Each of the SAARC Chief Justices (or a nominee judge) will make a 10 minute presentation in the form of a country report

Panelists:

**Mr. Bakary Kante (Africa Sustainability Centre)**
Dr. Bakary Kante, the founder and CEO of the Africa Sustainability Centre is a leading African thinker-practitioner on sustainability, rule of law and environmental justice at global and national levels. From his early professional life as the Director General of the Ministry of Environment, in his native Senegal, he has been imbued with a deep passion for helping to lift Africa from its technology, sustainability, environmental justice deficit, shaped largely by the Continent's colonial history. Dr. Kante counts over 25 years of experience in diplomacy and high level political negotiations at international and national levels towards promoting international environmental governance, environmental justice and rule of law, having successfully provided visionary leadership within UNEP, first, as Special Policy Advisor to the Executive Director and later successively, as the Director of the Division of Environmental Policy Development and Law (DPDL) Law and Director of the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELC). Prior to his appointment with UNEP, Dr. Kante had already distinguished himself as a sensitive, skilled and astute negotiator, having played a key role in forging African and Group of 77 consensus at global environmental negotiations. Born in Dakar, Senegal, Bakary Kante studied International Public Law at the University of Dakar, and received his Master's Degree and subsequently a Ph.D. in Environmental Science.

**Hon. C. Scott Fulton, USA**
Scott Fulton has had an extensive career in public service as an environmental prosecutor, head of the United States' environmental enforcement program, an Environmental Appeals Judge, leader of the United States environmental international affairs program, and President Obama's choice to serve as Deputy Minister and General Counsel of the of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. He left public service to teach at George Washington University Law School, serve as a Visiting Scholar at the Environmental Law Institute, and a Principal at the environmental law firm Beveridge and Diamond, PC, in Washington, D.C. Fulton’s experience includes several decades of work in the international realm, including significant engagement with key international institutions and organizations, as well as with national-level judges, prosecutors, environment ministries, NGOs, and other leaders around the world in the effort to build governance capacity for environmental protection. He currently serves on high-level environmental justice advisory councils for both the United Nations Environment Program and the Organization of American States.
Mr. Lal Kurukulasuriya (Sri Lanka)
Mr. Lal Kurukulasuriya is the founder and Director-General of the Centre for Environmental Research, Training and Information (CERTI). He used to work as Chief of the Environmental Law Branch, in UNEP, and has an extensive expertise and experience in the development and implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and national environmental law. He joined UNEP in 1990 as the head of the Interim Ozone Secretariat, UNEP’s environmental law capacity building program, as well as the Environmental Law Program for Asia and the Pacific. He has provided leadership to the development and implementation of UNEP’s global program aimed at strengthening the role of judiciaries around the world in promoting the rule of law and governance in the field of environment and sustainable development. Prior to joining UNEP, Mr. Kurukulasuriya was the Legal Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka and served as Sri Lanka’s Ambassador to Sweden and the other Nordic countries from 1982-1987. He was the Assistant Secretary General of the Asian African Legal Consultative Committee from 1978-1980. He has also taught Environmental Law at several Universities and contributed to numerous training programmes, seminars and symposia. He is a graduate of law from the University of Sri Lanka, holds an M.Phil degree in International Law from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and is an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka.

Chief Justice Tun Arifin Zakaria (Malaysia)
In 1978 he was appointed as the Legal Adviser, Ministry of Primary Industries. In 1978 he received his LLM course at University College London in the area of tax law. In 1979 he was admitted as a Barrister of Lincoln’s Inn. In the same year he was awarded the LLM degree by the University of London. He has held several important positions in the Government, including the Federal Counsel in the Attorney General and the Department of Inland Revenue. In 1981 he was appointed as Legal Advisor sehingga1983 Malacca. Later he moved to the Department of Public Service as Legal Adviser of Parliament. His last post in the civil service as Head of the Legal Division at the Department of Inland Revenue. Over in the government service, he has represented the Government of Malaysia in negotiations between nations as "International Tin Agreement" and the agreements of bilateral tax. On 3 January 1992 he was appointed as a Judicial Commissioner. Two years later he was appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Malaya. In 2002 he was appointed as a Judge of the Court of Appeal and in 2005 was appointed as a Judge of the Federal Court. He was appointed as the Right Honourable Chief Justice on 12 September 2011. He was also appointed to numerous bodies during his time as judge, and has received numerous awards, distinctions, and recognitions.