq, Montenegro, Kenya, Uruguay.

The Conference on Disarmament would hold on 19 May the first public meeting of the second part of its 2022 session, still under the presidency of Ambassador Juan Antonio Quintanilla Román of Cuba. This second part of the session would run until 1 July.

On 14 May, the world community marked the World Migratory Bird Day, the spotlight of which would be on light pollution and how it was affecting migratory birds. There would be events around the world to dim the lights.

At the end of the briefing, Ms. Vellucci informed that UN Information Service would host a global meeting of heads of UN Information Centers from around the world, with the generous support of the Swiss Government.