

**Guidance note on participation in the leadership and multi-stakeholder dialogues
at
the resumed fifth session of the Environment Assembly
and
the special session to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of UNEP**

1. Introduction

This note provides guidance on how to express interest for participation at one or more of the six high-level leadership and multi-stakeholder dialogues to be held during the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2) and the special session to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of UNEP (UNEP@50), which will be organized as follows:

The resumed fifth session of UNEA-5

- 1 March 2022, 3.00 pm – 4.30 pm: UNEA-5.2 high level leadership dialogue with Heads of Multilateral Environmental Agreements under the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”.
- 1 March 2022, 4.30 pm – 6.00 pm: UNEA-5 multi-stakeholder dialogue under the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” with a special emphasis on “Building back greener - international environmental protection and achieving the SDGs in the context of COVID-19”
- 2 March 2022, 11.30 am – 1.00 pm: UNEA-5 high level leadership dialogue under the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”

The special session on UNEP@50

- 4 March 2022, 10.00 am – 11.30 and 11.30 am – 1.00 pm: UNEP@50 high level leadership dialogues under the overall theme “Strengthening UNEP for the implementation of the environmental dimension of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, with the sub-themes “Looking back: 50 years of UNEP” and “Looking forward: Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for people and planet.”
- 4 March 2022, 3.00 pm – 4.30 pm: UNEP@50 multi-stakeholder dialogue under the theme “Strengthening UNEP for the implementation of the environmental dimension of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

All time indications are for the time zone **GMT+3**. Secretariat concept notes for all the above dialogues, an overview of the structure of UNEA 5.2 and UNEP@50, as well as other relevant background information, are available [here](#).

2. Format, structure and duration of interventions

The time frame for leadership dialogues is 90 minutes, starting with 20-30 introductory remarks by invited speakers, followed by interactive discussions with participants from the floor led by a moderator. Interventions from participants are limited to 2 – 3 minutes.

The time frame for the multi-stakeholder dialogues is also 90 minutes, divided in two sections. In section one, there will be statements from panelists representing the nine Major Groups and other stakeholders, followed by statements from high level governmental respondents that have indicated their interest contribute in advance. In section two, the moderator will open the floor for questions and contributions from participants present in the room, limited to 2-3 minutes.

Participation in all dialogues is open to high level representatives from Member States, Observer States and Members of Specialized Agencies, international organizations and stakeholders accredited to UNEP.

It is expected that the participants to a dialogue will remain in the room for the full duration of each dialogue. While most of the dialogue is expected to take place in person, arrangements will also be made to allow for online interventions as far as possible and based on specific expressions of interest (see below). Reading out pre-prepared statements is discouraged. The dialogues will be simultaneously interpreted into all six official UN languages.

The dialogues will take place in Conference room 1 at the UN complex in Gigiri, Nairobi, and participants and audience will have to respect the minimum requirements relating to COVID-19 as outlined in paragraphs 11-14 in the [Secretariat notification](#).

3. Additional background information

For the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, delegations are invited to consider and seek inspiration from the *Executive Director's report to the 5th session of the UN Environment Assembly: Nature at the heart of sustainable development* (UNEP/EA.5/2). The report focuses on 4 main topics including i) Nature for human and ecosystems health; ii) Nature for jobs, poverty eradication and economic prosperity; iii) Nature for climate; iv) Nature for sustainable food systems. Each topic has guiding questions which are meant to prepare your interventions, and is made available in all 6 official UN languages on the [webpage for UNEA 5 official documents](#).

For the special session on UNEP@50, delegations are invited to consider the overall theme of the special session: “Strengthening UNEP for the implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, as well as to consider and seek inspiration from the report of the Executive Director entitled *Reflecting on the Past and Imagining the Future: A Contribution to the Dialogue on the Science-Policy Interface* (UNEP/EA.SS.1/2). The report is expected to inform the discussions at the special session, including the preparation for national statements, the high-level leadership dialogues and the multi-stakeholder dialogue. It is available in English [here](#), and in all 6 UN official languages [here](#).

For both multi-stakeholder dialogues, the secretariat will distribute additional background reports/thought starters prior to the events prepared by the stakeholders.

4. Calls for expressions of interest

High level representatives interested in participating in any of the above dialogues, should submit an expression of interest to the secretariat through their Member States/Organization, outlining the following information:

| a) Member State/Organization: | |
|--|--|
| b) Speaker (name and title): | |
| c) Format (in person/online participation): | |
| d) Preferred dialogue: | |
| Ranking | Dialogue |
| | UNEA-5.2 leadership dialogue with Heads of Multilateral Environmental Agreements under the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”. 1 March 2022, 3.00 pm – 4.30 pm |
| | UNEA5.2 multi-stakeholder dialogue under the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” with a special emphasis on “Building back greener - international environmental protection and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of COVID-19”. 1 March 2022, 4.30 pm – 6.00 pm. |
| | UNEA5.2 leadership Dialogue under the theme “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”. 2 March 2022, 11.30 am – 1.00 pm. |
| | UNEP@50 leadership dialogue on “Looking back: 50 years of UNEP”. 4 March 2022, 10.00 am – 11.30 am and 11.30 am – 1.00 pm. |
| | UNEP@50 leadership dialogue on “Looking forward: Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for people and planet”. 4 March 2022, 11.30 am – 1.00 pm. |
| | UNEP@50 multi-stakeholder Dialogue under the theme “Strengthening UNEP for the implementation of the environmental dimension of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. 4 March 2022, 3.00 pm – 4.30 pm. |

The expression of interest should be submitted to tamiza.khalid@un.org and francisca.agina@un.org by **Thursday, 10 February 2022, at the latest**

When organizing the dialogues, and since the time for each dialogue is limited, the Secretariat will give due consideration to the expressions of interest, taking into account the level of participants, gender, geographical representation, and the principle of “first-come, first-served” in terms of inscription. On this basis, the secretariat will inform the relevant Member States/Organizations on the result of their expressions of interest.

5. Secretariat focal points

For any questions relating to the expression of interest please contact: tamiza.khalid@un.org and francisca.agina@un.org.