

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday 2 July 2020
9:00 – 12:00 (GMT+3)
Online Meeting

Background Document for Agenda Item 2: Preparations for UNEA5

Revised note on the preparations for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly - “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”

This note seeks to assist Member States in their preparations for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5), to be held in Nairobi, 22-26 February 2021, under the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”. It has been revised based on inputs received from Member States during the [150th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives](#) held on 30 April 2020, as well as inputs received from the joint Bureaux of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives held virtually on 9-10 June 2020, where it was considered.

Joint Bureaux members have discussed and reviewed the noted under the agenda item 2 “UNEA-5 in the era of COVID-19”, and 3b) “UNEA-5 communication strategy”.

Members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives may wish to provide guidance to the Secretariat in view of further refining the overall approach and proposed way forward, to ensure successful preparations for UNEA-5.

“Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”

Revised note by the Secretariat on the preparations for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

I. Introduction

1. This concept note has been developed by the UNEP Secretariat to assist Member States in their preparations for the [Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly](#) (UNEA-5), to be held in Nairobi, 22-26 February 2021, under the theme "Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals". It builds on inputs received from Member States during the 150th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives held on the 30 April 2020, as well as inputs received from the joint Bureaux of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives held virtually on 9-10 June 2020.

2. Main outcomes of the joint Bureaux meeting as it relates to the theme of UNEA

The Bureaux of the Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives, together with the Chairpersons of the Regional and Political Groups:

- Reconfirmed that UNEA-5 provides an opportunity to revitalize the multilateral environmental cooperation and strengthen UNEP in the era of COVID-19, and that the theme adopted for UNEA-5 - “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” - remains relevant.
- Took note of the four action areas for UNEA-5 proposed by the Secretariat as a relevant guidance to Member States, while underlining that these are indicative and non-negotiated and should not limit or redefine the UNEA-5 theme.
- Welcomed the draft outline of a ministerial declaration for UNEA-5 presented by the President of UNEA-5 as a good basis to move forward, and recommended to keep it short, concise and ambitious and respond to the UNEA-5 theme, while also taking into account that the Assembly will take place in advance of several other important environmental meetings in 2021.
- Considered that an effective and strategic communication remains an important component of an a successful UNEA-5 and expressed appreciation to the Secretariat for the draft Communication Strategy.
- Agreed that implementation of existing UNEA resolution remains at the heart of a successful Assembly and welcomed the development of an online tool by the Secretariat to track implementation of existing resolutions and allow for voluntary member States reporting.
- Took note of a proposed list of mandates which may result in negotiated resolutions at UNEA-5, recommended a limited number of additional draft resolutions with a view to rationalise the work of UNEA.
- Supported the concept of launching the 50 year commemoration of the creation of UNEP at UNEA-5, and called for additional information on the format and outcome of the commemoration.
- Noted with interest the offer from Sweden, supported by Kenya, to host a UN high level meeting in Stockholm in 2022 to commemorate the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment, noting that this process is separate but interlinked with the commemoration of the creation of UNEP. The members of the Bureaux of the Assembly and the Committee expressed also willingness to remain engaged in the process.

II. The UNEA-5 theme in the context of the response and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

3. UNEA-5 is an opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and draw increased attention to environmental action needed to fully achieve the SDGs. It is also a platform to highlight why the environmental dimension of sustainable development plays a critical role both in better understanding and addressing the COVID-19 crisis and

in identifying approaches to ensure that rebuilding a post-pandemic world contributes to overall sustainable development.

4. Humanity's fundamental dependency on and responsibility for nature has been recognized in Principles 1, 2 and 3 of the 1972 Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment of the United Nations Conference and in Principle 1 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, "The future we want", states in paragraph 4, "We recognize that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development." The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs further emphasize such interdependence.

5. In this regard, despite the COVID-19 crisis, the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and the collective commitments embodied in relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements still constitute our best, and only, global road map for the future. However, the prospects for achieving this roadmap are dwindling, because our natural life support system is being unraveled. As mentioned in the Secretary General's report on the Socio-Economic Impacts of COVID-19: "Had we been further advanced in meeting the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, we could better face this challenge - with stronger health systems, fewer people living in extreme poverty, less gender inequality, a healthier natural environment, and more resilient societies. We must seize the opportunity of this crisis to strengthen our commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda and the 17 SDGs. By making progress on our global roadmap for a more inclusive and sustainable future, we can better respond to future crises".

6. Lessons learned from the management of the COVID-19 crisis provide an opportunity and require us to both revisit our interaction with biodiversity and ecosystems, and ‘build back better’ to a more environmentally responsible world. The crisis has brought about an unprecedented pause to many human activities, including some that have caused significant damage on the natural world and on human health; it has forced us to rethink how societies work; it has also touched our values, including on the need to cooperate more closely together across nation borders. As highlighted in the SG’s report, “The irony that the current crisis is resulting in lower emissions and cleaner air is not lost on anyone – not least because deforestation, pollution, biodiversity loss are all contributory factors to the spread of the virus. Governments should not respond to the COVID-19 crisis by making policy and investment decisions that exacerbate existing crises such as air pollution and the climate emergency.”¹

7. Governments, including local governments, the private sector and civil society must therefore collaborate towards urgent, transformative and sustained actions that effectively reshape humanity’s interaction with nature. Reforms and investments over the next decade must embrace sustainable consumption and production patterns to simultaneously re-build our economies and address the systemic threats to biodiversity, ecosystem services and human health.

Box 1: Definition of nature in the context of IPBES

*In the context of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), nature (also referred as “living nature”), refers to the nonhuman world, including coproduced features, with particular emphasis on living organisms, their diversity, their interactions among themselves and with their abiotic environment. Within the framing of the natural sciences, nature includes e.g., all dimensions of biodiversity, species, genotypes, populations, ecosystems, communities, biomes, Earth life support’s systems, and their associated ecological, evolutionary and biogeochemical processes. Within the framework of economics, it includes categories such as biotic natural resources, natural capital and natural assets. Within a wider context of social sciences and humanities and interdisciplinary environmental sciences, it is referred to with categories such as natural heritage, living environment, or the nonhuman. Within the framing of other knowledge systems, it includes categories such as Mother Earth (shared by many indigenous peoples and local communities around the world; see ‘Mother Earth’), Pachamama (South American Andes), se^ˋnluo^ˋ-wa^ˋnxia^ˋng and tien-ti (East Asia), Country (Australia), fonua/vanua/whenua/ples (South Pacific Islands), Iwigara (Northern Mexico), Ixofijmogen (Southern Argentina and Chile), among many others. The degree to which humans are considered part of nature varies strongly across these categories. Many aspects of biocultural diversity are part of nature, while some others pertain more to nature’s contributions to people and anthropogenic assets.*²

III. UNEP’s Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2025 as a main outcome to support member States in “shifting needle” on the environmental dimension of sustainable development

8. UNEA-5 will approve a new UNEP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) for the period 2022-2025. The MTS represents a critical opportunity for UNEP to create a new global vision for the organization, based on the latest science and supported by a coherent, transformational focus that can ‘shift the needle’ towards sustainable development by addressing key environmental challenges such as climate change, nature loss, and pollution, in the context of sustainable consumption and production, while at the same time contributing to global recovery in a post-COVID-19 world.

¹ Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, 2020 <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/SG-Report-Socio-Economic-Impact-of-COVID19.pdf>.

² The use of the word ‘Nature’ herein reflects the use in Decision IPBES-2/4: Conceptual framework for the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. IPBES (2019): Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. E. S. Brondizio, J. Settele, S. Díaz, and H. T. Ngo (editors). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. <https://ipbes.net/global-assessment>.

9. The next MTS can impact the direction for the next years of the global environmental agenda while providing an opportunity to meaningfully bridge the operationalization and implementation of resolutions adopted at previous UNEA meetings and consider new and emerging global environmental trends, and mainstreaming gender considerations across its sub-programmes.

10. A broad consultative process that guides the development of a new MTS allows UNEP to align the systemic changes supported by the best scientific evidence with the views of the Member States, other UN Agencies, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), Major Groups and Stakeholders and other key non-government players. This will help design a Strategy that fully enables UNEP to implement the mandate set out in paragraph 88 of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development and advance a narrative where the environment and the natural resource base of economic and social development, underpins prosperity, equity and stability.

11. The new MTS will enable UNEP to refine and expand its aspirations within its broader mandate – also against the backdrop of the organization’s fiftieth anniversary in 2022 – while identifying where to maximize impact and what levers, tools and capabilities will be required to succeed.

12. The next Medium-Term Strategy must also further support UNEP’s environmental leadership in the context of the UN Reform. From a UN system perspective, the MTS needs to further strengthen UNEP’s role as a scientific knowledge provider, convener, incubator and coordinator of the global environmental agenda across the UN system, and therein its environmental leadership in UN Reform.

IV. Action areas where UNEA-5 can contribute to strengthen actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

13. The forthcoming Environment Assembly provides a unique opportunity for the multilateral community to share successful actions, best practices, and nature-based solutions that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, in a balanced and integrated manner and in the context of the COVID-19 recovery.³

14. There is a strong rationale to ensure that UNEA-5, particularly through its high-level segment, addresses a limited number of transformative and strategic action areas, focusing on the implementation of the SDGs and feeding into COVID-19 economic recovery plans.

15. The four action areas below have been proposed in view of their central relevance to the environmental dimension of the SDGs. These areas are also closely linked to the five systemic transformations called for by the 6th edition of the Global Environment Outlook (GEO 6) which specifically mentions the need to address, through sustainable consumption and production patterns, human wellbeing and prosperity; ecosystem and human health; decarbonization and sustainable food systems.⁴

- Action area 1: Nature for Poverty Eradication, Jobs and Economic Prosperity
- Action area 2: Nature for Human and Ecosystem Health
- Action area 3: Nature for Climate
- Action area 4: Nature for Sustainable Food Systems

Annex 1 illustrates the connection between the four proposed action areas, the natural resource base of social and economic development with the “lifeway transformations” advocated by GEO 6.

³ Nature-based solutions are defined in IPBES Glossary as “actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits”. The GEO-6 negotiated Summary for Policy Makers agreed on January 2019, refers to various instances in which nature-based solutions, among other actions and innovative initiatives, contribute to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Global Environment Outlook – GEO-6: Summary for Policymakers.

⁴ Global Environment Outlook – GEO-6, particularly chapter 22.

16. The remainder of this section highlights the linkages between the four proposed action areas and the SDGs. It also highlights how the actions areas will strengthen cooperation with other UN agencies and processes.

17. **Proposed action area 1: Nature for Poverty Eradication, Jobs and Economic Prosperity.** This action area addresses mainly the following SDGs: 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17. It emphasizes the imperative that post-pandemic recovery efforts are undertaken in harmony with nature. Specific inter-agency efforts and partnerships and other means of implementation that could be highlighted include: the Partnership for Action on Green Economy, the 10 Year Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production, and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. Some elements to be considered within this area are listed in Box 1.

Box 1: Nature for Jobs, Poverty Eradication and Economic Prosperity (Examples of potential actions)

Building back better from the pandemic by investing directly in Nature. The restoration of ecosystems can make a significant contribution to economic recovery and to the achievement of all SDGs. For example, the restoration of degraded watersheds can greatly increase supplies of fresh water globally, and the restoration of forests and seagrass meadows can capture carbon to mitigate climate change. Similarly, restoration of the world's savannas and grasslands can capture substantial quantities of carbon in soils while at the same time greatly increasing the carrying capacity for livestock and/or game. The economic stimulus of goods and services that emerge from restored ecosystem and the additional jobs has the potential to revitalise many impoverished rural areas.

Greening stimulus packages and investments and supporting governments to rebuild the next generation of social, ecological and productive infrastructure – Promoting needs-based, integrated approaches across the infrastructure life cycle. This includes supporting sustainable infrastructure, investing in sustainable urban development, and supporting sustainable finance recovery packages through fiscal reform, green bonds, and other public-private lending initiatives.

18. **Proposed action area 2: Nature for Human and Ecosystems Health.** The Assembly will provide an opportunity for Member States to identify actions for human and ecosystems health. Discussions under this topic would build on the adoption and implementation of the action plan "Towards a Pollution Free Planet" adopted at UNEA-4, and would directly address SDG's 1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 15, 14, 16, 17. Relevant inter-agency efforts and partnerships include the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, the UN Environment Management Group, and work undertaken through the Basel-Rotterdam-Stockholm Convention and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements. This could include aspects listed in Box 2.

Box 2: Nature for Human and Ecosystems Health (Examples of potential actions)

Investing in nature can limit the impact and emergence of zoonotic diseases. It is clear that enhanced, proactive and sound conservation practices, and sustainable use of ecosystems and their biodiversity can contribute to prevention of accelerated pathogen pathways amplified due to habitat encroachment and destruction; illegal wildlife trade; landscape fragmentation; deforestation, and similar anthropogenic activities. Additional investment in science, to better understand the emergence of zoonotic diseases, including establishing scientific baselines and modelling and testing of potential controls, is also important.

Identifying a global collective response to address the threat of marine litter including microplastics. This response should build on the outcomes of the ad hoc expert working group on marine plastic litter

and microplastics established by UNEA to take stock of existing actions and resources and evaluate and identify effective response options at all levels.

Improving the state of freshwater and ocean environments. Investing in Nature for Health also includes ensuring freshwater and ocean environments remain healthy and productive by implementing effective, integrated ecosystem-based management solutions to reduce cumulative negative impacts from human activities on biodiversity and habitats, including intensifying resource use and coastal infrastructure development, along with accelerating climate change.

Identifying a new global chemicals management framework. Pollution from chemicals and waste are a strong driver of ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss, which have direct impacts on public health and through this, to jobs and inclusive prosperity. A more sustainable chemicals and waste management will require a new and ambitious approach for safeguarding environmental support systems, through the adoption of a global, holistic chemicals and management framework.

Deepen the implementation of the plan “Towards a pollution-free planet” adopted at UNEA-4, including by strengthened activities and partnerships related to abating air pollution.

19. **Proposed action area 3: Nature for Climate.** With full respect to the ongoing processes under the UN Convention on Climate Change, the Assembly which will take place in November 2021 can provide an opportunity for Member States to announce voluntary actions that recognize the contributions that ecosystems can provide to mitigate and adapt to climate change in both terrestrial and marine environments. Discussions on this topic would support the implementation of SDGs 7, 9, 11, 13, 17. Specific inter-agency efforts and partnerships and other means of implementation that could be highlighted include: UNREDD Programme, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the Global Peatlands Initiative, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 and the Global Commission on Adaptation’s Action Track on Nature Based Solutions. This could consider elements listed in Box 2.

Box 3: Nature for Climate (Examples of potential actions)

Launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030: UNEA-5 could host the official launch of the UN Decade, which is led by UNEP and FAO with numerous core partner including UNESCO, the Rio Conventions, the World Economic Forum, IUCN, and many others. The Multi-Partner Trust Fund for the UN Decade could also acknowledge contributions at UNEA-5.

Highlighting the linkages between the implementation of National Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement and nature. UNEA-5 could promote the implementation of holistic policies and measures which can help countries reduce their emissions toward the achievement of their National Determined Contributions while at the same time advancing nature protection and conservation.

Promoting adaptation and resilience. UNEA-5 can provide opportunities to promote investments in Nature that preserve, rehabilitate and expand sensitive ecosystems. It will provide an occasion to launch an ambitious, UNEP-led initiative under the Global Commission on Adaptation’s Action Track on Nature Based Solutions. It can also provide a frameworks for promoting climate smart agriculture thus contributing to the achievement of multiple objectives of food security, economic development, climate mitigation and adaptation, and poverty reduction.

Working with investors and Ministries of Finance to shift investments and subsidies towards nature based and climate-neutral strategies. UNEA-5 can provide an opportunity to strengthen global platforms in this area, such as the Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance and the Green Fiscal Policy Network.

Launch a Climate Funders Alliance of private companies: There is increasing interest in the private sector to invest in ecosystem conservation and restoration at significant scale – mainly for climate

change mitigation, and for supply chain security. UNEA-5 could host the launch of a new coalition and announcements of private companies willing to invest in nature.

Promoting innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production. UNEA-5 can continue to promote circular economy and other sustainable economic approaches, as well as further the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns and the One Planet Network.

20. **Proposed action area 4: Nature for Sustainable Food Systems.** The Assembly can be an opportunity for Member States to announce and/or commit to actions that enhance stewardship of habitat and natural resources while improving the provision of food and nutrition for a growing population. Work under this area would support SDGs 1, 2, 12, 14, 15, 17. Specific inter-agency efforts and partnerships and other means of implementation include the 10 Year Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production, specifically its programme on sustainable food systems; the ongoing joint cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization and the preparation of the 2021 UN high-level summit on food systems. Elements which could be considered are listed in Box 4.

Box 4 Nature for Sustainable Food Systems (examples of potential actions):

Taking action to transform agriculture and food systems, as a significant driver of biodiversity loss – this includes improving productivity through ecosystem-friendly practices, taking full account of food systems, food and nutrition security and livelihoods. At the same time, these actions work towards conserving and enhancing the use of biodiversity in agricultural and other managed ecosystems; divesting from policies and practices that erode ecosystem services and emit pollutants; rehabilitating degraded lands and seas to halt incentives to convert more habitat; and working along the full supply chain of global commodities to eliminate environmentally harmful practices.

Redirecting private capital towards sustainable production of food and commodities. Fish are a global food commodity. It is imperative to eliminate harmful subsidies and identify positive incentives that help fish stocks conservation and recovery. Additionally, intensifying natural resource use, coastal development and pollution is compromising marine and coastal ecosystems services such as nursery and reproductive areas. Likewise, redirecting private investments of the agri-food industry towards sustainable agriculture and landscape management and restoration is a growing trend which can be further accelerated by the results and knowledge exchanges of UNEA-5.

Ending illegal wildlife trade. Unsustainable and illegal trade in plants and animals undermines legitimate use of these resources and robs countries of their natural resources. Strengthened national policies and enforcement efforts require expanded transboundary cooperation to halt international flows of illicit wildlife and wildlife products, including those products that have the potential to transmit zoonotic diseases. Activities to change social behaviors and curb the demand for illegal wild products is essential.

V. Enhancing the authority, impact and relevance of the Assembly through a limited set of ambitious resolutions and decisions

21. In considering new proposals, Member States should consider that UNEA-5 has already an important agenda established by resolutions and decisions adopted by its previous sessions, many of which call for either the adoption of follow-up resolutions and decisions or the consideration of reports from the Executive Director. Table in Annex 2 illustrates some of the key mandates which may result in negotiated resolution/decisions from UNEA-5.

22. A limited number of possibly four/five additional strategic and comprehensive resolutions can help enhance the impact and relevance of UNEA. Considering the ongoing challenges to organize extensive negotiating sessions and the growing rationale for a manageable number of resolutions at UNEA, it is proposed that Member States consider putting forward a limited set of strategic comprehensive resolutions. The resolutions should consider decisions previously adopted by the Assembly and the next Medium-Term Strategy and focus on gaps and value addition in relation to existing commitments and those previously adopted. The four proposed action areas could provide elements for developing such resolutions while considering the need to draw from agreed language and concepts.

23. At the request of member States, the Secretariat can present a compilation of suggested action points for such strategic and comprehensive resolutions under each of the four proposed action areas, for consideration at the meeting of the annual subcommittee.

VI. Advancing an innovative communication approach to help the messages of the Assembly reach citizens and key stakeholders

24. UNEA-5 will also be a unique and timely opportunity to communicate that nature must be at the centerstage of the economic recovery debate. It will also provide an opportunity to communicate other strategic 'nature-focused' objectives, commitments and action plans that underpin the implementation of the UN Decade of Action to deliver the Global Goals, such as the 10 Year Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, the post-2020 Framework on Biodiversity, the and the strategic approach and the sound management chemicals and waste beyond 2020, the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement on climate change, and the UN Food Systems Summit in 2021.

25. To this end in the lead-up to UNEA-5, UNEP will invite stakeholders to create synergies between the Time #ForNature campaign associated with the 2020 World Environment Day to a campaign calling for Act #ForNature to achieve the SDGs. This approach intends to align with existing efforts and support the UNEA theme while reflecting humanity's fundamental dependency on and responsibility for nature. The campaign will include a series of multimedia content, including stories, on the topic, as well as a social media engagement plan. The communication content would broadly build upon the proposed four action areas for the assembly, while highlighting the connection of the theme of the Assembly with the need to respond to the COVID-19 crisis in the context of the biodiversity, pollution and climate crises.

26. UNEP intends to propose a narrative which supports greater understanding and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystem services; reevaluates our interaction with nature and seeks to halt and reverse the decline of nature through reforms designed to address systemic threats. The narrative will demonstrate that the better we work with nature, the better we manage human health, and the stronger and more sustainable we will build back our economies from this COVID-19 crisis.

VII. Way forward

27. UNEA-5 – as the primary global platform for the world’s Environment Ministers, together with other ministries and key stakeholders, including local communities and business leaders - can play an instrumental role in identifying and agreeing on transformative actions and policies for nature. It can mobilize leadership and generate new broad political commitments, underpinned by measurable and timebound targets captured in a ministerial declaration, in resolutions and in partnerships designed to reverse the negative trends on biodiversity loss.

28. It is recommended that the Committee of Permanent Representatives consider the following:

- Support the relevance of the Environment Assembly and its theme for UNEA-5 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Provide guidance on how the proposed four action-areas can help strengthen actions for nature from all sectors of society to support the implementation of SDGs;
- Seek broad agreement on how to reach a limited set of resolutions;
- Provide guidance to the Secretariat on how the Sustainable Innovation Expo and the Science-Policy and Business Forum within UNEA can mobilize the private sector toward targeted investments in support of ecosystem-based approaches, including nature-based solutions that are cost-effective and involve multiple benefits;
- Provide guidance on how the Assembly can serve as a platform where the international community discusses the interactions of environmental issues enhance cooperation among UNEP and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements;
- Provide guidance on the proposed communication strategy, including by considering the overarching narrative on understanding and appreciating the true value of nature.

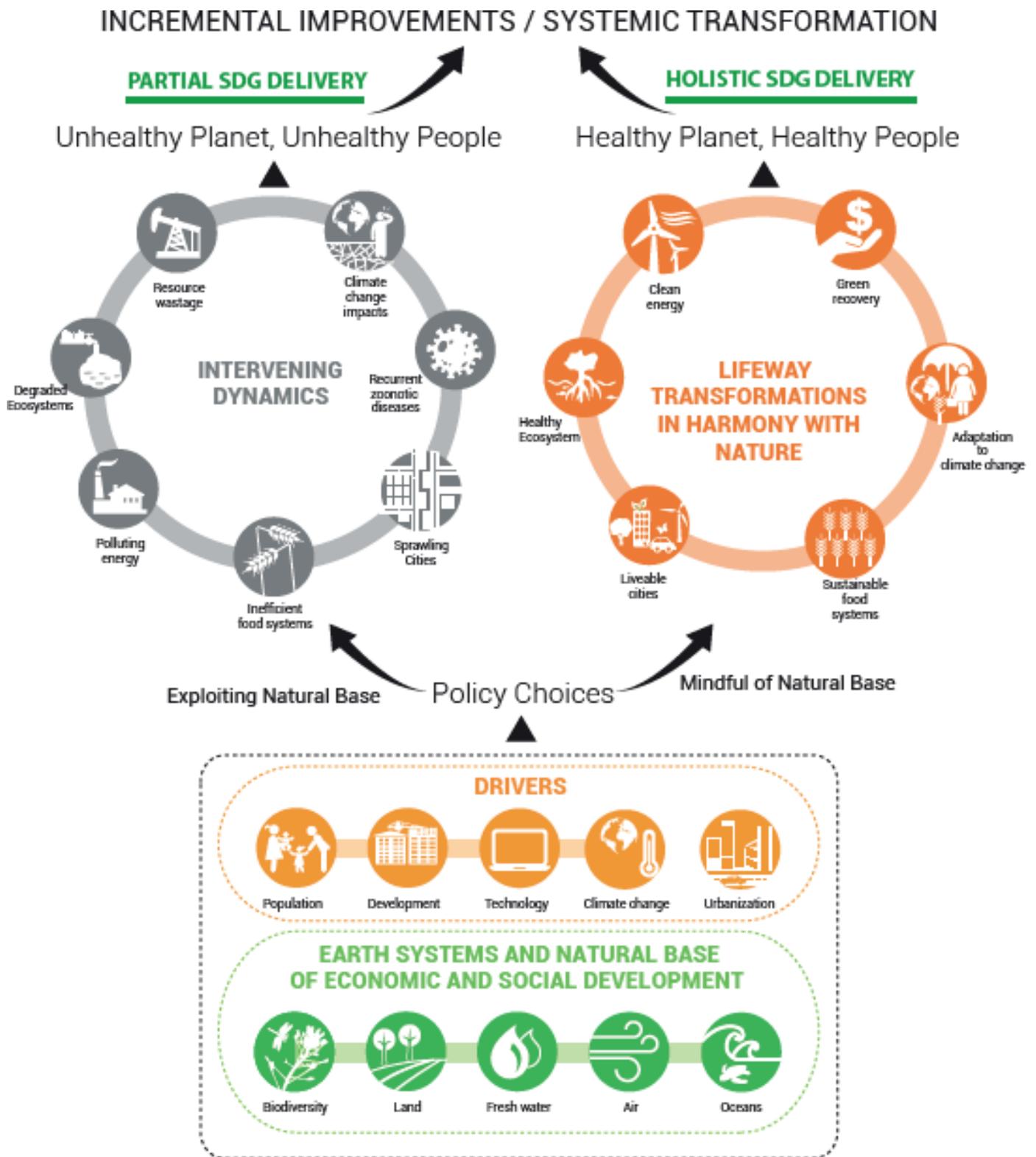
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Annexes

Annex 1: Connection between the four proposed action areas with the “lifeway transformations advocated by GEO 6.

Annex 2: Key mandates which may result in negotiated resolution/decisions from UNEA-5.

Annex 1: Connection between the four proposed action areas with the “lifeway transformations advocated by GEO 6



ADAPTED FROM 6th GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL OUTLOOK, 2019

Annex 2: Key mandates which may result in negotiated resolutions/decisions from UNEA-5

This document contains an indicative list of mandates regarding items which could be considered by UNEA-5 stemming from previous decisions of the Environment Assembly, the General Assembly or upon recommendation by the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

1. Draft decision on provisional agenda, date and venue of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as mandated by UNEA Rules of procedure.
2. Draft decision on a programme of work and budget for 2022–2023 and medium term strategy for 2022-2025, on the basis of a proposal from the Executive Director, as mandated by [UNEA decision 4/1, paragraph 32](#).
3. Draft decision on management of trust funds and earmarked contributions.
4. Draft decision on the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, on the basis of a proposal from the Executive Director, as mandated by [UNEA decision 4/2, paragraph 8](#), and [UNEA resolution 4/23 para 7](#).
5. Draft decision on the logo/visual identity of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) submitted upon recommendation of the CPR.
6. Draft decision on the future of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, on the basis of a recommendation from a meeting of the GPA Intergovernmental Review Meeting which is planned to take place in conjunction with the 7th meeting of the annual subcommittee in October 2020.
7. Draft decision on an action plan for the implementation of subparagraphs (a)–(h) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, on the basis of a proposal from the Executive Director, as mandated by [UNEA decision 4/2, paragraph 14](#)
8. Draft resolution on the implementation of [UN General Assembly resolutions 73/333](#), entitled “Follow-up to the report of the ad hoc open-ended working group established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277”, to be submitted by co-facilitators.
9. Draft resolution on the consensual process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, as mandated by [UNEA decision 4/2, paragraphs 9-13](#), to be submitted by co-facilitators.
10. Draft resolution on the outcome of the ad hoc expert group on marine litter and microplastics, on the basis of a report from the Executive Director, as mandated by [UNEA Resolution 3/6, paragraph 9](#), to be submitted by the ad-hoc expert group.
11. Draft resolution on the future of the Global Environment Review process, on the basis of an options document and a report from the Executive Director, as mandated by [UNEA resolution 4/23, paragraphs 6 and 9](#), to be submitted by the expert group established by resolution 4/23.
12. Draft resolution on Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste as a follow-up to resolution [UNEP/EA.4/Res.8](#)