

## Outcomes of UNEA-1 – Implications for Africa

- United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) is world's platform of environment ministers to discuss and define global environmental agenda
- UNEA- 1 of UNEP held 23-27 June 2014 in Nairobi
- Adopted Ministerial outcome document, total of 17 resolutions & 2 decisions on from governance, programmatic & budgetary matters.
- 48 Africa countries attended UNEA -1: a major commitment of the region in the work of UNEP and environmental agenda
- Ministerial dialogue on post-2015 development agenda and illegal wildlife trade



## Outcomes of UNEA-1 – Implications for Africa

- Need to maintain this commitment: supporting UNEP work and influencing international environmental and sustainable development agenda to ensure Africa's needs and priorities are taken into account
- Rules of Procedure of UNEA (Rule 68), allows regional economic integration organizations to participate in UNEA deliberations under same modalities as in UNGA
- AU and its organs (AMCEN) have a stronger voice in UNEA work.
- African states should strengthen links between ministries of environment and foreign affairs for a stronger African voice

## Outcomes of UNEA-1 – Implications for Africa

- Ministerial outcome document:
- called for full integration of environmental dimension in sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is essential and key enabler
- called on countries to take action to prevent, combat and eradicate illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, which has major economic, social and environmental impacts, undermines rural livelihoods, good governance, rule of law, threatens national security
- reiterated on countries to ensure full implementation of MEAs and other international and regional environmental commitments in an effective and coordinated manner while promoting synergies among them, acknowledging their positive contribution to sustainable development
- called on countries to reinforce efforts to halt biodiversity loss and combat desertification, drought and land degradation, including through implementation of existing environmental agreements, and to ensure that ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide their services

## Outcomes of UNEA-1 – Implications for Africa

### ministerial dialogue on Illegal trade in wildlife (IWT):

- IWT discussion aimed at addressing gaps and make progress in preventing IWT, strengthen role of UN system and measures to integrate UN and other relevant stakeholders to successfully address the problem:
- Dialogue focused on:
  - ✓ **National and international action**
  - Need for unified efforts by international community, national governments, law enforcement agencies, civil society, and private sectors to address the problem.
  - ✓ **Coherent and coordinated response from UN system**
  - Identified need to strengthen UN system-wide response to avoid duplication through strengthening existing cooperation mechanisms, such as EMG and CEB
  - Stressed that UN system should provide additional support for national efforts to implement existing international commitments, including those under CITIES
  - ✓ **Mainstreaming momentum**
  - Way forward on how to tackle IWT from UNEA - 1, with a focus on mainstreaming political momentum and meaningful actions and implementation at national level.

## Preparation for UNEA -2

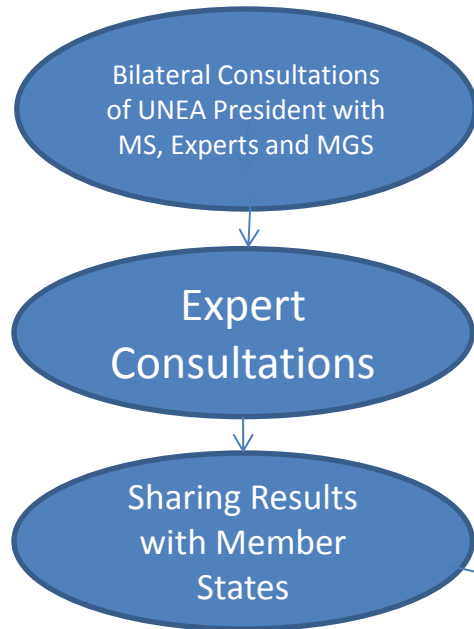
- UNEA -2 to be held in 23-27 May 2016
- Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR) to be held February 15-19 2016
- Recommended that all African delegations attend the OECPR and those unable to follow the meeting deliberations connected through video-link

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT POLICY: OPEN ISSUES

Issue	UNEP Best option
Limit Accreditation to organizations working in the field of environment vs. in environment and /or sustainable development (Para 12 and 14d)	Environment and sustainable development
Require legal registration for accreditation vs. not having this as a requirement (Para 12)	Current practice. Require legal registration
Accept Accreditation with MEAs for UNEP (Para 13)	Accept
<b>Who approves Accreditation/Veto Right for Member States (Para 15)</b>	<b>Current practice. UNEP Secretariat approves accreditation against criteria and MS are informed through UNEA.</b>
Access to Information (Para 18d)	Current practice. MGS have access to UNEA related documents similar to CPR members.
Meeting of accredited MGS with UNEA Bureau (Para 26)	Such meetings should be possible

# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT POLICY – THE WAY FORWARD

## Informal Process



March 2015

April/May 2015

June-October 2015

February 2016

May 2016

## Formal Process

