

## Commitment Announcement

Monday, September 23, 2024

Session | Alternative Visions for Waste and Circularity

### **Commitment: Building Textile-to-Textile Circular Systems & Markets**

Imagine a world where every piece of clothing has **multiple lives**—a world where **fashion isn't just about trends** but about the legacy we leave behind. That's the **vision that drives me**.

I'm Karla Magruder, President of Accelerating Circularity, a nonprofit dedicated to **transforming the textile industry into a sustainable force**.

**Textiles are woven into my life. My mom, a seamstress who immigrated from China, made many of our clothes by hand. And I often wore my sister's hand-me-downs—my first experience with recycling!**

In high school, I entered a national competition celebrating America's bicentennial. I made a quilt from fabric scraps to represent how **we come together to create something greater than ourselves**. That quilt won first place, and it **sparked a passion for textiles that's taken me around the world**.

Today, though, the **industry I love is in crisis**. While it provides **jobs and clothing to billions**, it's also **responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions—more than aviation and shipping combined**.

The industry **depletes natural resources, contributes to pollution, and produces 110 million tons of textile waste each year, the equivalent to 200 billion t-shirts**. **This waste ends up in landfill and incineration, devastating our planet**.

That's why I **founded Accelerating Circularity in 2019**. We're not **just recycling**; we're **revolutionizing!** We're building a **circular system where textiles are designed, produced, and reused over and over again**.

KARLA MAGRUDER

## CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE

And here's **proof it's already happening**: the **denim skirt** I'm wearing today was **made by our partners through one of these circular systems**—and it's available at target!

I'm incredibly **proud** to share that Accelerating Circularity is **announcing a Clinton Global Initiative Commitment to Action!** We're **pledging** to take our work to the **next level**, with support from some of the **world's leading brands and manufacturers**, to **recycle 325 tons of used textiles**.

We're also **committing to build a comprehensive map of the textile recycling ecosystem, connecting key players—collectors, processors, and recyclers, to bring this transformation to life.**

Together, we can build a new **collaborative textile supply chain and create things that are beautiful, meaningful, and enduring—just like the scraps in my quilt.** I **invite you all to join us in paving the way toward a future where style and sustainability go hand in hand.**

KARLA MAGRUDER