Reference: UNE-2021-02440

The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) presents her compliments to the Heads of State, Heads of Government and Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States to the United Nations and, in accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Environment Assembly, has the honour to notify them that the special session of the Environment Assembly to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP@50) will be held for two days on 3 and 4 March 2022.

The theme agreed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives is "Strengthening UNEP for the implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

The provisional agenda, drawn up in accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure and approved by the Committee of Permanent Representatives is attached.

The special session has been designated as the high-level meeting for the adoption of the political declaration pursuant to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 73/333 of 2019. This political declaration aims at enhancing international environmental governance; strengthening collaboration between multilateral environmental agreements and the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA); strengthening of UNEP headquarters in Nairobi as the global hub for environmental multilateralism; supporting UNEP's key role in promoting and strengthening the science-policy interface; and supporting the Fifth Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V).

The Executive Director has the honour to invite Member States to consider participation in the special session on UNEP@50 at the highest possible level.

The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme avails herself of this opportunity to renew to the Heads of State, Heads of Government and Foreign Ministers of Member States to the United Nations the assurances of her highest consideration.

Nairobi, 16 December 2021

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