



# UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement      Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде      برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Ref: EO/SGB/JA/TO

5 December 2012

## Notification by the Executive Director

### Twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum

(Nairobi, 18–22 February 2013)

1. The twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will be held in Nairobi from 18 to 22 February 2013, pursuant to section II of Governing Council decision 26/17 of 24 February 2011. The session will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 18 February at the headquarters of UNEP in Nairobi and will be preceded by an informal consultation between regional groups at 4 p.m. on Sunday, 17 February.
2. The provisional agenda (UNEP/GC.27/1), as adopted by the Council/Forum at its twenty-sixth session, is being circulated as annex I to the present notification.
3. Eight months after the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, the twenty-seventh session will mark an important milestone in the history of UNEP, in particular with regard to the realization of the strengthening and upgrading of the Programme, as set out in the outcome document of the Conference, entitled “The future we want”. In that regard, the session will hold ministerial-level consultations on the theme “Rio+20: from outcome to implementation”. The Council/Forum will also consider reports submitted by the Executive Director on a number of issues, as requested by the Council in its decisions adopted at previous sessions. In addition, the Council/Forum will take up any other issues that may be raised by its members.
4. It is recommended that, at its twenty-seventh session, the Council/Forum should conduct its work primarily in plenary meetings and hold its interactive ministerial-level dialogues through a blend of plenary meetings and ministerial round tables. The Council/Forum may decide to establish sessional committees, including a committee of the whole, to take up programmatic, administrative and budgetary matters.
5. The attention of delegates is drawn to the fourteenth Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, an event that will be held prior to the twenty-seventh session, on Saturday and Sunday, 16 and 17 February, at the same venue.
6. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/288, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome of Rio+20, at its sixty-seventh session the Assembly is expected to adopt a resolution on paragraph 88 of the outcome document, which refers to the establishment of universal membership of the UNEP Governing Council. Without prejudice to any such resolution, a list of Governing Council member States for the period 2012–2015 is provided in annex II to the present notification.
7. Under rule 16 of the rules of procedure, an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as the delegations may require, shall represent each member of the Council. Since the Council/Forum is expected to discuss matters considered by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP, and in view of the role of the Committee as a subsidiary organ of the Council/Forum, Governments may wish to consider including their permanent representatives to UNEP in their delegations.
8. Delegations are accordingly requested to submit to the Executive Director, by 7 January 2013, the names of their representatives, alternate representatives and advisers who will participate in the twenty-seventh session.
9. Information for the twenty-seventh session will be available on the UNEP website at the following address: [www.unep.org/gc/gc27](http://www.unep.org/gc/gc27).

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Executive Office

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[www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org)



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10. A number of measures are being taken to make the twenty-seventh session as climate-neutral and environmentally friendly as possible. These include the offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions caused by the travel to and stay in Nairobi of participants sponsored by UNEP, a reduction in the number of hard copies of all documents, and communication campaigns. In accordance with habitual UNEP practice, the twenty-seventh session will be paper-smart. Electronic copies of all pre-session and in-session documents will be made available in conference rooms through dedicated portals. To make the best use of this service, delegates are encouraged to bring laptop computers to the session. With regard to access to documents prior to the session, delegates are requested to visit the session website and download any copies required. All participants are invited to consider offsetting the greenhouse gas emissions caused by their travel to and stay in Nairobi.

11. Registration of participants will take place between noon on Friday, 15 February 2013, and noon on Thursday, 21 February.

12. In accordance with rules 16 and 17 of the rules of procedure, member States are requested to submit the credentials of their representatives, alternate representatives and advisers who will constitute the delegations of their countries to the twenty-seventh session. The credentials of representatives, which should be issued by a head of State or Government, or by a minister for foreign affairs, should be submitted to the Executive Director prior to the first meeting of the session of the Council/Forum.

13. Information for participants regarding hotel accommodation, medical requirements and visa regulations, together with registration forms, will be provided on the UNEP website.

14. All communications concerning the twenty-seventh session should be addressed as follows:

Secretary to the Governing Council  
United Nations Environment Programme  
P.O. Box 30552-00100  
Nairobi, Kenya  
E-mail: [unep.gc27@unep.org](mailto:unep.gc27@unep.org)

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## **Annex I**

### **Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organization of work:
  - (a) Election of officers;
  - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Policy issues:
  - (a) State of the environment;
  - (b) Emerging policy issues;
  - (c) International environmental governance;
  - (d) Coordination and cooperation within the United Nations system on environmental matters;
  - (e) Coordination and cooperation with major groups;
  - (f) Environment and development.
5. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits and major intergovernmental meetings, including the decisions of the Governing Council.
6. Budget and programme of work for the biennium 2014–2015 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters.
7. Provisional agenda, date and venue of future sessions of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum:
  - (a) Thirteenth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum;
  - (b) Twenty-eighth session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report.
10. Closure of the session.

## Annex II

### Members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for the period 2012–2015

#### A. Breakdown by alphabetical order (indicating terms of office)

Albania **	Lesotho *
Antigua and Barbuda *	Liberia **
Argentina *	Malaysia *
Australia *	Mauritania *
Bangladesh **	Mauritius **
Belgium *	Mexico **
Brazil *	Mozambique *
Canada *	Netherlands **
Central African Republic *	Nigeria **
Chile **	Norway **
China *	Pakistan *
Colombia **	Poland **
Congo **	Republic of Korea *
Cuba **	Romania *
Czech Republic *	Russian Federation *
Ecuador **	Saudi Arabia **
Egypt **	Senegal **
Fiji **	Spain **
France *	Sudan **
Gabon *	Switzerland *
Georgia **	Thailand **
Germany *	Togo **
India **	Trinidad and Tobago *
Indonesia *	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland **
Iran (Islamic Republic of) **	United Republic of Tanzania *
Israel **	United States of America *
Italy **	Uruguay *
Japan *	Zambia *
Kenya *	

\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2013.

\*\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2015.

*Note:* One position for the Asia-Pacific region remains vacant.

**B. Breakdown by geographical group (indicating terms of office)**

**African States**

Central African Republic \*  
Congo \*\*  
Egypt \*\*  
Gabon \*  
Kenya \*  
Lesotho \*  
Liberia \*\*  
Mauritania \*  
Mauritius \*\*  
Mozambique \*  
Nigeria \*\*  
Senegal \*\*  
Sudan \*\*  
United Republic of Tanzania \*  
Togo \*\*  
Zambia \*

**Latin American and Caribbean States**

Antigua and Barbuda \*  
Argentina \*  
Brazil \*  
Chile \*\*  
Colombia \*\*  
Cuba \*\*  
Ecuador \*\*  
Mexico \*\*  
Trinidad and Tobago \*  
Uruguay \*

**Asia-Pacific States**

Bangladesh \*\*  
China \*  
Fiji \*\*  
India \*\*  
Indonesia \*  
Iran (Islamic Republic of) \*\*  
Japan \*  
Malaysia \*  
Pakistan \*  
Republic of Korea \*  
Saudi Arabia \*\*  
Thailand \*\*

**Western European and other States**

Australia \*  
Belgium \*  
Canada \*  
France \*  
Germany \*  
Israel \*\*  
Italy \*\*  
Netherlands \*\*  
Norway \*\*  
Spain \*\*  
Switzerland \*  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland \*\*  
United States of America \*

**Eastern European States**

Albania \*\*  
Czech Republic \*  
Georgia \*\*  
Poland \*\*  
Romania \*  
Russian Federation \*

\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2013.

\*\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2015.

*Note:* One position for the Asia-Pacific region remains vacant.

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