

Governance Affairs Office
21 December 2020

Notification by the Executive Director (revised)

**The fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment Programme**

Nairobi (online), 22-23 February 2021

Nairobi (in person), February 2022

1. In accordance with [decision 4/2](#) and with the decisions taken at the meeting of the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5) held on [8 October 2020](#) and at the joint meeting of the Bureaux of UNEA-5 and of the Committee of Permanent Representatives held on [1 December 2020](#), and taking into account the exceptional circumstances associated with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the fifth session of the Environment Assembly is expected to convene online in Nairobi, Kenya, on 22 and 23 February 2021, to be adjourned thereafter, and to be resumed as an in-person meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, in February 2022 at a date to be decided at the online session.
2. The overarching theme for UNEA is “*Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*”, which will be addressed during the high-level segment of UNEA-5 at the resumed session of the Assembly. It will be supported by a report of the Executive Director that will be made available at least 6 weeks in advance of the in-person resumed session.
3. Advance versions of the provisional and annotated agenda for UNEA-5 (UNEP/EA.5/1 and UNEP/EA.5/1/Add.1) will be made available on the [UNEA-5 website](#).
4. The online session of UNEA-5 will open at 11 a.m. on Monday, 22 February 2021, and conclude at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 23 February 2021. The session is expected to consider administrative and budgetary matters, including consideration and approval of a Medium-Term Strategy for the period 2022-2025 and a Programme of Work and Budget for the period 2022-2023. It will also include an online leadership dialogue for Ministers of Environment and other high level representatives on the contribution of the environmental dimension of sustainable development to building a resilient and inclusive post-pandemic world, which will be organized on 22 February 2021 (p.m.) and 23 February 2021 (a.m.). A proposed structure of the online session as well as a concept note in support of the online leadership dialogue will be made available on the [UNEA-5 website](#).
5. The in-person resumed session of UNEA-5 in February 2022 is expected to conclude the consideration of the remaining substantive items on the agenda, and hold a high-level segment at a date to be decided at the online session. It is also expected to include sessions for national statements and leadership dialogues and a multi-stakeholder dialogue that will focus on the overarching theme of UNEA-5.
6. The fifth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR-5), which will commence on Monday, 15 February 2021 and is expected to be adjourned on Tuesday, 16 February 2021, will serve as the main preparatory meeting for the Assembly.
7. The online session of UNEA-5 is expected to be preceded by several informal online events. Additional high level and side events are foreseen to be organized in advance of and during the resumed in-person session of UNEA-5.
8. In accordance with rule 16 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, each member of the Environment Assembly shall be represented

by an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required. In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Executive Director before the first meeting which the representatives are to attend. Accordingly, Member States are invited to send an advance scanned copy of their credentials, signed by either the Head of State or Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs as well as other formal communications containing the names of representatives to UNEA-5 (such as letters and notes verbales from the Permanent Missions) to the attention of Mr. Stadler Trengove, Principal Legal Advisor (unep-sgb@un.org). While the original hard copy of the credentials and other communications should normally be submitted to the Secretariat of Governing Bodies, owing to the restricted access to the United Nations Office in Nairobi, original hard copies cannot be received until further notice. An announcement will be made when original hard copies can be received.

9. The United Nations Environment Assembly is open to the participation of representatives of specialized agencies, United Nations entities and other intergovernmental organizations and regional economic integration organizations. Representatives of these entities are requested to communicate their intention to participate as observers in the meeting to the Secretariat (unep-sgb@un.org) so that the Secretariat can make necessary arrangements.
10. All delegates and participants, including representatives of United Nations entities, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations, must register online in advance of the meeting, and upload a PDF copy of their letter of accreditation. The letter of accreditation shall be on official letterhead and must include the name(s) of the delegate(s) or representative(s). Online registration for the online meeting of UNEA-5 and the online session of OECPR-5 in February 2021 will be available on the following weblink as from 21 December 2020: <https://indico.un.org/e/UNEA-5>.
11. In the spirit of Sustainable Development Goal number 5 – to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls – all delegations, representing Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, are encouraged to ensure an equal balance of representation of women to UNEA-5.
12. Above mentioned documents as well as all other relevant documentation for UNEA-5 will be made available through the dedicated website of the Assembly: <https://environmentassembly.unenvironment.org/unea5>
13. Member States and stakeholders should address all communication concerning UNEA-5 to:

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