



Orientation for the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to UNEP

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UN 
environment



1. History of the UN environment in Nairobi

Established in 1972 at the UN Conference on the Human Environment to promote international environmental cooperation, provide policy guidance and to keep the world environmental situation under review.

Mission:

“To provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations”.



Presentation of Stockholm Conference Poster to Secretary-General U Thant (1971)



Delegates discussing a document at the Conference (1972)



2. Milestones in Global Environmental Governance-1

- ✚ **1972** GA Resolution 2997 (XXVII) established UNEP, stating its objectives, functions and responsibilities
- ✚ **1980 World Conservation Strategy** - first articulation of sustainable development (Strategy prepared by IUCN with UNEP support)
- ✚ **1983** World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission) established by the UN General Assembly
- ✚ **1987** World Commission on Environment Development report - **Our Common Future** – popularized sustainable development and provided for 1992 Earth Summit



2. Milestones in Global Environmental Governance²

- + UN Conference on Environment & Development (Earth Summit) adopts Rio Declaration & Agenda 21
- + - Convention on Biological Diversity
- + - UN Convention to Combat Desertification
- + - UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- + 1997 Nairobi Declaration – OP2 first articulation of UN Environment as the global environmental authority
- + 2000 Millennium Declaration - 8 Millennium Development Goals
- + - Ensuring environmental sustainability” (Goal 7)



2. Milestones in Global Environmental Governance-3

- ✚ August 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development
- ✚ Re-affirmed UN Environment's important, crucial role in sustainable development; linked poverty alleviation and environmental protection
- ✚ June 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)
- ✚ General Assembly Resolution 66/288 – Rio outcome document and para 88 on strengthening and upgrading UNEP
- ✚ General Assembly resolution 67/213 reaffirming para 88



RIO+20
United Nations Conference
on Sustainable Development



2. Milestones in Global Environmental Governance-4

- ✦ **Feb 2013 First Universal Session of UN Environment Governing Council /Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF) GC/27/1**
 - Operationalizing para 88 of the Rio+20 outcome document and recommending to General Assembly the renaming Governing Council to UN Environment Assembly
 - 15 decisions adopted, including on new UN Environment governance structure
 - Open ended Committee of permanent Representative
 - Established - a subsidiary inter-sessional entity of the Environment Assembly
- ✦ **March 2013 General Assembly resolution 67/251 - the designation of the Governing Council of UNEP to the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP**
 - UN Environment Assembly is the only Assembly of all General Assembly subsidiary bodies
- ✦ **June 2014 First session of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-1)**
 - 17 resolutions and 1 decision adopted , Ministerial outcome
 - Articulated that post-2015 development agenda should fully integrate the economic, social, and environmental dimensions in a: coherent, holistic, comprehensive and balanced manner



3. UN Environment Structure and Organigramme-2

Nairobi Headquarters

- ❑ Executive Office
 - Office of the Executive Director
 - Office of the Deputy Executive Director
 - Chief of Staffs
 - Chief Scientist
 - Governance Affairs Office, Secretariat of Governing Bodies
 - Evaluation Office
 - New York Office
- ❑ Communications Division
- ❑ Economy Division
- ❑ Ecosystems Division
- ❑ Law Division
- ❑ Science Division
- ❑ Corporate Services Division
- ❑ Policy and Programme Division

4. UN Environment Headquarter and regional presence-

1



- ❑ **UN Environment is headquartered at the UN compound in Gigiri since 1976**
- ❑ **UN-Habitat headquarters as well as many other UN system agencies and regional offices located in Gigiri**
- ❑ **Over 1,156 staff members based in all UN regions (serving Un Environment programme and Multilateral Environmental Agreement)**
- ❑ **UN Gigiri complex in a 140-acre campus (total of 4,480 UN staff members work in Nairobi)**
- ❑ **UN Office at Nairobi (UNON) provides common services to these offices**

4. UN Environment Headquarter and regional presence-2

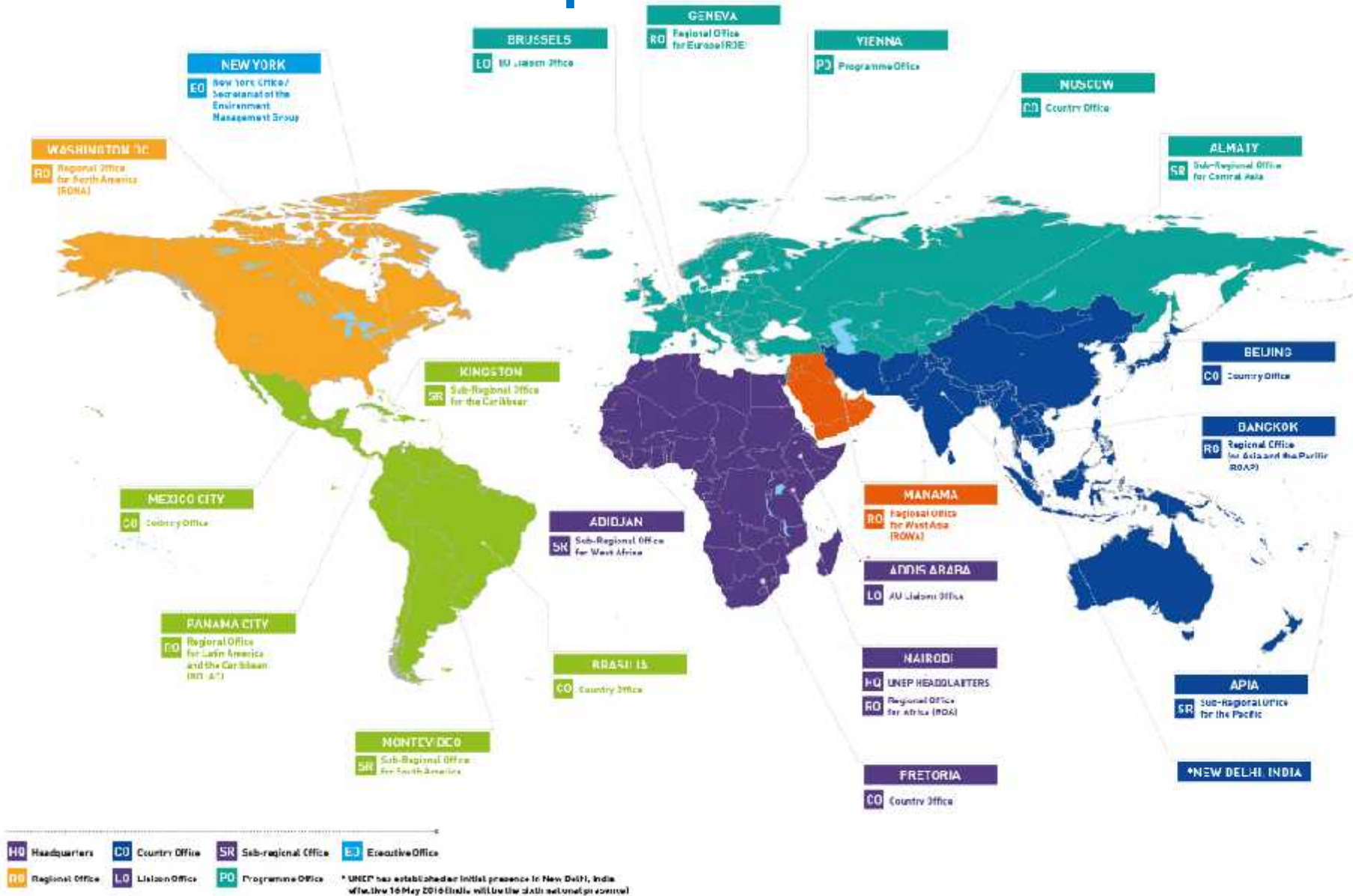
- **2011** UN Environment & UN-HABITAT opened New Office Facility (NOF)
- 6000 square metres of solar panels, energy saving lighting, natural ventilation system and other green features
- Cost of investment repaid through lower energy bills in 10 years



Temporary UNEP HQ in Nairobi(1978)



4. UN Environment Headquarter and regional presence-3



4. UN Environment Headquarter and regional presence-4

Region	Regional/ Subregional Offices	Liaison/Country Offices
Africa	Nairobi Abidjan	Addis Ababa Pretoria
Asia and the Pacific	Bangkok Apia	Beijing
Europe	Geneva Almaty	Brussels Vienna Moscow
Latin America and the Caribbean	Panama City Montevideo Kingston	Brazilia Mexico City
North America	Washington, DC	New York (engagement with UN and with Permanents Missions based in NY)
West Asia	Manama	

5. UN Environment Strategic presence

- ✓ Strategic regional presence not equated to physical location but includes strategic partnerships including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation
- ✓ 2015 policy Strengthened UNEP Strategic Regional Presence: *Contributing to The Future We want*
- ✓ Regional Offices increasingly key to the Environment Assembly preparation and follow-up, including through support to Regional Forums
- ✓ Increased role Regional Offices in regional programme planning, coordination and delivery in an integrated manner
- ✓ Enhanced UNEP engagement in Delivering as One UN and UNDAFs at country level and support to Ministerial Forums at sub-regional and regional levels



6. Global multilateral Environmental Agreements administered by the UN Environment-1

✓ Geneva-based

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora (1973)
- Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes & their Disposal (1989)
- Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (1998)
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001)



UN 
environment



6. Global multilateral Environmental Agreements administered by the UN Environment-2

- ✓ **Bonn-Based**
 - Convention on Migratory Species
 - Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

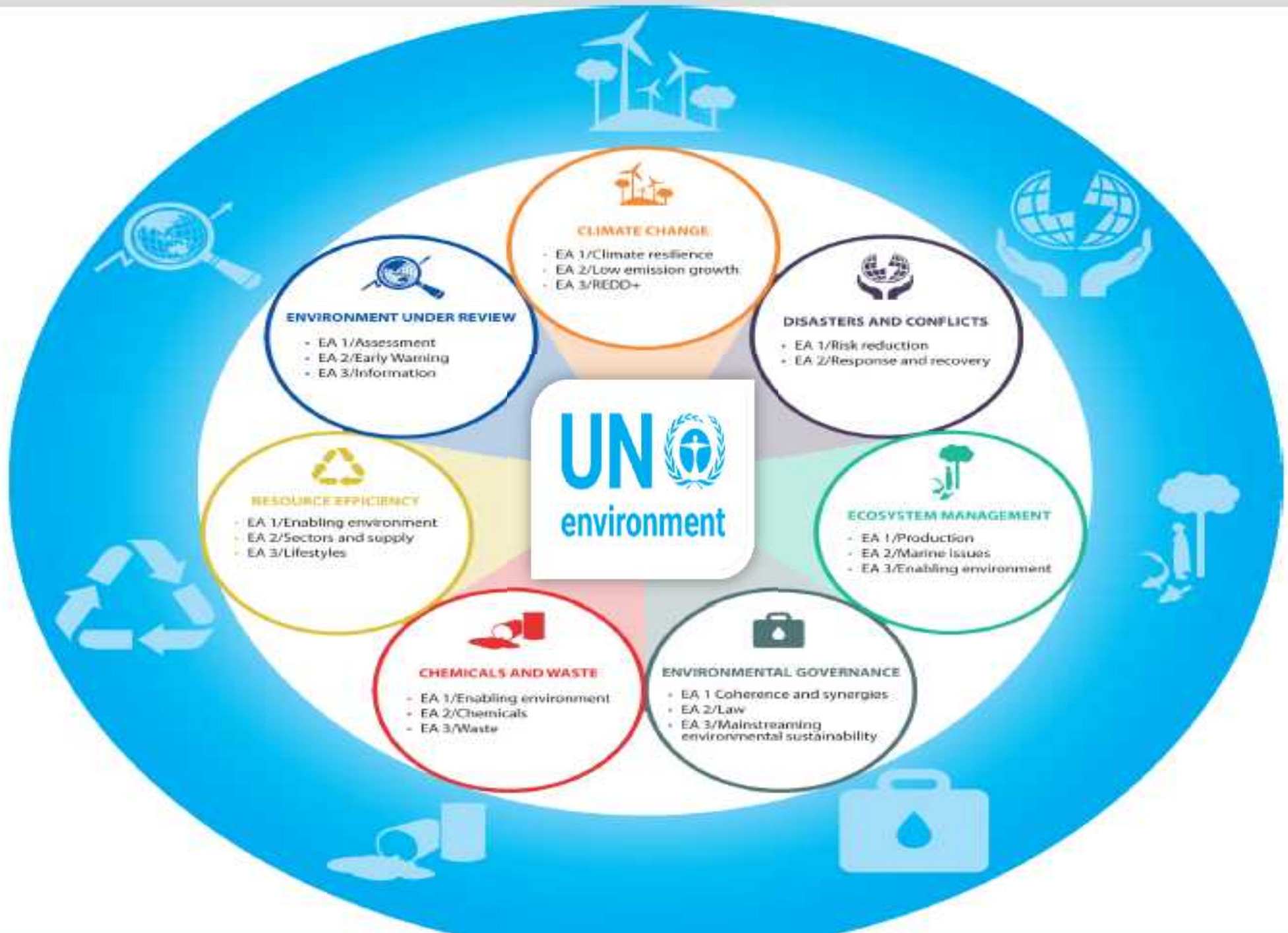
- ✓ **Montreal-Based**
 - Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol

- ✓ **Vienna-Based**
 - Carpathian Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

- ✓ **Nairobi-Based**
 - Secretariat of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer



7. Programme of Work and subprogramme



Thank you...

