

Joint Bureaux meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly  
and the Committee of Permanent Representatives  
11 December 2024, 16:00 to 18:00 (GMT+3)  
Online

**Agenda item 4: Contributions of the UN Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development**

This note, entitled “*Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) to the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF)*”, has been developed by the Secretariat for discussion under agenda item 4 - Contributions of the UN Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

The note outlines the process of preparing the contributions of UNEA to the HLPF.

Members of the two Bureaux are invited to provide further guidance on the matter.

## **Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) to the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF)**

### **Mandate**

1. UNEA, in its [resolution 2/5](#), committed to conveying the main messages of its sessions to the HLPF to support its function in the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. UNEA, in its [resolution 3/3](#),

Decided to include a standing agenda item of the UNEA on contributions of the UNEA to the meetings of the HLPF, with the aim of considering in its deliberations the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under review at the annual meetings of the HLPF.

Also decided to provide timely substantive inputs to the annual meetings of the HLPF, including during the intersessional period between the biennial sessions of the UNEA, as follows:

(a) The inputs will be provided on the overarching environmental perspective of sustainable development;

(b) The inputs will take into account the themes of meetings of the HLPF as well as the SDGs under review at each of the annual meetings of the forum, as well as the interlinkages between the environmental dimension and the social and economic dimensions of sustainable development;

(c) The inputs will also take into account relevant resolutions adopted by the UNEA;

(d) The inputs will be prepared by the Executive Director or the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme, under the guidance of the President of the UNEA, in consultation with and for consideration by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR);

3. UNEA, in its [decision 6/5](#), decided to request the CPR to consider and approve written contributions to the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development to be held in 2024 and 2025.

4. The CPR, in its [decision 167/1](#), on the UNEA-6 lessons learned, suggested that the CPR should consider and clarify the process to agree on the contribution of UNEA to the sessions of the HLPF, taking into account UNEA resolution 3/3.

### **Past practice**

5. UNEA contributions to the HLPF, including during the intersessional period between the biennial sessions, has been prepared as follows:

**(a) UNEA year (when UNEA was held in February/March)**

- (i) Following the conclusion of UNEA, the Secretariat, on behalf of the President of the UNEA, circulated a draft<sup>1</sup> of UNEA's contribution inviting Member States to provide their comments at a subcommittee meeting and in writing by a deadline.
- (ii) The Secretariat, on behalf of the President, circulated a revised draft again inviting for Member States comments at a subcommittee meeting and in writing by a deadline.
- (iii) The final draft was put on a silence procedure with a deadline date.
- (iv) Following the conclusion of the silence procedure, the final contribution of UNEA was transmitted to the President of ECOSOC by the President of the UNEA.

**(b) Non-UNEA year**

- (i) The Secretariat, on behalf of the UNEA President, invited written inputs from Member States addressing the questions provided by the President of ECOSOC.
- (ii) Following the deadline for written inputs, the Secretariat, on behalf of the UNEA President, circulated a draft<sup>1</sup>, inviting written inputs.
- (iii) The Secretariat then circulated a revised draft.
- (iv) Member States provided their comments on the revised draft during a subcommittee meeting.
- (v) The final draft was put on a silence procedure.
- (vi) Following the conclusion of the silence procedure, the final contribution of UNEA was transmitted to the President of the ECOSOC by the President of UNEA.

**Themes of the future HLPF**

6. The themes for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 HLPF, as well as the SDGs under review, as outlined in General Assembly resolution 78/285 are as follows:

**For 2025: Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind**

- Goal 3 (good health and well-being)
- Goal 5 (gender equality)
- Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth)
- Goal 14 (life below water)
- Goal 17 (partnerships for the Goals)

**For 2026: Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all**

- Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation)
- Goal 7 (affordable and clean energy)
- Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure)

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<sup>1</sup> The draft focuses on the HLPF theme and the goals under review and is structured on the template provided by the President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities)

Goal 17 (partnerships for the Goals)

**For 2027: Scaling up just transitions to achieving sustainable development, poverty eradication and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals**

Goal 4 (quality education)

Goal 10 (reduced inequalities)

Goal 12 (responsible consumption and production)

Goal 15 (life on land)

Goal 17 ((partnerships for the Goals)

**Proposed way forward**

7. For UNEA's contribution to the 2025 HLPF, the Bureau may wish to continue with the practice as outlined above in paragraph 5 (b) for a non-UNEA year.

8. For UNEA's contributions to the 2026 and 2027 HLPF, the Bureau may wish to consider focusing one of the leadership dialogues at UNEA-7 on the themes of both the 2026 and 2027 HLPF and the SDG goals that are under review during the 2026 and 2026 HLPF. The discussion in the dialogue can also focus on the integration of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda in its implementation and the achievement of the SDGs. Delegations could also provide specific examples related to the SDGs under review at the 2026 and 2027 HLPF.

9. As has been done in the past for the leadership dialogues at UNEA, a short-written summary of the discussion in the dialogue would be prepared by the Secretariat, under the guidance of the UNEA President, for an oral reporting at the closing plenary of UNEA to be reflected in the proceedings report

10. In addition, in advance of each of the HLPF to be held in 2026 and 2027, a detailed written summary of the discussion would be prepared by the Secretariat, under the guidance of the UNEA President, drawing from the interventions made in the dialogue and focusing on the goals under review by the HLPF for that year, for consideration by the CPR and finalization by the President of UNEA.

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