

### **Agenda Item 4.2: Themes for the Leadership Dialogues at the High-Level Segment**

A key feature of the 2017 UN Environment Assembly was the launch of a series of high-level, interactive “Leadership Dialogues” designed to provide participating Ministers with an opportunity to facilitate an exchange of information, best practices, challenges and ambitions among Ministers and other leaders from civil society, the business community, and international organizations. In engaging with each other, they will be able to address the full spectrum of issues related to the multifaceted theme of the Assembly, and to inject political momentum and direction towards addressing key policy and action gaps and identifying principles and transformative, concrete actions at the global, regional, national and local levels. The discussions will provide an opportunity for sharing “real-life” narratives, best practices and the latest innovations for overcoming the challenges and scaling up solutions. The Dialogues will be guided by the report of the Executive Director and build on the discussions on the proposed resolutions and the draft Ministerial Outcome Document. Following the successful organization of these Dialogues during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Assembly, the Secretariat proposes to continue this practice at the Assembly in 2019.

Each Dialogue will last about **90 minutes** and will be organized as a high-level, interactive and moderated session. These sessions will be open to representatives of Member States, representatives of States not members of the Assembly, Specialized Agencies, United Nations bodies, other intergovernmental organizations and observers of international non-governmental organizations through the Major Groups and Stakeholders. The Dialogues will be conducted from the floor by professional moderators with prior experience in the field and will be broadcast. The Secretariat will identify a limited number of guests from the private sector, academia and civil society who may be called upon from the audience by a professional moderator to comment during the Dialogue. Due to the limited time available, there will be no panel and no predetermined list of speakers for the Dialogues; Ministers and high-level participants can signal their wish to intervene. The Moderator will discourage reading out prepared statements, to ensure the flow of an interactive dialogue with as many participants as possible. **Dialogue one** will be held from 4.30 to 6 p.m. during the first day of the High-Level Segment on 18 March 2018. **Dialogue two and three** will be organized from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (1.5 h each) during the second day of the High-Level Segment on 19 March 2018.

The **outcomes** of the Dialogues will be summarized by the Secretariat and presented during the closing plenary of the Assembly on 15 March 2019, in the form of key messages and initiatives.