

## 1. Autor

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In line with the importance of multilateralism, reaffirmed in paragraph 1 (... multilateral action...") and 8, it is crucial to make a distinction between multilaterally agreed documents and texts of other nature.

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From Brazil's perspective, issues pertaining to international peace and security must be addressed primarily by the UN Security Council. References to the interlinkages between environment and security must be considered with caution so as to avoid the securitization of environmental issues. Therefore, Brazil is not in a position to accept a reference to security, as we fear it falls out the mandate of UNEA and risks setting a precedent for other multilateral fora.

Name of Member States / organization	
Date	

First draft, August 2023

### 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, **from 26 February to 1 March 2024**, 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 three planetary environmental crises-challenges** of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.
2. We reaffirm all the principles of the Rio **Declaration** on Environment and Development, the 2030 **Agenda** for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) –and we **welcometake note** 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 **threatschallenges** posed by the three **planetary environmental crises—interconnected challenges** of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution to sustainable development **and their impacts on human and environmental health and, well-being—and security**. We acknowledge, with concern, that the consequences of those challenges are further aggravated by persistent levels of poverty, including extreme poverty, unemployment, food insecurity, in particular in developing countries, thus requiring enhanced international cooperation to promote the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner.
4. We emphasize the importance of integrated, science-based approaches, **informed by the latest and best available evidence**, as well as the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, to strengthen resilience to present and future emerging challenges, **enable sustainable development**, promote global solidarity and advance **the realization of the UN General Assembly's resolution 76/300 on the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment**.
5. We welcome the important outcomes of the twenty-seventh **session** of the conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP27), including commitments to establish **new funding arrangements for assisting developing countries which are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, including with a focus on addressing 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 (**COP 28**) including XXX; the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its adoption of the historic **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030** and the fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations

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It is important to reflect the fact that the only outcome of the UN 2023 Water Conference, according to A/RES/75/212, was a summary of the proceedings by the PGA, that does not belong to "important multilateral achievements".

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As this para refers not only to climate but to also to other aspects of the environmental and MEA's", it is more appropriate to use language of the Rio Declaration, since Principle 7 mentions "environmental degradation" as a whole.

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Given the lack of multilaterally-agreed upon criteria to identify and measure "vulnerability", Brazil requests retaining a more general reference to developing countries.

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Both the Paris Agreement and the Kyoto Protocol were adopted under the UNFCCC.

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Brazil would like to express its disappointment regarding the unbalanced approach underlying this new version, which singles out two targets related to the conservation pillar of the Convention on Biological Diversity and neglects other elements of crucial importance for developing countries related to sustainable use and benefit sharing.

The new version provides an inaccurate message about the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the mission of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the [Abidjan Call](#) to act on drought, desertification and land degradation; as well as the **Fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-5) including the [agreement] on a new chemicals and waste management framework beyond 2020.**

6. We also welcome with appreciation other recent, important multilateral achievements, including 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 (BBNJ), **the holding of the 2023 UN Water Conference, the outcomes of 2022 UN Ocean Conference and the 2023 UN Water Conference and the high-level meeting on the mid-term Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.**
7. We note with great concern the main findings of the Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) [Sixth Assessment Report \(AR6\)](#) and recognise that, **to limit global warming to 1.5°C, global greenhouse gas emissions must be rapidly and progressively reduced by 43% by 2030, below 2019 levels and to 60% by 2035 before ultimately reaching net zero by 2050.** By the current trajectory, it is likely that warming will exceed the 1.5°C target during the 21st century, which calls for significant, rapid and sustained emissions reductions in all sectors, especially **those with large share and growth in gross GHG emissions**, while ensuring that the level of support provided to developing countries and vulnerable regions to mitigate and adapt to climate change is **significantly raised to adequate levels.**
8. We are aware that in order to revitalize the multilateral system and inspire decisive and collective action to tackle the **three planetary environmental crises-challenges** of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, **as well as other related crises-challenges of desertification, land degradation and drought**, we urgently need to reinforce global inclusiveness and solidarity and **to provide new, additional, and adequate means of implementation, in particular to support developing countries.** We stress that **enhanced financial resources, capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer to support developing countries is critical to enable the achievement of global environmental objectives.**
9. We are strongly committed to urgently address the challenges before us through effective, inclusive sustainable transformative, **intra- and inter-generational** and science- and knowledge-based actions together with all relevant actors and partners including civil society, academia and **philanthropies** Indigenous Peoples and local communities, the private and public sectors, as well **women and girls, children and youth and those at risk of being left furthest behind**; and we therefore decide to take the following actions, taking into account **the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities, as well as the special needs and circumstances of vulnerable regions and** the specific challenges faced by developing countries, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS):
  - a. Deploy sustained global efforts to address climate change, in line with the goals and **objectives** of the UNFCCC and **the its Paris Agreement**, towards achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and keeping a limit of 1.5°C temperature rise within reach, including by addressing the urgent need for scaled up action for mitigation, adaptation and resilience. We will prioritise equity, **climate justice** and social justice to achieve more sustainable outcomes and co-benefits and reduce trade-offs while sparing no effort to advance climate resilient development and protect our communities against disasters induced or exacerbated by climate change, such as **drought, heavy rains, heatwaves**, famine, and flooding, which undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development.
  - b. **Halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, by urgently reversing ecosystem decline, conserving at least 30% of terrestrial and inland water areas and marine coastal areas and ensuring that at least 30% of the world's degraded ecosystems are under restoration** To take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and planet by conserving and sustainably using biodiversity and by ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources, while providing the necessary means of

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Brazil is not in a position to accept references to the concept of "nature-positive", which lacks a multilaterally-agreed upon definition and seeks to revisit the concept of sustainable development at the expense of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We would further recall that this concept has not been accepted during COP-15, where many developing country Parties to CDB raised their deep concerns on the unbalanced nature of the concept. Therefore, introducing this concept prejudices ongoing discussions that still need to take place in the appropriate multilateral fora.

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From Brazil's perspectives, NbS and/or EbA should not be confused with the two pillars of CBD - sustainable use and benefit sharing. Merging both topics in a single sentence

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It looks redundant, as the previous sentence already states that the instrument will be legally

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Brazil requests further clarification on the inclusion of the term "shocks".

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implementation, further recognizing the importance of sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity to provide social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, and highlighting the need to implement in a timely manner the multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including a global fund. We will do so by accelerating the implementation of strengthened national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the alignment of national targets with the GBF, **whilst driving a transition to nature-positive economies which mainstreams biodiversity in all sectors.** We will promote nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, **in line with national circumstances and priorities.** support the sustainable use of biodiversity while ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of **the utilization of genetic resources, including traditional knowledge.** .

- c. **Cooperate for a just and sustainable energy transition that seeks to achieve an energy-secure future for all, while respecting national needs and priorities, and define clear actions to address climate change, maximizing on the social and economic opportunities of climate action and promoting effective dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders.**
  - d. Develop an international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, as resolved in UNEA resolution 5/14. We call on all Member States to continue to engage constructively in the ongoing negotiations with a sense of urgency and seek to reach common ground for a fair, effective and ambitious **legally-binding** outcome of the INC by the end of 2024
  - e. **[Enhance broader cooperation on air pollution, recognizing that air pollution is the leading environmental risk factor for human health, contributes to negative impacts on ecosystems, does not stop at national borders and can impact regions in different ways and that addressing air pollution results in multiple benefits to the economy, ecosystems, climate and human health.]**
  - f. Deploy greater efforts, including mobilizing and allocating adequate resources, for the sound management of chemicals and waste to reduce negative health and environmental impacts, and the [implementation] [adoption] [progress toward adoption] [other relevant language to be inserted subject to outcome of ICCM5] of [a new chemicals and waste management framework] [name of new framework to be inserted] following the Fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-5) held in September 2023. We also strongly support the process to establish a new Science-Policy Panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, **as per UNEA Resolution 5/8**, and we call on Member States to engage constructively in its ongoing negotiations towards completion by the end of 2024.
  - g. Incorporate climate, biodiversity and pollution considerations into disaster risk management policies and actions to mitigate and prevent the adverse impacts of natural and human-made hazards on human health and the environment, strengthen the resilience to global risks ~~and shocks and~~ **promote a sustainable and inclusive recovery to accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development...**
  - h. **Promote gender equity** and the empowerment of all women and girls, in line with existing international commitments and obligations, to ensure the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation, representation and leadership of women at all levels of environmental decision-making, and promote the collection and use of gender-disaggregated data and statistics across all policies and actions, in our pursuit of inclusive solutions for the three environmental planetary crises to leave no one behind.
10. We will leverage digital transformations as an enabling tool to support sustainable economies and societies through bridging existing digital divides, improving equal access to environmental information and harnessing

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From Brazil's perspective, it is important to maintain coherence with SDG 12, which does not include a specific reference on circular economy nor to value chains.

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Both private and public actores can work on financing, but it doesn't seem appropriate to mix the two of them when it comes to policy and regulatory measures.

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Brazil requests further clarification on the rationale behind this proposal.

emerging technologies for environmental sustainability, while ensuring that digitalization remains inclusive, equitable and sustainable.

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11. We commit to continue to advocate for a whole-of-society approach that can effectively empower societies at large, and particularly vulnerable and low-income populations, to accelerate research, innovation, education and behavioural change, **facilitate their just transition to sustainable consumption and production** and move towards the **promotion of sustainable consumption and production patternsimplementation of circular economy models along value chains and** sustainable lifestyles, **in line with SDG12 and taking into account, where relevant, the 10 YFP Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023-2030.**

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12. We recognize, with deep concern, that the lack of means of implementation has been a persistent challenge for the achievement of environmental goals, in particular in developing countries, and we call upon developed Member States to fulfill their obligations under relevant multilateral environmental agreements to provide new, additional, adequate, easily accessible means of implementation to developing countries, in a manner commensurate with the challenges and urgency of addressing the interconnected environmental challenges.

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13. We call upon Member States, **International Financial Institutions, international development banks, private foundations and funds and other actors** to promote further synergies and coherence in financing action to address the three environmental **planetary-crieschallenges** of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution; **aligning relevant policy and regulatory measures with international goals and targets., while enhancing transparency and avoiding double counting,** We will engage domestic, international, and private sector actors towards a rapid mobilization of accessible 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, **including reshaping economic governance models and decision-making to better account for the environment in measuring progress beyond GDP.**

14. We reiterate our recognition of UNEP's role in strengthening the science-policy interface **and to undertake strategic foresight and horizon scanning,** in collaboration with existing science-policy platforms to improve the capacities of Member States and stakeholders at all levels to prioritize scientific research and stimulate and encourage decision making and actions that can anticipate trends and risks, and prevent and respond to emerging and future environmental issues.

15. We note the **increasing necessity** and catalytic role of UNEP and its Regional Offices in strengthening regional cooperation, including through the Regional Ministerial fora, to tackle context-specific environmental challenges. We also recognize the increasing demand for environmental support at the country level and UNEP's engagement with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams to support the environmental dimension of sustainable development in Common Country Analyses and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, and invite the strengthening of UNEP's role within the UN Development System at the regional and country level, with an increase in resources, including from the Regular Budget.

16. 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, including at the country level, in the implementation of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the UNEA outcomes.

17. We look forward to the adoption of a Pact for the Future at the Summit of the Future in September 2024, as an opportunity to further advance our collective environmental commitments, urge all Member States as well as relevant NGOs, Major Groups and stakeholders, UNEP, MEAs and other relevant international organisations to advocate for the implementation of the relevant actions set out in this statement during the consultation process, and to ensure an ambitious outcome that will reinvigorate environmental multilateralism, stimulate the implementation of existing commitments, strengthen **synergies-collaboration and cooperation** between

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UNEA already reports to UNGA.

- | the work and implementation of the MEAs, in a manner consistent with respective mandates, -and agree on concrete solutions for a better tomorrow with greater effectiveness, inclusiveness and confidence. **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.**
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18. 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, in accordance with respective mandates.
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