

Charting the Path Forward:

An African Perspective Towards Implementing the Resolutions of the UNEA-6

Tuesday April 30th, 2024,

at 09:30am (GMT+1 – Rabat time) / 11:30am (GMT+3 – Nairobi time)

Introduction:

The 6th United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), held in February, marked a pivotal moment in the global agenda for environmental sustainability. As leaders from around the world convened to address pressing environmental challenges, the resolutions adopted during this assembly serve as a beacon of hope and a call to action for collective efforts towards a more sustainable future.

Themed "*Effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution*", this 6th session represented a significant milestone in advancing the global environmental agenda. It is built upon the commitments made at the preceding session (UNEA-5) and the progress achieved in various environmental initiatives since then. UNEA-6 convened Member States and stakeholders to deliberate on advancing the Decade of Action, with a particular emphasis on addressing the interconnected challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. Through a series of leadership dialogues, multi-stakeholder engagements, and over 30 official side events, it paved the way for strengthened collaboration among the United Nations, Member States, and partners. These efforts were geared towards achieving impactful planetary action at both global and regional levels.

In line with its mission and dedication to environmental preservation, the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, led by **Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa**, has been a staunch advocate for biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and pollution management. This commitment is realized through a comprehensive strategy encompassing awareness-raising, educational initiatives, community mobilization, partnership-building, training programs, and the promotion of sustainable practices. Embracing an inclusive approach, the Foundation engages diverse stakeholders such as governmental and non-governmental organizations, businesses, local communities, civil society, and youth, fostering collective action towards sustainable development goals.

In the context of the resolutions passed during the 6th United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), the link between Africa and these commitments holds profound significance. Africa, endowed with rich biodiversity and natural resources, faces unique environmental challenges that demand urgent attention and concerted action. The resolutions adopted recognize the crucial role of African nations in advancing global environmental sustainability, acknowledging both the region's vulnerability to environmental degradation and its potential to drive transformative change. Addressing issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and sustainable development

in Africa requires inclusive and context-specific approaches that prioritize the needs and aspirations of local communities. By harnessing the continent's diverse ecosystems and cultural heritage, while also addressing the socio-economic dimensions of environmental sustainability, the resolutions offer a roadmap for African nations to chart a course towards a more resilient and prosperous future. Furthermore, the resolutions emphasize the importance of international cooperation and support in assisting African countries to overcome environmental challenges and achieve their sustainable development goals. Thus, the link between Africa and the resolutions underscores the imperative for collaborative action, solidarity, and shared responsibility in addressing global environmental issues and advancing the well-being of present and future generations across the continent.

Therefore, building upon the momentum generated by the previous sessions organized and in the wake of the UNEA-6, there is a critical need to translate resolutions into actionable strategies and tangible outcomes. Our webinar seeks to provide a platform for a comprehensive analysis, strategic dialogue, and collaborative engagement aimed at advancing the implementation of UNEA resolutions. By bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders, including policymakers, experts, practitioners, and advocates, we aim to catalyze meaningful progress towards the achievement of global environmental goals.

In light of the outcomes of UNEA-6, with the adoption of [15 resolutions](#), [two decisions](#) and a [Ministerial Declaration](#), which underscored the urgent need to address environmental challenges, the webinar is aligned with the Foundation's mission and its academic arm, the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training. It emphasizes the provision of information and capacity building, crucial in the face of the alarming decline in nature. The webinar's overarching theme encompasses climate change, biodiversity, ecosystem services, and actions against pollution and chemicals, all critical areas highlighted during UNEA-6. The aim is to raise awareness about integrating environmental preservation into broader actions, particularly emphasizing the outcomes and resolutions of UNEA-6, to foster effective environmental stewardship at individual and organizational levels within UNEP MGS, Africa.

Main objective

This webinar aims at analyzing, contextualizing, and strategizing the implementation of resolutions passed during the UNEA-6.

Specific objectives

- Provide a comprehensive analysis of the resolutions adopted during the UNEA-6, highlighting their significance and implications for global environmental governance.
- Identify priority areas for action and collaboration, translating UNEA resolutions into actionable strategies for implementation.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange among diverse stakeholders, including policymakers, experts, civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector, fostering cross-sectoral collaboration.
- Strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to effectively implement UNEA resolutions through sharing of best practices, case studies, and lessons learned.
- Raise awareness about the importance of UNEA resolutions and advocate for their swift and effective implementation at local, national, and international levels.

Target Audience

- Both accredited and non-accredited organizations including civil society organizations, businesses, trade unions, and indigenous peoples.
- Environmental professionals and practitioners
- Academia and researchers
- Policymakers and government representatives
- Students and youth interested in environmental issues.

Date and Time:

Tuesday April 30th, 2024, at 09:30 AM (GMT+1) / 11:30am (Nairobi time)

Agenda

This workshop will be moderated by Ms. Hala Menkari, Junior Project Manager, African Green Universities and Youth Education Network, Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection.

Opening Remarks: (15 minutes)

- **Mr. Ayman Cherkaoui:**

Director of the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection & Regional Facilitator, Major Groups & Stakeholders Accredited to the UNEP, Africa

- **Mr. Rachid Firadi:**

Director, Partnership and Communication, Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development.

- **Mr. Ulf Bjornholm:**

Chief of the Civil Society Unit, United Nations Environment Programme.

Panel Discussion: (50 minutes)

Presentation on the resolutions adopted During UNEA 6

Mr. David Ombisi,

Program Officer – Regional Office for Africa, United Nations Environment Programme.

Engagement of universities towards UNEA-6

Prof. Jacqueline McGlade,

Lecturer at the Strathmore Institute for Public Policy and Governance (SIPPG), Strathmore University Business School & AGUYEN member.

The role of the African Major Groups and Stakeholders

Mr. David Munene,

Regional Facilitator, Major Groups & Stakeholders Accredited to the UNEP, Africa & Programs Manager, Regional Facilitator, Major Groups & Stakeholders Accredited to the UNEP, Africa & Programs Manager, Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa (CYNESA), accredited to ECOSOC, UNEP, UNCCD, Convention on Biodiversity.

Youth Engagement towards UNEA-6

Ms. Oumnia Anfer,

Regional Focal Point to the UNEA6 Presidency, Children and Youth Major Group, United Nations Environment Programme & Member of AGUYEN.

Q & A (15 minutes)
Closing Remarks
(10 minutes)

Mr. David Munene:

Regional Facilitator, Major Groups & Stakeholders Accredited to the UNEP, Africa & Programs Manager, Regional Facilitator, Major Groups & Stakeholders Accredited to the UNEP, Africa & Programs Manager, Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa (CYNESIA), accredited to ECOSOC, UNEP, UNCCD, Convention on Biodiversity

Registration

Participants can register in advance to receive access details on the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HqHLSWiLTzGrCZ5dmYw3tQ