

*Draft recommendations (zero draft, 20 May 2019) EU coordination 21/05/2019*

The ad hoc open-ended working group established by General Assembly Resolution 72/277 of 10 May 2018 entitled “Towards a Global Pact for the Environment” recommends to the General Assembly the following:

1. Guiding objectives [**and parameters for the final outcome of the Global Pact for the Environment process**]:

- a) reinforce the protection of the environment for present and future generations [**including by raising environmental issues to higher levels in international and domestic agendas**]
- b) uphold State’s respective obligations and commitments under international environmental law
- c) contribute to the strengthening implementation of international environmental law and environment-related instruments
- d) support the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the outcome of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio+20), including its paragraphs 88 and 89
- e) not undermine existing relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional and sectoral bodies
- f) [**contribute to enabling swift actions on global level in areas not sufficiently addressed by the international community**]

2. Substantive recommendations

- a) reaffirms the role of United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) as the leading global environmental authority
- b) catalyzes efforts at all levels to further the implementation of international environmental law and environment-related instruments, including through [**enhancing political awareness and**] ~~strengthening and accelerating~~ [**promoting**] the ~~provision and~~ mobilization of the necessary means of implementation [**from all types and sources, including public, private and other**], consistent with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda
- c) promotes further discussion on principles of international environmental law with a view to considering options for the strengthening the implementation of international environmental law and appropriate environment-related instruments, without duplicating the ongoing work of the International Law Commission on general principles of law
- d) invites the scientific community to enhance work on interconnected and crosscutting issues by sharing information among the leading scientific bodies that support the work of multilateral environmental agreements and environmental processes, and enhancing cooperation among them
- e) invites the governing bodies of the Multilateral Environment Agreements, while preserving their independence and respective mandates, to actively pursue policy coherence across environmental instruments at all relevant levels and to consider identifying and addressing implementation challenges, with a view to strengthening implementation at the national and international level,
- f) calls upon the governing bodies and secretariats of Multilateral Environment Agreements to increase cooperation and coordination among themselves within the scope of their respective mandates, as well as between them and governing bodies and

secretariats of other environment-related instruments, **[and UNEA, building on work already done]**

- g) encourages **[the governing bodies of]** Multilateral Environment Agreements and scientific bodies to increase efforts to streamline the reporting and/or monitoring processes, as well as invites increased sharing of information between them, and for joint reporting, as and when appropriate
- h) encourages Member States that have not done so to consider ratifying Multilateral Environment Agreements and effectively implement them
- i) encourages Member States to strengthen regulatory frameworks at the national level, **[expertise in national administrations]**, as well as the capacity of the judiciary to apply international environmental law
- j) encourages Member States **[and relevant organizations]** to mainstream environment into sectoral policies and programs, **[at all levels]**, including into national development and sustainable development plans **[and through relevant UN coordination mechanisms]**, to enhance the implementation of international environmental law and related instruments
- k) promotes active and meaningful engagement of all stakeholders at all levels in the different *fora* related to the implementation of international environmental law and environment-related instruments ~~to~~ **[and give special attention to the protection of human rights defenders addressing environmental matters]**  
***k bis* [Encourage Member States and relevant stakeholders, including from the private and financial sector, to facilitate investments and finance flows that support and do not run counter to environmental objectives, as well as funding for environmentally sound initiatives]**
- l) explores further ways for Member States to support and make full use of the Fifth Program for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Program V) adopted by the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in order to foster the environmental rule of law and advance the implementation of environmental law at all levels
- m) encourages the United Nations Environment Program, as Chair of the Environment Management Group (EMG) and in collaboration with the members of the Group, **[to strengthen system-wide inter-agency coordination on environment through the implementation of the System-Wide Framework of Strategies and to call for active involvement and support of all EMG members, in particular through the UN Chief Executive Board]**, ~~to develop UN system-wide strategies on how they could best support Member States in the integration and implementation of international environmental law, as appropriate~~  
**[m bis calls for swift actions to address urgent environmental issues and encourage the consideration of global environmental issues that are not sufficiently addressed.]**

[3. *In order to support the abovementioned substantive recommendations, the working group is also to recommend to the General Assembly that it:*

- *considers the adoption of an international instrument at a high level United Nations conference, with a view to strengthening the implementation of international environmental law*
- *establishes a preparatory committee, prior to holding the said conference, to make substantive recommendations to the General Assembly during the first*

*half of 2020 on elements of an international instrument, including on its nature, scope and parameters*

- *determines a specific timeline by which the negotiations would take place and reach a conclusion*
- *establishes that the negotiations are to be open to all States Members of the United Nations, members of specialized agencies and parties to the Multilateral Environment Agreements, with others invited as observers in accordance with past practice of the United Nations]*