

ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY 2017 PREPARATORY RETREAT
WINDSOR GOLF HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB, NAIROBI
27 - 28 October 2016 ¹

Draft agenda as of October 14, 2016

26 October	
Arrival of the Environment Assembly Bureau Members	
Day 1 (27 October)	
Time	Session
8:30 – 12:30	<p>Meeting of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly (<i>UNEA Bureau Members only</i>)</p> <p><i>H.E. Mr. Edgar Gutiérrez, President of the United Nations Environment Assembly and Minister of Environment and Energy of the Republic of Costa Rica, will open the meeting and invite the Bureau members to adopt the Agenda.</i></p> <p><i>The meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly will discuss the achievements of the Second Session of the UN Environment Assembly, as well as the challenges raised by Member States that will need to be addressed in the run-up to the Third Session of the Assembly in December 2017. This meeting will also discuss the topics below:</i></p> <p>Global Environmental Governance</p> <p><i>(a) Securing buy-in from political leaders to become engaged in, and implement the Assembly’s resolutions and making the Assembly more visible to a worldwide public audience and its outcomes more relevant to the lives of the planet’s population</i></p> <p><i>(b) Ensuring that UNEA outcomes resonate within the UN system, including at the High Level Political Forum</i></p> <p><i>(c) Effectively impact other ministries beyond the environment (finance, energy, infrastructure, health, transport, etc.).</i></p> <p>Moderator: H.E. Mr. Edgar Gutiérrez, President of the Assembly</p> <p>Resource Persons: Ms. Elizabeth Mrema, Director, Law Division; Mr. Michele Candotti, Chief, Executive Office</p> <p><i>* Introduction of the Issues Papers followed by dialogue among participants</i></p>
12:30-13:30	Lunch

¹ Dress Code is casual

13:30-15:00	<p>Meeting of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly (UNEA Bureau Members only) continued</p> <p>Modus Operandi for the Bureau of the Assembly</p> <p><i>(a) Division of work among Bureau members</i></p> <p><i>(b) Presentation of a virtual platform to facilitate discussions amongst Ministers of the Environment; members of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly; and members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives</i></p> <p>Moderator: H.E. Ms. Roxanne de Bilderling, Ambassador of Belgium and Rapporteur of the Assembly</p> <p><i>* Introduction of the interactive platform concept followed by dialogue among participants</i></p>
15:00- 15:30	<p>Coffee Break</p>
15:30-16:00	<p>Opening of the 2017 Environment Assembly Preparatory Retreat <i>(Joint meetings of the Bureau of the Assembly and of Committee of Permanent Representatives with invited representatives from the Regional and Political groups in an observer capacity)</i></p> <p>Welcome remarks, introduction and expectations for the Retreat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Mr. Edgar Gutiérrez, President of the Assembly and Minister of Environment and Energy of the Republic of Costa Rica - H.E. Ms. Julia Pataki, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Ambassador of Romania - Mr. Erik Solheim, Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN Environment
16:00 – 17:30	<p>Session 1: Themes of the Third Session of the Assembly and structure of the High-level Segment</p> <p><i>Member States have identified the criteria to help recognise potential themes for the next session of the Environment Assembly. The criteria includes identifying a theme that: contributes to identifying global solutions to global environmental issues; provides guidance to UN Environment’s work; results in an outcome that is appealing and meaningful to the outside world; contributes to raise the profile of the Environment Assembly and UN Environment globally; considers the balance between the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda; results in tangible global partnership initiatives.</i></p> <p><i>The 2017 Environment Assembly will be a three-day meeting only, so a focused agenda is more crucial than ever before. To this end, participants will be encouraged to share views on one central theme. On such basis, participants will be invited, first, to share views on ideas that could constitute a theme for the Third Session of the Assembly. Following the exchange of views, participants will also be invited to share views on how to achieve a more effective high-level segment and a stronger UN Environment Assembly as the voice for the environment and a balance between country statements and interactive debates, building on the lessons learned from the second session of the Assembly.</i></p> <p><i>(a) Possible theme of the 2017 Environment Assembly</i></p> <p><i>(b) Reimagining the organization of the high-level segment of the Environment Assembly</i></p> <p>Moderator: H.E. Mr. Ramon J.P. Paje, Senior Advisor to the Climate Change Commission of</p>

	<p>Philippines and Vice-President of the Environment Assembly and H.E. Mr. Raza Bashir Tarar, High Commissioner of Pakistan and Vice-Chair of CPR</p> <p>Resource Person: Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Deputy Executive Director; Ms. Mette Wilkie, Director, Ecosystems Division ; and Mr. Naysan Sahba, Director, Communications Division</p> <p><i>*Introduction of the Issues Paper followed by dialogue among participants</i></p>
17:30-18:30	<p>Session 2: Partnerships with Stakeholders (Civil Society and the Private Sector)</p> <p><i>The second session of the Environment Assembly was recognized by stakeholders, including civil society, academia and the private sector representatives as the most open and inclusive meeting of the governing body of UN Environment. The 2016 Assembly broke new grounds by convening, in addition to the 16th Global Major Groups and Stakeholder Forum, the first ever Science-Policy Forum, Sustainable Innovation Expo and Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue during the high-level segment of the Assembly. In addition, the Ministerial Policy Review session of the Assembly was structured around the inputs provided by stakeholders through the interactive platform myunea.org. Despite these achievements, the Assembly was not able to decide on a new Stakeholder Engagement Policy.</i></p> <p><i>During this session the participants will be invited share views on how the Environment Assembly can continue to proactively engage all stakeholders –with particular focus on civil society and the private sector-- in its work and in the implementation of its decisions building on successful past experiences. In addition, participants will exchange views on opportunities to send a strong message to stakeholders during the next session of the Assembly.</i></p> <p><i>(a) Way forward on Stakeholders Engagement Policy – possible scenarios</i></p> <p><i>(b) Executive Director’s strategy to engage civil society, especially the private sector; partnerships for implementing environmental projects/programs and UN Assembly resolutions</i></p> <p>Proposed Moderators: H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohamed, Minister of Environment of Nigeria and Vice-President of the Environment Assembly and H.E. Mr. John Moreti, High Commissioner of Botswana and Vice-Chair of CPR</p> <p>Resource Persons: Ms. Theresa Panuccio, Director, Corporate Services Division and Alexander Juras, Head of the Civil Society Unit</p> <p><i>*Introduction of the Issues Paper followed by dialogue among participants</i></p>
19:00 – 21:00	<p>Welcome Reception for members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives hosted by the President of the Assembly</p>
Day 2 (28 October)	
09:00-10:30	<p>2017 Environment Assembly Preparatory Retreat (continued) <i>(Joint meetings of the Bureau of the Assembly and of Committee of Permanent Representatives with invited representatives from the Regional and Political groups in an observer capacity)</i></p> <p>Session 3: Outcome of the ministerial segment of the Third Session of the UN Environment Assembly</p> <p><i>This session will reflect on what is the best way to reach agreement on an outcome for the</i></p>

	<p><i>Environment Assembly that consolidates the voice of the Ministers of the Environment gathered in the Assembly in a way that creates impact and resonates within the UN system and beyond. Participants will be invited to share their views on what type of process can be supported that leads to the adoption of a ministerial declaration (or other) and how can the UNEA Bureau become more effectively engage in guiding/facilitating the outcome document. Otherwise, are there alternative mechanisms to ensure that the voices of the Ministers of Environment are sufficiently heard within the UN System?</i></p> <p><i>(a) Type of process can be supported that leads to the adoption of a ministerial declaration of the 2017 Environment Assembly</i></p> <p>Proposed Moderator: H.E. Mr. Edgar Gutiérrez, President of the United Nations Environment Assembly</p> <p>Resource Person: - Mr. Erik Solheim, Under Secretary General and Executive Director of the UN Environment</p> <p><i>*Introduction of the Issues Paper followed by dialogue among participants</i></p>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-13:00	<p>Session 4: Preparations for the Third session of the Assembly (inter-sessional, regional and global processes)</p> <p><i>During this session, participants will be invited to focus on identifying the best roadmap to prepare for the third Session of the Assembly. In doing so, participants will be invited to focus in a first instance on the inter-sessional process in Nairobi under the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the recently established informal working group of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.</i></p> <p><i>In a second instance, participants will be invited to share views on how regional and global process can feed-into the preparations of the Assembly, while keeping in mind the forthcoming meetings of the High-Level Political Forum and other process relevant to the sustainable development agenda.</i></p> <p>Preparatory process</p> <p><i>(a) Process and timelines for preparation and submission of draft resolutions and compliance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly (translation of draft resolutions)</i></p> <p><i>(b) Follow up of the implementation of Environment Assembly’s resolutions by the Committee of Permanent Representatives</i></p> <p><i>(c) Proactive involvement of Member States which do not have resident missions in Nairobi during the inter-sessional process, through electronic means, like video-conferencing and a new electronic portal for resolutions</i></p> <p><i>(d) Support of UN Environment Secretariat in the preparatory process</i></p> <p><i>(e) Early selection and appointment of chairs of the Committee of the Whole, sessional working groups and their early involvement in the preparatory work in the inter-sessional period by the bureau of the Assembly and the Committee in order to promote greater transparency and</i></p>

	<p><i>inclusiveness in the selection and appointment</i></p> <p><i>(f) Better response by the Secretariat to challenges in preparations of the Assembly including in the timely translation of documentation and resolutions that the Committee will present to the Assembly</i></p> <p><i>(g) Support/role of regional ministerial fora and other regional meetings in preparing for the Assembly</i></p> <p><i>(h) Road map and action plan to prepare for the third Session of the Assembly: roles of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, UN Environment and the Bureau of the Assembly</i></p> <p><i>(i) Ways/modalities of the Assembly in working better with the High-Level Political Forum and other process relevant to the sustainable development agenda and to raise visibility of the Assembly</i></p> <p>Proposed Moderators: H.E. Mr. Jassim Humadi, Acting Minister of Health and Environment of Iraq, and Vice-President of the Environment Assembly (tbc) and H.E.Ms. Julia Pataki, Ambassador of Romania and Chair of CPR</p> <p>Resource Person: Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis, Secretary, Governance Affairs Office</p> <p><i>* Introduction of the Issues Papers followed by dialogue among participants</i></p>
13:00 – 14:30	<p>Working lunch with the Representatives of the Regional and Political Groups</p> <p><i>During this working lunch the Bureau of the Assembly and of Committee of Permanent Representatives will exchange views with the representatives from the Regional and Political groups on the way forward for the themes covered by the Preparatory Retreat.</i></p>
14:30 - 15:00	<p>Update on Global Environment Outlook-6</p> <p>Proposed Moderator: Mr. John Matuszak, Senior Advisor, Office of Environmental Quality and Transboundary Issues, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State, USA</p> <p>Resource Person: Ms. Jacqueline McGlade, Director, Science Division</p>
15:00-15:30	<p>Closing of the 2017 Environment Assembly Preparatory Retreat</p> <p>During this final session, the Bureau of the Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives is expected to endorse the summary of discussions and a draft action plan of the 2017 Environment Assembly Retreat.</p> <p>Proposed Moderators: H.E. Mr. Edgar Gutiérrez, President of the Assembly and H.E. Ms. Marcela M. Nicodemos, Ambassador of Brazil and Vice-Chair of CPR</p>
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 -18:00	<p>Meeting of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly (UNEA Bureau Members only)</p> <p><i>During this session the members of the Bureau of the Assembly will define the way forward for their programme of work until the third session of the Assembly.</i></p>