

**Ministerial declaration for the sixth session of
the United Nations Environment Assembly**

**“Effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions to
tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution”**

1. We, the world’s ministers for the environment, have gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, together with representatives of international organizations, major groups and other stakeholders at the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, with the urgent aim of taking effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral action to tackle the unprecedented triple global crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.
2. We recall the Rio+20 Principles, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and previous UNEA Resolutions, and welcome the recommendations of the Secretary-General in his report *Our Common Agenda*, and the Stockholm+50 International Meeting.
3. We acknowledge with great urgency the systemic threat to security and human development posed by the triple crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and emphasize the importance of integrated, science-based approaches, including the traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, that can strengthen resilience to present and future emerging risks with global solidarity, while advancing human well-being and the full enjoyment of all human rights, for present and future generations.
4. We welcome the important outcomes of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP27), including the decision on funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change to assist particularly vulnerable countries in responding to loss and damage as well as the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan, the twenty eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP28) including XXX , the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity including its adoption of the historic [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#), and the fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD including the [Abidjan Call](#) to act on drought, desertification and land degradation.
5. We also welcome with appreciation other important multilateral achievements including the [2022 UN Ocean Conference](#) and the 2023 UN Water Conference, the adoption of the UN General Assembly resolution 76/300 on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and the adoption of the agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.
6. We note with great concern the main findings of the Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s sixth assessment report (AR6) approved in March 2023, and recognise that global greenhouse gas emissions will need to be reduced 43% by 2030 compared to 2019 levels to limit global warming to 1.5°C in light of the latest findings of IPCC. By the current trajectory, as estimated by assessing nationally determined contributions (NDCs) announced by October 2021, it is likely that warming will exceed the 1.5°C target during the 21st century, which calls for significant rapid and sustained reductions in all sectors, while ensuring that the level of support provided particularly to developing countries and vulnerable regions, sectors and groups to mitigate and adapt to climate change remains adequate.
7. We are aware that in order to revitalize the multilateral system and inspire decisive and collective action to tackle the triple crisis we surely need to reinforce global inclusiveness and solidarity.
8. We are strongly committed to urgently address our common and global environmental challenges through effective, inclusive, sustainable, transformative, inter-generational and science- and

Commented [A1]: Unneeded space deleted

Commented [A2]: It should be referred as the triple crisis and avoid repetition afterwards

Commented [A3]: Typo. Technical correction

Commented [A4]: Language from the G7 communique

Commented [A5]: It is better to base the wording on UNGA Resolution 76/300 than HRC resolution 48/13, since the General Assembly is the higher authority and the GA resolution received wider support than the HRC resolution.

(quote from GA res 76/300)
Recognizing that sustainable development, in its three dimensions (social, economic and environmental), and the protection of the environment, including ecosystems, contribute to and promote human well-being and the full enjoyment of all human rights, for present and future generations,

Affirming the importance of a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for the enjoyment of all human rights,

Commented [A6]: We would like to propose to modify this sentence to align with the description of decision2/COP27/CMA4.

Commented [A7]: There is no “loss and damage fund” mentioned in any outcomes of COP27 documents. Thus, expression is aligning to what is written in the outcomes.

Commented [A8]: Again, better to refer to GA resolution 76/300

Commented [A9]: More accurate quote from the IPCC report.

Commented [A10]: To make it the same as stated in the Synthesis Report of IPCC

P33 C.7.6
https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf

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knowledge-based actions together with all stakeholders including civil society, citizens, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, the private sector, and academia; and we therefore decide to take the following actions, taking into account, the special needs and circumstances of the least greenhouse gas emitters and the most vulnerable, in particular, Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), African States, and developing middle-income countries:

- a. Deploy sustained global efforts to address climate change in line with the pillars of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, including by addressing the urgent need for scaled up action for adaptation and resilience for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. **We will commit to net zero by 2050 at the latest, and peak global GHG emissions immediately and by no later than 2025.** We will spare no effort to protect our communities against extreme weather events and natural disasters induced or exacerbated by climate change, such as heavy rains, heat waves, drought, famine, and flooding, recognizing the devastating impacts these phenomena have on societies, economies, and ecosystems.
 - b. Halt and reverse biodiversity loss in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including by driving the transition to nature positive economies and mainstreaming biodiversity in all sectors, promoting and strengthening ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions, while mitigating and adapting to climate change and boosting resilience, supporting sustainable food production, promoting One Health and ensuring equitable benefits across economies and societies through robust safeguards and policies for environmental and social protection.
 - c. Enhance resource efficiency and circularity in our economies to reduce primary resource use and address the triple crisis including through promoting policy measures and increasing circularity along value chains in cooperation with the private sector.
 - d. End plastic pollution, as resolved in UNEA resolution 5/14, by fostering innovation, global collaboration, and public-private partnerships through a full-life-cycle approach. We call on Member States to continue to engage constructively in the ongoing negotiations with a sense of urgency and with the ambition to reduce additional plastic pollution to zero by 2040, and seek to reach common ground for a fair, effective and ambitious legally binding outcome of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) by the end of 2024.
 - e. Deploy greater efforts, as well as mobilize and allocate adequate resources towards chemicals safety and management and the [adoption] / [progress toward adoption] / [other relevant language to be inserted subject to outcome of ICCM5] of a new chemicals and waste management framework during the Fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-5) held in September 2023.
 - f. Incorporate environmental considerations into disaster risk management to mitigate the adverse impacts of natural disasters, on human health and the environment and recommend using a combination of measures to strengthen the resilience to global risks, and accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including actions on the conservation and restoration of ecosystems, climate change mitigation and adaptation, pollution reduction and management, as well as actions to transform economic and financial systems and to ensure sustainable production and consumption.
 - g. Act towards the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by advancing existing international commitments and obligations, ensuring the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation, representation and leadership of women at all levels of relevant climate change, biodiversity and pollution decision-making, promoting gender mainstreaming and integration across policies and actions and the safeguarding of marginalized groups and the most vulnerable, in our pursuit of inclusive solutions for the triple crisis that leave no one behind.
9. We will work towards using the potential of digital transformation as a necessary tool for sustainable economic and social behaviour at the global level, bridging existing digital divides, improving equal access to environmental information and harnessing emerging technologies for environmental sustainability.

Commented [A11]: "the principles" are not clear

Commented [A12]: The phrase of "UNFCCC and its" Paris Agreement is not acceptable because the Paris Agreement is an individual treaty. In the past G20 climate track meeting, when referring to the Paris Agreement, we have been using the word that does not include "UNFCCC and its."

Commented [A13]: To be more precise, suggest insertion "for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change" after loss and damage. This is a written and agreed language from 2/CP.27.

Commented [A14]: Mitigation actions is the most important in addressing climate crisis, and all countries must accelerate mitigation actions to achieve 1.5 °C goal.

Commented [A15]: Add "extreme weather events" and "heat waves" as one of the challenges of climate change referred to G7 Climate, Energy and Environment Ministers' Communiqué

Commented [A16]: heavy rains, heat waves,

Commented [A17]: Language from G7 communique or other relevant international documents

Commented [A18]: The transition to a Nature Positive Economy and mainstreaming biodiversity in all sectors is essential for protection and conservation of biodiversity.

Commented [A20]: Enhancing resource efficiency and circularity in our economies will help us address the triple crisis, supported by policy measures and private sector actions, as discussed by G7/G20 and UNEA5.2.

Commented [A21]: UNEA 5/14 Preamble "Noting that plastic pollution, in marine and other environments, can be of a transboundary nature and needs to be tackled, together with its impacts, through a full-life-cycle approach, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities" It is important to address this challenge by full-life-cycle approach.

Commented [A22]: We propose that we should share an ambitious timeline of 2040 in light of latest developments and the heightened public awareness of this issue.

Commented [A23]: "effectiveness" is recognized as an important element in UNEA resolution 5/14.

Commented [A24]: We opened the description just in case the INC description had not appeared before this.

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10. We commit to continue to advocate a whole-of-society approach to a more inclusive and equitable digitalisation that effectively empowers vulnerable and low-income populations, to accelerate research, innovation, education and neighbourhood change, and to move towards the implementation of circular economy models along value chains and just transitions that can accelerate progress towards the achievement of climate change, biodiversity and pollution goals and targets.
11. We call upon Member States to engage domestic, international, and private sector actors towards a rapid mobilization of means of implementation, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, while welcoming ongoing efforts to reform the international financial architecture to address global challenges.
12. We reiterate our recognition of UNEP's role in strategic foresight and horizon scanning as well as in improving the capacities of Member States at all levels to stimulate and encourage long-term advance environmental decision-making bringing the most pressing emerging environmental issues to the attention of Governments. UNEP should therefore ensure that it continues to anticipate trends and risks, bring them to the attention of the world, particularly with the aim of prioritizing scientific research and promoting collective and multi-stakeholder responses to new challenges.
13. We call on UNEP, as the leading environmental authority within the United Nations, and echoing the UNEP@50 Ministerial Declaration, to intensify its support and assistance to Member States in the implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the UNEA outcomes and UNEP' delivery, notably through the UN Country Teams, through access to scientific information, technologies, technical assistance and financial resources.
14. We look forward to the adoption of a Pact for the Future at the Summit of the Future in New York in September 2024, and urge all Member States as well as relevant NGOs, Major Groups and stakeholders to advocate for the implementation of the relevant actions set out in this statement during the consultation process to ensure an ambitious outcome that will reinvigorate environmental multilateralism, stimulate the implementation of existing commitments and share the view of concrete solutions for a better tomorrow with greater effectiveness, inclusiveness and confidence.
15. We therefore request the President of the UN Environment Assembly to transmit this statement as the UN Environment Assembly's contribution to the General Assembly for the Summit of the Future.
16. We invite the governing bodies of multilateral environmental agreements to work with the United Nations Environment Assembly, as appropriate, to promote effective implementation of the commitments contained in this Declaration.

Commented [A25]: This is still under discussion and there is no consensus on "provide additional funding, in particular concessional finance to support low and middle income countries tackle and adapt to climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution".

Commented [A26]: The more accurate name used in the UNGA resolution

Commented [A27]: As a legally non-binding declaration, "shall" must not be used. "decide on" will also be acceptable.