



# The fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

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# Overview

Of the UN Environment Assembly

# Functions of the UN Environment Assembly



## Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 5 (Feb 2013)

- (a) Sets the global environmental **agenda**;
- (b) Provides overarching **policy guidance** and defines policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges;
- (c) Undertakes **policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences**;
- (d) Provides strategic guidance to the **UN Environment Programme**;
- (e) Organizes a **multi-stakeholder dialogue**;
- (f) Fosters **partnerships** for achieving environmental goals and resource mobilization

# The highest decision-making body on environment



## Membership

Assembly consists of 193 UN member States

Bureau consists of 10 members

Accredited Major Groups and other Stakeholders to the UN Environment Programme

## Meeting

UNEA meets biennially in even years.

Preceded by a meeting of the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives which serves as a preparatory conference for UNEA.

5 days, including a two-day high-level segment at the end of session

## Outcome

Resolutions, decisions and other outcome documents as decided by member States.

# UN Environment Assembly Bureau Members

## H.E Mr. Siim Valmar Kiisler

President and Minister of the Environment of **Estonia**

## H.E. Mr. Kimmo Tiilikainen

Vice President and Minister of the Environment, Energy and Housing of **Finland**

## H.E. Mr. Fernando Estellita Lins de Salvo Coimbra

Vice President and Ambassador of the Federative Republic of **Brazil**

## H.E. Mr. Molwyn Joseph

Vice President and Minister of Health and the Environment of **Antigua and Barbuda**

## H.E. Dr. Naser Moghaddasi

Vice President and Deputy Head of Department of Environment and Chief of International Affairs and Convention Center of the Islamic Republic of **Iran**

## H.E. Mr. Vladislav Smrž

Vice President and Deputy Minister of the Ministry of the Environment of the **Czech Republic**

## H.E. Mr. Jacques Denis Tsanga

Vice President and Minister of Waters, Forest, in charge of Environment and Sustainable Development Goals of The Republic of **Gabon**

## H.E. Ms. Nomvula Mokonyane

Vice President and Minister of Environment Affairs of the Republic of **South Africa**

## Mr. Felix Wertli

Vice President and Head of Section, Global Affairs, Federal Office of the Environment of **Switzerland**

## Vacant

Rapporteur

# “Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production”

11 – 15 March 2019

- Under the overall theme the 2019 UN Environment Assembly will address the following three focus areas:
  - (a) environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss;
  - (b) life-cycle approaches to resource efficiency, energy, chemicals and waste management; and
  - (c) innovative sustainable business development at a time of rapid technological change.
- To know more, we invite you to read the [background report of the Executive Director](#) which addresses these three focus areas from the lens of innovation.

# Elements of UNEA

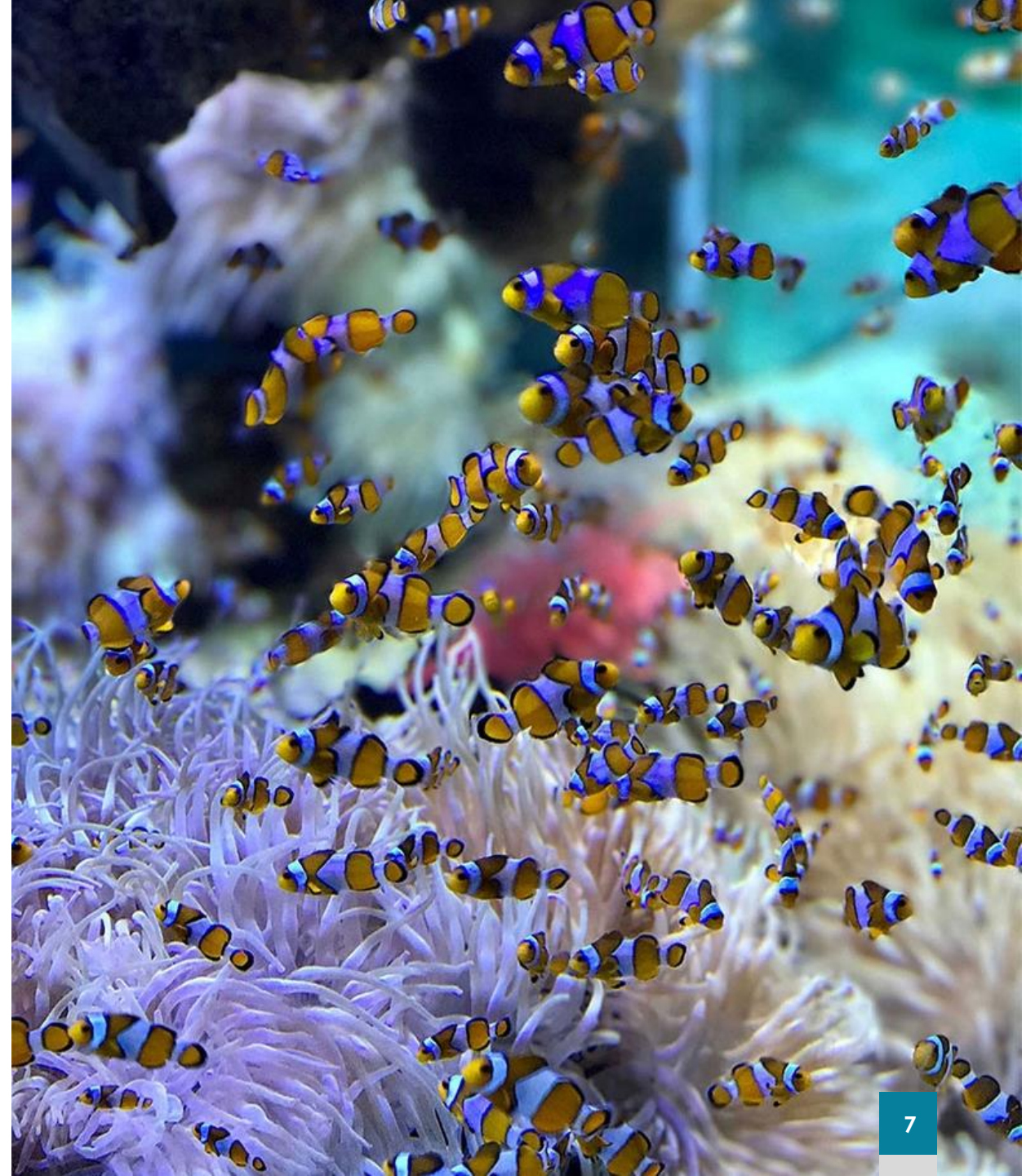
(a) **Plenary:** Reporting from the OECPR and possible actions on resolutions; Summary of commitments from Governments/Private Sectors/Stakeholders & dialogues. Only accredited organizations can attend.

(b) **Committee of the Whole:** Negotiate pending resolutions including through drafting groups. Accredited Major Groups and Stakeholders will be allocated seats to observe the proceedings.

(c) **National Statements:** The national statements under the theme of the Assembly, will take place on from Tuesday 12 to Friday 15 March 2019. Statements are open to representatives of member States, Specialized Agencies, United Nations bodies, other intergovernmental organizations and accredited Major Groups and Stakeholders. Only accredited organizations can attend.

(d) **Side Events:** Fourteen official side events held throughout the week from 13:00 -15:00 and 18:00 – 19:45. Open for all to attend

(e) **Media events:** Various press events throughout the week. Open for all to attend





(f) **High Level Segment:** Held from Thursday 14 – Friday 15 March. Only accredited organizations can attend. Includes national statements and the following:

(g) **Leadership Dialogues:** 3 sessions that address key issues relating to the theme of the Assembly and to the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, to create a political momentum and direction towards addressing key policy and action gaps at the global, regional, national and local levels. Held from Thursday 14 – Friday 15 March.

(h) **Multi-stakeholder dialogue:** Held on Thursday 14 March. Provide ministers and leaders from civil society, business community, and international organizations with the opportunity to engage in an interactive exchange of views on priorities, best practices, challenges and actions relating to the overall theme of the Assembly



**STRUCTURE OF THE 2019 ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY: 28 January 2019**

	<b>Monday 11 March 2019</b>		<b>Tuesday 12 March 2019</b>		<b>Wednesday 13 March 2019</b>		<b>Thursday 14 March 2019</b>		<b>Friday 15 March 2019</b>	
<b>08:00 – 10:00</b>	Regional Groups & Bureau Meetings		Regional Groups & Bureau Meetings		Regional Groups & Bureau Meetings	Women Ministers & Leaders of Environment	Regional Groups & Bureau Meetings		Regional Groups & Bureau Meetings	
<b>10:00 – 13:00</b>	<b>Opening Plenary</b> - Functional opening [President and Executive Director] -Statements from Regional and Political Groups -Report by the Chair of the Committee of PR's -Report from OECP and possible actions on resolutions <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>		<b>Committee of the Whole</b> <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>		<b>Committee of the Whole</b> <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>	<b>Global Environment Outlook</b>  <b>CR 1: ACEFRS</b>	<b>One Planet Summit</b>		<b>National Statements</b> (List of speakers)* <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>	<b>Leadership Dialogues:</b> Life-cycle approaches to resource efficiency, energy, chemicals and waste management (Moderated)** <b>CR 1: ACEFRS</b>
							<b>High Level Segment Official Opening Plenary</b>			
							Introduction of the theme “Innovative Solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption & production” <b>CR 2: ACEFRS (Starts at 11:00)</b>			
							<b>National Statements</b> (List of speakers)* <b>CR 2: ACEFRS (Starts at 13:00)</b>			<b>Leadership Dialogues</b> Innovative sustainable business development at a time of rapid technological change (Moderated)** <b>CR 1: ACEFRS</b>
<b>13:00 -15:00</b>	Side Event	Side Event	Side Event	Side Event	Side Event	Side Event	Side Event (14:00 – 16:00)	Side Event (14:00 – 16:00)	Side Event	Side Event
<b>15:00 – 18:00</b>	<b>Committee of the Whole</b> <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>		<b>Committee of the Whole</b> <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>		<b>National Statements</b> (List of speakers)* <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>	<b>Global Resources Outlook 2019</b>  <b>CR 1: ACEFRS</b>	<b>National Statements</b> (List of speakers)* <b>CR 2: ACEFRS (16:00-19:00)</b>	<b>Leadership Dialogues:</b> Environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss (Moderated)** <b>CR 1: ACEFRS (16:00-17:30)</b>	<b>Wrap-up Plenary Session (Moderated)</b> - Summary of commitments from Governments/Private Sectors/Stakeholders - Summary of Leadership Dialogues, Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue & Science Policy Interface -Action on Ministerial Outcome  <b>Closing Plenary Session</b> - Adoption of Resolutions - Elections of Officers - Date & Provisional Agenda of 2021 Assembly - Adoption of the Report <b>CR 2: ACEFRS</b>	
						<b>Global Chemicals Outlook, Global Waste Management Outlook &amp; Discussion on interlinkages and integrated policy options</b> <b>CR 1: ACEFRS</b>		<b>Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (Moderated)</b> <b>CR 1: ACEFRS (17:30-19:00)</b>		
<b>18:00 - 19:45</b>	Side Event		Side Event		Side Event		Side Event			
<b>19:00 -22:00</b>			<i>Host Country Ministerial Reception</i>				<b>Young Champions of the Earth</b>			

# Outcomes of the Assembly

## **Ministerial Declaration:**

Political declaration of the Assembly based on the theme of the Assembly, located at:

<http://web.unep.org/environmentassembly/inputs-ministerial-declaration>

## **Resolutions & Decisions (In-session documents):**

Member States submit draft resolutions to be considered by the Assembly. Current proposed resolutions can be found on the UN Environment Assembly Papersmart Portal

<https://papersmart.unon.org/resolution/unea4>

## **Documentation:**

Official documents for the Assembly can be located at the UN Environment Assembly website:

<http://web.unep.org/environmentassembly/documents/official-documents>

# Useful links

[Documentation of the UN Environment Assembly](#)

[Organization of work of the UN Environment Assembly](#)

[Practical Information Note for participants](#)

[Communications toolkit](#)

[Interactive programme and description of events](#)

[Side events for the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly](#)

**Thank you!**

