

Agenda Item 4.5: Draft guidance to Member States on submission of resolutions to the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly

In accordance with UNEP/EA.3/Decision 3/2 “Provisional agenda date and venue of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly”, the note “Lessons learned from the third United Nations Environment Assembly and the way forward towards the fourth session” dated 27 February 2019, as well as previous guidance issued to Member States on the submission of draft resolutions, the Bureaux of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives encourages Member States to take into account, and as far as possible apply, the following recommendations, with a view to facilitate effective processing and negotiation on draft resolutions submitted by member States for consideration by the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly, 11-15 March 2019.

1. Timeframe for submitting draft resolutions

Member States are invited to submit draft resolutions as early as possible, and to respect the following deadlines for submission of draft resolutions:

[4 December 2018]: Deadline for Member States to inform the Secretariat of their intention intending to submit resolutions, together with a concept note explaining the rationale and context of the initiative (see point 3 below). The Secretariat will inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives of this intention, and share the concept note to all member States.

[25 January 2019]: Deadline for Member States to submit draft resolutions to the Secretariat¹. The draft resolutions will be immediately submitted to the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in advance of preparation for the fourth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, and to the Division of Conference Services of the United Nations Office at Nairobi for translation and processing. The draft resolutions will be presented at the 145th meeting of the Committee, tentatively scheduled for 19 February 2018.

2. Length of the draft resolution

Member States are invited to strive towards submitting draft resolutions which are short, for example by minimizing the number of preambular paragraphs.

3. Content of the draft resolutions

With a view to inform other delegations and stakeholders, and to facilitate a smooth negotiation process as well as implementation and follow-up, Member States are invited to provide detailed information about the draft resolution before or at the time of its submission. This information could take the form of a dedicated concept note attached to the draft resolution, or an informative introductory section for the draft. Such information should, as far as possible, indicate the following:

- I. the overall rationale for initiative, for example how the draft relates to
 - the theme of the Assembly;
 - emerging issues;
 - value-added in comparison with status quo;

¹ This recommendation is without prejudice to the Rules of Procedure, in particular rule 44.

- II. an overview of policy options to address the issue;
- III. the relationship between the draft resolution and the Programme of Work and budget, to other relevant adopted UNEA resolutions, to other submitted draft resolutions (if any) for the next Assembly, and to existing decisions and initiatives in other UN fora;
- IV. a reflection of possible financial requirements and implications of the draft resolution, should it be adopted;
- V. identification of the main addressees of the initiative (for example Member States, stakeholders; the UN Environment Programme; the UN system);
- VI. key expected actions and socio-economic and environmental impacts in the short and long term.

3. Consideration of draft resolutions

In keeping with its mandate, as set out in Governing Council decision 27/2 of 2013 and Environment Assembly decision 3/2 of 2017, the Committee of Permanent Representatives will consider the draft resolutions in preparation for the fourth session of the Assembly, without prejudice to the rules of procedure, and based on a presentation by the initiator(s) of the draft resolution. Final negotiations on the will take place during the Open-Ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to be held 4-8 March 2019 in Nairobi.

4. Availability of draft resolutions

All draft resolutions will be made available on the Environment Assembly resolutions platform at <http://papersmart.unon.org/resolution>.

5. Supporting documentation for the Assembly and the resolutions

A list of the documents to be issued for the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and the fourth session of the Environment Assembly are outlined in Annex 2.

Annex:

1. UNEP/EA.3/Decision 3/2 "Provisional agenda date and venue of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly
2. Note on the documents for the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and the fourth session of the Environment Assembly.

ANNEX 1

3/2. Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972; 66/288 of 27 July 2012; 67/213 of 21 December 2012; 67/251 of 13 March 2013; 68/215 of 20 December 2013; 69/223 of 19 December 2014; and 71/231 of 21 December 2016,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 47/202 A (paragraph 17) of 22 December 1992; 54/248 of 23 December 1999; 56/242 of 24 December 2001; 57/283 B (paragraphs 9–11 of section II) of 15 April 2003; 61/236 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 22 December 2006; 62/225 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 22 December 2007; 63/248 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 24 December 2008; 64/230 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 22 December 2009; 65/245 (paragraph 10 of section II A) of 24 December 2010; 67/237 (paragraph 13 of section II A) of 28 January 2013; and 71/262 (paragraph 27 of section II and paragraph 102 of section V) of 23 December 2016,

Taking into account Governing Council decisions 27/1 and 27/2 of 22 February 2013, as well as United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/2 of 27 June 2014 and 2/22 of 27 May 2016,

Recognizing the commendable efforts of the bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives in preparing for Environment Assembly sessions through regular meetings under a model of joint cooperation,

Noting with appreciation the contributions made by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and by the bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, including at the third meeting of the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, to the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Environment Assembly,

1. *Decides* to hold the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its headquarters in Nairobi from 11 to 15 March 2019;

2. *Requests* the Committee of Permanent Representatives to deliberate, in consultation with the bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and decide, by no later than at its 142nd meeting, on the format and date of the next meeting of the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives;

3. *Decides* to hold the sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly, following the fourth session of the Environment Assembly, during the last week of February, unless otherwise decided by the Environment Assembly, at its headquarters in Nairobi, consistent with rule 4 of the rules of procedure;

4. *Approves* the provisional agenda for the fourth session as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
5. International environmental policy and governance issues.
6. Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues.
7. Stakeholder engagement.
8. High-level segment.
9. Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the Environment Assembly.

10. Adoption of resolutions, decisions and outcome document of the session.
11. Election of officers.
12. Other matters.
13. Adoption of the report.
14. Closure of the session.

5. *Requests* the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in consultation with the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, to contribute to the preparation of elaborated elements of the provisional agenda set out in paragraph 4 above;

6. *Requests* the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to define a theme for the Environment Assembly no later than 31 March 2018;

7. *Encourages* member States to submit to the Committee of Permanent Representatives draft proposals for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly preferably five weeks in advance of the fourth meeting of the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, without prejudice to the rules of procedure, in particular rule 44.

ANNEX 2: Mandated Official Working Documents for the Fourth Session of United Nations Environment Assembly: 11-15 March 2019

Required documents for the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the 2019 UN Environment Assembly
(As of 2 July 2018)

Official working documents (UNEP/EA.4/x) are prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with previous Assembly's resolutions for consideration under each agenda item. The Secretariat prepares documents of the United Nations Environment Assembly pursuant to Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure. The Secretariat also prepares and presents draft resolutions as submitted by Member States in accordance with Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure.	
Symbol (provisional)	Title
Pre-Session	
UNEP/EA.4/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/EA.4/1 Add. 1	Annotated provisional agenda UNEP/GC Decision 27/2 (OP 3, 7, 10 & 11); UNEP/GC Decision 19/32 (OP 10); UNEP/GC Decision 21/20 (OP 6); UNEP/EA.3/Decision 3/2)
UNEP/EA.4/2	Report of the Executive Director on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions UNEP/EA.2/Res. 20: (OP 14 & OP 17).
UNEP/EA.4/3	Draft Implementation Plan of the Executive Director on Pollution as Mandated by the third Session of UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) Ministerial Declaration: UNEP/EA.3/HLS.1. (OP: 14)
UNEP/EA.4/4	Report of the Executive Director on the proposed biennial programme of work and budget for 2020-21 UNEP/EA.2/Res. 20: (OP 21) Also relevant are OP 14 and OP 17).
UNEP/EA.4/5	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on pollution mitigation and control in areas affected by armed conflict or terrorism UNEP/EA.3/Res.1: (OP 12)
UNEP/EA.4/6	Report of the Executive Director to the Committee of Permanent Representatives with a view to provide feedback to the United Nations Environment Assembly on the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development UNEP/EA.3/Res.3: (OP 6)
UNEP/EA.4/7	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on environment and health UNEP/EA.3/Res.4: (OP 41)
UNEP/EA.4/8	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on investing in innovative environmental solutions for accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals UNEP/EA.3/Res.5: (OP 9)
UNEP/EA.4/9	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on managing soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development UNEP/EA.3/Res.6: (OP 9)
UNEP/EA.4/10	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of all resolutions on marine plastic debris/litter and microplastics. UNEP/EA.1/Res.6 (OP 11 & OP 14); UNEP/EA.2/Res.11; UNEP/EA.3/Res.7: (OP 11);
UNEP/EA.4/11	Report on the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on Marine Litter and Micro-Plastics UNEP/EA.1/Res.6 (OP 11 & OP 14); UNEP/EA.2/Res.11; UNEP/EA.3/Res.7: (OP 11);
UNEP/EA.4/12	Report of the meeting(s) of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group Meeting on Marine Plastic Litter and Micro-plastics UNEP/EA.3/Res.7: (OP 10 (f));

UNEP/EA.4/13	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally. UNEP/EA.3/Res.8: (OP 8)
UNEP/EA.4/14	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on Eliminating Exposure to Lead Paint and Promoting Environmentally Sound Management of Waste Lead-Acid Batteries. UNEP/EA.3/Res.9: (OP 9)
UNEP/EA.4/15	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems. UNEP/EA.3/Res.10: (OP 17)
UNEP/EA.4/16	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of resolution on the implementation of paragraph 88 (a)–(h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) “The Future We Want” UNEP/EA.3/Res.11: (OP 3)
UNEP/EA.4/17	Report of the Executive Director on the Theme of the High-Level Segment of UNEA 4. UNEP/EA.3/2 (Decision 3/2)
UNEP/EA.4/18	GEO-6 Summary for Policy Makers UNEP/EA.1/Res. 4 on Science-policy interface OP 8: UNEP/EA.1/INF/14
UNEP/EA.4/19	Final assessment of the fourth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme IV). UNEP/EA.2/Res.19: (OP 2c)
UNEP/EA.4/20	Report of the Executive Director on implementation of the resolutions adopted at the second session of UNEA and the formal consideration of the reports. UNEA/EA.2/22
UNEP/EA.4/21	GCO-II Summary for Policy Makers UNEP/EA.2/Res.7: (OP 9) (OP 23a);
UNEP/EA.4/22	The International Resource Panel Report

Information Documents for the Fourth Session of United Nations Environment Assembly: 11-15 March 2019

Required documents for the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the 2019 UN Environment Assembly
(As of 2 July 2018)

Information documents (UNEP/EA.4/INF.x) are prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with previous Assembly’s resolutions for information only under each agenda item. The Secretariat prepares documents of the United Nation Environment Assembly pursuant to Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure. The Secretariat also prepares and presents draft resolutions as submitted by Member States in accordance with Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure.	
Symbol (provisional)	Title
	Notification by the Executive Director
	Concept Note on the theme of the Assembly “Innovative Solutions for Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Consumption and Production”
	Background Document on the theme of the Assembly “Innovative Solutions for Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Consumption and Production”
UNEP/EA.4/INF.1	Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 141st – 144th meetings of the CPR • Fifth Annual Sub-Committee
UNEP/EA.4/INF.2	The Future of the Public Private Partnership for the Environment
UNEP/EA.4/INF.3	Towards Growing Green Technology Markets for the Future: Lessons learnt from China
UNEP/EA.4/INF.4	Innovative Green Solutions in the Agriculture Sector
UNEP/EA.4/INF.5	Innovative Green Solutions in the Copper Sector