

**Protecting the Environment and Human Health through the Law**  
**Regional Meeting of UN Environment Montevideo Focal Points for Africa**  
**UN Environment Headquarters, Nairobi, 4-6 June 2018**

**Background**

Africa faces a great challenge of sustaining rapid economic growth as its population is expected to double to approximately 2.5 billion by 2050, while safeguarding the life-support system provided by its rich natural capital wealth, which underpins the realization of its long-term vision. It is therefore imperative that such growth must consider the region's relatively weak environmental governance and a paucity of accurate and up-to-date environmental and socioeconomic data for evidence-based decision-making.

The Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environment Law (Montevideo Programme) -- a series of ten-year long-term programmes that organize the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the international community to support the development and review of environmental law -- is one of the avenues that UN Environment has been using to enhance environmental governance. The current and fourth such programme (Montevideo Programme IV) runs from 2010 to 2020. At its second universal session in 2016 the United Nations Environment Assembly adopted Resolution 2/19 which requests UN Environment, in close collaboration with the national focal points, to prepare an assessment of Montevideo IV and proposals for the work of UN Environment in the area of environmental law for a specific period beginning in 2020, for consideration by the UNEA in 2019. The findings and recommendations of UN Environment latest flagship Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6) assessment, as well as relevant Africa Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and UN Environment Assembly resolutions and Agenda 2063 (the Africa we Want) with its 10-year implementation plan, will serve as bases to discuss priorities from the region. The consultations in Nairobi are the first of a series of regional consultations which will also take place in Latin America and the Caribbean, West Asia and Asia and the Pacific between the months of June and July 2018.

**Purpose of the meeting**

The key purpose of the meeting is to provide a forum for Montevideo Focal Points from Africa to:

(a) share and exchange information on latest developments, trends, and good practices in the development and enforcement of environmental law in their countries, as well as regionally and globally;

(b) contribute to UN Environment’s preparation of the assessment of the Montevideo Programme IV, including through sharing information on the status of implementation of the Montevideo Programme IV in their countries; and

(c) identify priorities from the region and proposals for the work of UN Environment in environmental law for the coming years, including for the next Montevideo Programme period commencing 2020. Priorities already identified by focal points and relevant UN Environment Assembly resolutions include: air pollution, public health, and marine litter. Others will be discussed in the meeting.

The meeting will also serve to create an important platform to increase partnerships and networks in the region for Montevideo Focal Points and other stakeholders working on environmental law issues. The meeting will also serve to create an important platform to increase partnerships and networks in the region for Montevideo Focal Points and other stakeholders working on environmental law issues.

#### Draft agenda

Time	Topic/Item	Speakers/Facilitators	Format
<b>DAY ONE</b>			
9.00-9.30	Registration	Conference Services – Ms Emma Maungu, Ms Lucy Mwakio	-
<b>SESSION ONE: OPENING</b>			
9.30-10.00	Welcome Remarks	Mr. Arnold Kreilhuber, Deputy Director, Law Division, UN Environment  Ms. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo, Director and Regional Representative, Africa Office, UN Environment  Mr. Robert Wabunoha - Regional Coordinator – Environmental Law and Governance, UN Environment	Plenary

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic/Item</b>	<b>Speakers/Facilitators</b>	<b>Format</b>
10.00-10.30	Overview of Environmental Challenges in Africa including land degradation; water quality (both freshwater and marine); air quality, and biodiversity loss, with a special focus on illegal wildlife trade	Ms. Monday Businge, Centre for Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy, University of Nairobi	The facilitator will give an overview of the environmental challenges in Africa and the key environmental issues that the continent needs to address. They will also suggest some legal, policy and institutional responses to address the challenges
10.30-11.00	Group photo and coffee break		Outside meeting room
<b>SESSION TWO: REGIONAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AND TRENDS</b>			
11.00-12.30	Panel Session on Land Degradation: Approaches, Challenges and Solutions in Addressing Land Degradation through Legislative, Policy and Institutional Measures	Ms. Sylvia Bankobeza, Legal Officer, Law Division, UN Environment  <b>Panel Session 1:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Sarah Naigaga (Uganda) – Moderator</li> <li>2. Mr. BA Moussa (Mauritania)</li> <li>3. Mr. Mario Batista Camala (Guinea Bissau)</li> <li>4. Mr. Humphrey Kasiya Mwale (Zambia)</li> <li>5. Mr Souleyman Zeba (Burkina Gaso);</li> <li>6. Toi Pagnibam Meba (Togo)</li> </ol>	Panelists will make brief and concise (maximum of 8 minutes each) statements on the most critical aspects of legal and institutional approaches to address land degradation from their personal, national, regional and stakeholder perspective; each panel segment is to be followed by interactive discussions in plenary where participants will share and exchange information on latest developments, trends, and to document good practices in the development and enforcement of environmental law in their countries, as well as regionally and globally.
12.30-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>		

Time	Topic/Item	Speakers/Facilitators	Format
14.00-15.00	Panel Session on Air Quality including Climate Change and Ozone Layer Protection: Approaches, Challenges and Solutions in Addressing Indoor and Outdoor Air Pollution and Sandstorms in Africa through Legislative, Policy and Institutional Measures	<p>Ms. Sylvia Bankobeza, Law Division, UN Environment</p> <p><b>Panel Session 2:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Jean Kenfack (Cameroon) – Moderator</li> <li>2. Mr. Tewfik Abdelkader Mahi (Algeria)</li> <li>3. Mr. Khalif Hassan Dalmar (Somalia)</li> <li>4. Mr. Gibrilla Kamara (Sierra Leone)</li> <li>5. Maribe Nsombo Mujinga (DRC)</li> <li>6. Atsin Maxime Djoman (Côte d’Ivoire)</li> </ol>	Panelists will make brief and concise (maximum of 8 minutes each) statements on the most critical aspects of legal and institutional approaches to address indoor and outdoor air pollution and sandstorms from their personal, national, regional and stakeholder perspective; each panel segment is to be followed by interactive discussions in plenary where participants will share and exchange information on latest developments, trends, and to document good practices in the development and enforcement of environmental law in their countries, as well as regionally and globally.
15.00-16.00	Panel Session on Water Quality: Approaches, Challenges and Solutions in Addressing Freshwater and Marine Pollution in Africa through Legislative, Policy and Institutional Measures	<p>Ms. Sylvia Bankobeza, Legal Officer, Law Division, UN Environment</p> <p><b>Panel Session 3:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Willy Ndayikeza (Burundi) – Moderator</li> <li>2. Dr. Miranda Cândido Kiala (Angola)</li> <li>3. Mr. Ratsimisaraka Thelesphone (Madagascar)</li> </ol>	Panelists will make brief and concise presentations on the most critical aspects of legal and institutional approaches to address freshwater and marine pollution from their personal, national, regional and stakeholder perspective; each panel segment is to be followed by interactive discussions in plenary where participants will share and exchange information on latest

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		4. Mr. Mateus Ferreira (Sao Tome & Principe) 5. Ms. Sharon Gerry (Seychelles)	developments, trends, and to document good practices in the development and enforcement of environmental law in their countries, as well as regionally and globally.
16.00-16.30	<b>Coffee break</b>		
16.30-17.30	Panel Session on Biodiversity Loss: Approaches, Challenges and Solutions in Addressing Biodiversity Loss in Africa through Legislative, Policy and Institutional measures	Ms Sylvia Bankobeza, Legal Officer, Law Division, UN Environment  <b>Panel Session 4:</b>  1. Dr. Ayele Hegena Anabo (Ethiopia) – Moderator 2. Mr. Ndumiso M.K. Shongwe (Swaziland) 3. Ms. Annie Syombua (Kenya) 4. Mr. Rene Mboza Orumbongany (Gabon) 5. Mr. Kemba Kya Dambil (Chad) 6. Mr. Boniface Cacheu (Senegal)	Panellists will make brief and concise presentations on the most critical aspects of legal and institutional approaches to address biodiversity loss from their personal, national, regional and stakeholder perspective; each panel segment is to be followed by interactive discussions in plenary where participants will share and exchange information on latest developments, trends, and to document good practices in the development and enforcement of environmental law in their countries, as well as regionally and globally.
<b>DAY TWO</b>			
<b>SESSION THREE: EMERGING ISSUES</b>			
9.00-10.30	Group work on:	Ms Aphrodite Smagadi and Ms. Lara Ognibene, Legal Officers, UN Environment and Mr. Robert Wabunoha, Regional Coordinator for Africa on	The facilitators will give a short introduction on environmental crime and on human rights and the environment. Thereafter the

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	(a) Environmental Crime (including trans-boundary environmental crime) - <b>GROUP 1</b>  (b) Human Rights and the Environment – <b>GROUP 2</b>	Environmental Governance, UN Environment	facilitators will explain the modalities of the group discussions before the plenary breaks into two groups (meeting simultaneously) to consider the assigned topics.  <b>GROUP 1</b> will discuss and identify approaches, challenges and solutions to dealing with environmental crime including trans-boundary environmental crime.  <b>GROUP 2</b> will discuss and identify approaches, challenges and solutions to developing and promoting rights-based approaches to environmental protection.
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>		
11.00-12.30	Continued: Group-work presentation on human rights and the environment and on dealing with environmental crime, including trans-boundary environmental crimes	Ms. Lara Ognibene, Ms Aphrodite Smagadi Legal Officers, Law Division, UN Environment and Mr. Robert Wabunoha, Regional Coordinator - Environmental Law and Governance, UN Environment	Representatives of the two groups will present the outcome of their deliberations in plenary, to be followed by input and further contributions by all participants.
12.30-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>		
<b>SESSION FOUR: MONTEVIDEO PROGRAMME ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIES</b>			

Time	Topic/Item	Speakers/Facilitators	Format
14.00-14.45	Introduction to the final assessment of Montevideo IV and proposals for the future <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Overview of the structure of Day Three</li> <li>2. Overview of the process, methodology and timeline               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. for the assessment and the development of proposals</li> <li>b. for future</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Questions and answers on the assessment process</li> </ol>	Ms. Johannah Bernstein, Consultant	Presentation in plenary followed by group discussion
14.45-15.00	<i>Coffee break</i>		
15.00-16.00	<b>Presentation of preliminary findings from interviews with African focal points</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Overarching impact of Montevideo IV</li> <li>2. Strengths and weaknesses</li> <li>3. Proposed new priorities</li> </ol> New roles for programme	Ms. Johannah Bernstein	Presentation in plenary followed by group discussion
<b>DAY THREE</b>			
<b>SESSION FIVE: MONTEVIDEO PROGRAMME ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIES – CONTINUED</b>			
09.00-10.00	<b>Parallel breakout groups</b> <b>Session A: Programme Strengths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of the overarching strengths</li> <li>• Sharing of evidence on the programme-specific strengths, particularly as it relates to the four main programme areas</li> <li>• Review of how these strengths might be replicated in a future Programme on Environmental Law</li> </ul>	Ms. Johannah Bernstein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Break out groups of ten participants each.</li> <li>• The three groups will have parallel discussions based on a common template created by JB.</li> </ul>

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10.00-11.00	<p><b>Parallel breakout groups</b>  <b>Session B: Programme weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of the overarching weaknesses</li> <li>• Sharing of evidence on the programme-specific weaknesses, particularly as it relates to the four main programme areas</li> <li>• Review of how these weaknesses could be overcome in a future Programme on Environmental Law</li> </ul>	Ms Johannah Bernstein	Break out groups of ten participants each.
11.00-11.30	<b>Coffee break</b>		
11.30-12.30	<p><b>Parallel breakout groups</b>  <b>Session C: New priorities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of priority actions recommended by environmental law experts at previous midterm review meetings</li> <li>• Discussion of regional priorities for a possible new programme</li> </ul>	Ms. Johannah Bernstein	Break out groups of ten participants each.
12:30 -14:00	<b>Lunch</b>		
14.00-15.00	<p><b>Parallel breakout groups</b>  <b>Session D: New roles for the future programme</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of UN Environment's role in Montevideo IV</li> <li>• Consideration of possible new roles for the future programme, including strategic oversight, strengthening governance systems, progress</li> </ul>	Ms. Johannah Bernstein	Break out groups of ten participants each.

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	monitoring, improving compliance, bridging implementation gaps, linkages between global environmental goals (embedded in MEAs – international environmental law) and national environmental goals (reflected also by national legislation)		
15:00-15:30	Breakout groups report back to plenary	Ms. Johannah Bernstein	Breakout group presentations in plenary followed by group discussion
15:30-16:00	<b>Coffee break</b>		
16:00- 16:30	<b>Closing plenary</b> Synthesis of main conclusions of the meetings		
16:30-17:00	Evaluation (feedback) of the meeting and closing of the meeting		