Introduction to UNEP
Mandate, organizational structure and governance

The 7th Africa Animal Welfare Conference
25-27 September, Kigali, Rwanda

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O.I.C. Head of the Civil Society Unit
UNEP’s History, Mandate and Mission
Key milestones in UNEP’s history

1972: Stockholm Conference, UNEP established

**UNEP is established in 1972** at the UN Conference on the Human Environment to monitor the state of the environment, inform policy making with science and coordinate responses to the world’s environmental challenges.

2012: RIO+20, UNEP strengthened

At the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, **UNEP’s mandate is strengthened**, and governance upgraded to **universal membership through UNEA** helping to define a new era of international environmental governance.

2022: UNEP@50, UNEP’s contribution acknowledged

Political declaration at the UNEP@50 Special Session of UNEA **acknowledged 50-year contribution** of UNEP and further strengthened the mandate.
UNEPA’s MANDATE (its role)

...leading global environmental authority, that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

UNEPA’s MISSION (the “how”)

...provide leadership and encourage partnerships in caring for the environment by informing, enabling and inspiring nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.
UNEP’s mission in practice

**SCIENCE-POLICY**
- Provides evidence about the state and health of the planet and contributes solutions
- Identifies emerging environmental threats
- Provides guidance on sound policies

**CAPACITY BUILDING**
- Helps countries deliver on their environmental commitments
- Provides tools and facilitates transfer of technologies

**ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE**
- Supports strong environmental laws and institutions
- Plays important role with regards to MEAs

**CONVENING POWER**
- Brings people together to tackle triple planetary crisis (e.g. UNEA)

**CAPACITY BUILDING**
- Helps countries deliver on their environmental commitments
- Provides tools and facilitates transfer of technologies

**PARTNERSHIPS**
- Facilitates South-South and triangular cooperation
- Supports partnerships and access to global funds

**ROLE IN UN SYSTEM**
- Is the voice of environmental dimension of sustainable development within the UN

**SHOWS POSITIVE CHANGE IS POSSIBLE**
- Shares environmental success stories
- Celebrates and awards individuals and institutions

**“ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIENCE OF THE WORLD”**
- Raises awareness and advocates for action on the environment

**ENABLE**
- Inform
- Inspire

**UNEP’s Mission in Practice**
- Environmental conscience of the world
- Environmental governance
- Convening power
- Capacity building
- Partnerships
- Role in UN system

**Inform**
- Provides evidence about the state and health of the planet and contributes solutions
- Identifies emerging environmental threats
- Provides guidance on sound policies

**Inspire**
- Shares environmental success stories
- Celebrates and awards individuals and institutions
- Raises awareness and advocates for action on the environment

**Enable**
- Brings people together to tackle triple planetary crisis (e.g. UNEA)
- Supports strong environmental laws and institutions
- Plays important role with regards to MEAs
- Is the voice of environmental dimension of sustainable development within the UN
UNEP’s governance and role in the wider UN system
UNEP within the United Nations System
The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) – meets every two years

- Committee of Permanent Representatives
  - 4 regular meetings per year
  - Open-ended CPR every two years to prepare UNEA
  - Annual CPR subcommittee every October/November
  - CPR Subcommittee (as necessary)

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) – every year

- Administrative and Budgetary Committee (5th committee)
- Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC)

UNEP is Governed by Member States
**UN Environment Programme Governance Structure**

**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY**
Every 2 years – universal membership

**Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)**
Composed of about 130 members including the Holy See, the State of Palestine and the European Union

- **Quarterly CPR meetings**
  - Formal
  - 4 times a year

- **Subcommittee meetings**
  - Informal
  - Once or twice a month

**Open Ended CPR meeting**
- Acts as PREPCOM for UNEA
- Every 2 years, back-to-back with UNEA

**UNEA Bureau**
- 10 members from the 5 UN regions
- Meets 4-6 times a year

**CPR Bureau**
- 5 members from the 5 UN regions
- Meets every month

**UNEA**

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- 5 members from the 5 UN regions
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**CPR**
- Quarterly CPR meetings
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- Subcommittee meetings
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  - Once or twice a month

**Annual Subcommittee meeting**
- Oversight and review of the Medium-Term strategy and the Programme of Work
- Once a year
Committee of Permanent Representative (CPR)

Mandate

2 main functions:

1. Provides review and oversight of UNEP’s Programme of Work and implementation of UNEA resolutions

2. Prepares decisions for upcoming UNEA sessions

Governing Council decision 19/32, 1997

- Reviews, monitors and assesses the implementation of decisions of the UNEP’s governing body on administrative, budgetary and programme matters;
- Reviews the draft UNEP Programme of Work and Budget during its preparation by the secretariat;
- Reviews reports requested of the Secretariat by Member States on the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of functions and work of the Secretariat and makes recommendations;
- Prepares draft decisions for consideration by the UNEP governing body based on inputs from the secretariat and on the results of the above functions.
Committee of Permanent Representative (CPR)

Membership

“Representatives of all States Members of the UN, members of the specialized agencies and the European Union, accredited to the UN Environment Programme, based in Nairobi or outside” (GC decision 19/32 Para 8).

Current membership:
• Accredited Member States: 130 Member States
• Accredited Non-Member States: Holy See + State of Palestine
• The European Union

Observers: League of Arab States + Sovereign Military Order of Malta

96 accredited missions in Nairobi
37 accredited missions outside Nairobi

More than 1000 accredited Major Groups and Stakeholders
UNEP’s Secretariat
• UNEP supports the negotiation and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)

• UNEP hosts the secretariat of 15 MEAs that cover a wide range of regional and global environmental issues

• ...including hazardous chemicals and waste; biodiversity; oceans; migratory species; and rehabilitation of the ozone layer...
UNEP’s funding
How is UNEP funded?

**EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS**
earmarked for specific projects, themes or countries, enable expansion and replication of programme and results in more countries with more partners.

- **Earmarked Funds**
  From Member States, the European Commission, the UN family, the Multilateral Fund (Montreal Protocol) etc. ($1,143.5M/43 per cent)

- **Global Funds**
  From GEF and GCF ($992.6M/37 per cent)

**CORE CONTRIBUTIONS**
gives flexibility to implement programme of work as approved by all Member States.

- **UN Regular Budget**
  supports functions of UNEP Secretariat, including the Governing Bodies, coordination in the UN system, and cooperation with global scientific communities. ($121.3M/5 per cent)

- **Environment Fund**
  the core fund, supports essential capacity needed for balanced and efficient delivery of programme approved by Member States. ($396.0M/15 per cent)

*combined income in five-year period (2018-2022) as at 31 Dec 2022*
UNEP’s budget vs income

Budget and Income by Funding Source (2018-2022)

*combined income in five-year period (2018-2022) as at 31 Dec 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UN Regular Budget</td>
<td>$121.3M</td>
<td>$121.3M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environment Fund</td>
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<td>Earmarked Funds</td>
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<td>Global Funds</td>
<td>$525.9M</td>
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UNEP is your partner on the journey to tackle the triple planetary crisis.

We invite our partners to share the journey.
Thank you

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