

**Annex**  
**Revised background document**  
**8 November 2024**

**Streamlined proposal for a theme for the seventh session of the  
United Nations Environment Assembly**

**Introduction**

Based on the consultations held on 22 October 2024, during which several delegations expressed support for [both proposals presented by the UNEA-7 President](#) or elements thereof, and the guidance provided by the UNEA-7 Bureau at its meeting held on 7 November 2024, the President is presenting a single, more streamlined and inclusive proposal that merges the two previous proposals.

The streamlined proposal reads as follows:

**“Solutions for an equitable and resilient planet”**

For reference, this streamlined proposal is the result of the merger of the two proposals previously presented, namely:

**Former Proposal 1: Solutions for a resilient planet**

**Former Proposal 2: Accelerating just transitions for people and planet**

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat, at the request of the President of the UN Environment Assembly, and it outlines a brief rationale for the streamlined proposal, considering the multitude of international conferences and meetings taking place in 2024 and 2025 and emerging issues in the multilateral environmental space that can accelerate the delivery of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Some preliminary ideas of what the proposed theme could encompass are listed in bullet form, taking into account the feedback provided by Member States during the last rounds of consultations as well as the guidance provided by the UNEA-7 Bureau. This is not an exhaustive but merely an indicative list.

Furthermore, with the adoption of the [Pact for the Future](#) by the General Assembly in September 2024, this document also takes into consideration connections and synergies with this important intergovernmental outcome.

## **“Solutions for an equitable and resilient planet”**

The theme focuses on promoting solutions for a safer, more equitable, and resilient planet. Leveraging scientific innovation combined with effective environmental governance, UNEA-7 can guide Member States to advance effective responses rooted in the recommendations of the [2024 Global Resource Outlook](#), which was [launched](#) at UNEA-6, and possible findings of the seventh Global Environment Outlook, amongst other scientific assessments. These responses can also be linked to the [Pact for the Future](#) and possible outcomes of the 2025 World Social Summit. This theme recognizes that securing a livable, prosperous, and resilient planet hinges on fair, balanced, and equitable transitions to circularity and sustainable economies and societies. An equitable and resilient planet is one where healthy ecosystems are prioritized; where resource intensity is reduced and efficiency enhanced; where consumption and production demands are reoriented towards sustainability; and where new technologies and practices can sustainably anticipate and prevent environmental risks. To be successful and truly catalyze the achievement of the SDGs, all of these conditions must be underpinned by effective and inclusive environmental rule of law and respect for environmental rights principles.

Possible focus areas under this theme could include:

- Promoting coherent decoupling policies and practices that enhance the implementation of the MEAs, including innovative and socially just practices that reduce resource intensity in high-impact sectors (e.g. food, mobility, housing, energy, waste); promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, including sustainable lifestyles; encourage circular economy approaches and zero-waste initiatives.
- Improving scientific research, access to data and information that can stimulate sustainable technological innovations, in line with the precautionary principle, and empower decision-makers to withstand and recover from environmental shocks and stressors, including early warning systems, strategic foresight, predictive analytics and horizon scanning, leveraging artificial intelligence and digital cooperation to advance the aspirations of the [Global Digital Compact](#).
- Advancing multi-stakeholder engagement in environmental decision-making, leveraging citizen science, traditional knowledge and practice, including from Indigenous peoples; and enhancing inclusive participatory mechanisms that respect the rights to access to information, participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters, with emphasis on women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities and persons in vulnerable situations.
- Leveraging inclusive and innovative means of implementation and aligning financial flows with MEAs implementation that can be scaled sustainably and set economic incentives to drive transformations, including energy transitions, reduce inequalities and build resilience against vulnerabilities, while respecting the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.
- Promoting business engagement and aligning finance and investment policies with circularity and sustainable development paths that decrease climate, nature, and pollution footprints of high-impact sectors, leaving no one behind.