



United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat

Executive Secretary

Nations Unies
Secrétariat sur les changements climatiques

Secrétaire exécutive

Biography of Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC

Christiana Figueres was appointed Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by UN Secretary-General BAN Ki-moon in 2010, and reappointed for a second three-year term in July 2013.

Ms. Figueres has been involved in climate change negotiations since 1995. Initially a member of the Costa Rican negotiating team, she was subsequently a member of the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism, and Vice President of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties.

She is a widely published author on the design of climate solutions, and has been a frequent adviser to the private sector, and lecturer at many universities and colleges. Ms. Figueres has also served on many boards of non-governmental organizations involved in climate change issues. In 1995, Ms. Figueres founded the Centre for Sustainable Development of the Americas (CSDA); she also served as Director of the Technical Secretariat, Renewable Energy in the Americas (REIA).

Ms. Figueres holds a Masters Degree in Anthropology from the London School of Economics, and a certificate in Organizational Development from Georgetown University. She was born in San José, Costa Rica in 1956 and has two daughters.