United Nations Environment
Assembly of the United Nations
Environment Programme

"Effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution."
UNEA-6 theme.

Multistakeholder Dialogue

Partnering for the Environment: Inclusive Multilateralism Fit for Purpose.

Thursday 29 February 2024, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

A. Introduction

In accordance with established practice of previous United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) sessions and, a multistakeholder dialogue will be held on Thursday, 29 February 2024 from 16.30 to 18.00 at the UN compound (Conference Room 1) in Gigiri, Nairobi, as part of the high-level segment of UNEA-6. The event will provide an opportunity for an interactive high-level dialogue between representatives of Major Groups and Stakeholders, Member States, and international organizations.

Despite significant progress made in the past decades, many challenges remain to realize the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and the fulfilment of the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. The purpose of this multistakeholder dialogue is therefore to identify concrete solutions and inspire action to address the three planetary environmental crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. This is envisaged to be done through inclusive participation of Major Groups and Stakeholders in decision-making at all levels.

The discussion will include a critical analysis by several representatives from the Major Groups and Stakeholders on challenges and opportunities, including demands for a more sustainable, human rights-centric approach to development that is genuinely inclusive of all peoples and to bring forth best practices contributing to collective solutions.

The proposed focus of the dialogue, under the overall theme of UNEA-6 ("Effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution"), is as follows:

"Partnering for the Environment: Inclusive Multilateralism Fit for Purpose."

The multistakeholder dialogue will explore synergies between the three global environmental crises and technology, including artificial intelligence, aiming to identify actionable strategies for sustainable solutions.

B. Participation and format

The dialogue will be facilitated by the following two moderators, nominated by Major Groups and Stakeholders, ensuring diverse and regionally balanced perspective:

Mr. Ayman Cherkaoui, Regional Facilitator for Major Groups and Stakeholders in Africa; and

Ms. Andrea Nakova, Project Coordinator, Journalists for Human Rights.

Introductory speakers include:

The President of the United Nations Environment Assembly (TBC);

The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (TBC);

One of the elected Co-Chairs of the Major Groups Facilitating Committee; and,

UNEA-accredited representatives of Major Groups and Stakeholders.

Following introductory remarks from the speakers, high level representatives from Member states attending UNEA-6 will be invited to engage in an interactive dialogue.

C. Scenario

Overview

(i)   Welcome and introduction of the event by the Moderators (1 minute each)

(ii)   "Fire side chat" with the UNEA President, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, and a Co-chair of the Major Groups and Facilitating Committee (3 minutes each)

(iii)   Panel discussion with 5 representatives of Major Groups and Stakeholders (5 minutes each)

(iv)   Online quiz/survey conducted with the audience led by the moderators (5 minutes)

(v)   Interventions from the floor by Member States and Stakeholders (2 minutes each)

(vi)   Closing remarks by the Co-chair of the Major Groups and Facilitating Committee (2 minutes)

1. *Welcome and Introduction*

The moderators will provide a short introduction and outline a brief overview of the purpose, objectives and expected outcomes of the dialogue.

2. *Setting the Stage: "Fireside Chat"*

The moderators will invite the President of UNEA-6 (TBC), the Executive Director if the United Nations Environment Programme (TBC), and one of the two elected Co-chairs of the Major Groups and Stakeholders Facilitating Committee to set the stage for the dialogue through short introductory interventions in the form a "Fireside chat". The interventions are expected to provide a general context on challenges and opportunities relating to climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, with a focus on interlinkages and implications on global sustainability.

3. *Panel Discussion: The role of Major Groups and Stakeholders in addressing global environment challenges*

After the "Fireside chat", the moderators will lead a brief panel discussion with 1-2 interventions each from five diverse panelists representing five different Major Groups and Stakeholders, who will share their insights and proposals relating *inter alia* to the importance of multistakeholder participation in shaping and implementing policy action to address climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and explore potential synergies and collaborative approaches with other partners.

4. *Online quiz*

The moderators are expected to organize a quick online quiz with the audience, to stimulate debate and interactive dialogue.

5. *Interactive Debate with the audience*

The moderators will open the floor to invite participants in the audience, including representatives from Member States, International Organizations and Major Groups and Stakeholders, to reflect on the messages shared during the fireside chat and the panel discussion, and contribute to the dialogue.

6. *Closing remarks*

The Co-chair of the Major Groups and Stakeholders Facilitating Committee will provide short closing remarks.

D. Guiding questions to the speakers and audience

1. What are the key Major Groups' perspectives on the systemic challenges and structural barriers in environmental multilateralism, and how can they be overcome?
2. How can innovative partnerships and collaboration contribute to achieving a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and foster long term resilience and inclusive environmental governance?
3. How can Major Groups and Stakeholders contribute more effectively in addressing and solving multiple environmental challenges?
4. How can the multilateral system help ensure a more inclusive approach for decision-making at all levels?
5. Can technology and artificial intelligence be applied in support of environmental governance; what are the opportunities and the risks?

E. Expected outcomes

The dialogue will aim to identify best practices and concrete proposals for ensuring meaningful and effective participation of Major Groups and Stakeholders in UNEA and UNEP processes, contributing to global efforts for a sustainable and resilient future. A summary of the dialogue will be presented by one of the moderators at the closing plenary of the Environment Assembly and will be reflected in the UNEA-6 final report.

F. Contact details

For inquiries and additional information, please contact David Ombisi: david.ombisi@un.org.