



**United Nations
Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment
Programme**

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**United Nations Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment Programme**
Second session
Nairobi, 23–27 May 2016

**2/5. Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development**

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 adopting the outcome document of the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”, and General Assembly resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, on the “Format and organizational aspects of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development”,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling the role of the high-level segment of the United Nations Environment Assembly in line with Governing Council decision 27/2 in setting the global environmental agenda and providing overarching policy guidance and defining policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges,

Recalling also the outcomes of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, including its commitment to ensuring the full integration of the environmental dimension throughout the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its request that the Executive Director develop system-wide strategies on the environment and promote a strong science-policy interface,

Recalling further the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council decision 27/9 on “Advancing justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability”,

Recalling the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,

Recalling also paragraph 40 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognizes that the means of implementation targets under Goal 17 and under each Sustainable Development Goal are key to realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are of equal importance with the other Goals and Targets; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, can be met within the framework of a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, supported by the concrete policies and actions as outlined in the outcome document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015, welcomes the endorsement by the General Assembly of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development, and recognizes that the full implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is critical for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Recalling further paragraph 41 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognizes that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development deals with the means required for implementation of the Goals and targets, the need to mobilize financial resources as well as capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technology to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms as mutually agreed, and that public finance, both domestic and international, plays a vital role in providing essential services and public goods and in catalysing other sources of finance, and acknowledging the role of the diverse private sector, ranging from micro-enterprises to cooperatives to multinationals, and that of civil society organizations and philanthropic organizations in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Welcoming the Secretary-General's report on the follow-up and review process for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Taking note of the Executive Director's report on coordination across the United Nations system in the field of the environment, including the Environment Management Group,

Acknowledging the significant contributions to sustainable development made by multilateral environment agreements,

Acknowledging also that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is an agenda for all and its successful implementation requires the involvement of all relevant stakeholders,

Stressing the importance of respecting, protecting and promoting human rights and gender equality and recognizing the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in delivering the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

I

Contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to delivering on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

1. *Commits* to contributing to the effective implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated manner, through setting the global environmental agenda, providing overarching policy guidance and defining policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges, undertaking policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences, and fostering partnerships for achieving environmental goals and resource mobilization;

2. *Also commits* to conveying the main messages of its sessions to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to support its function in the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

II

Contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to delivering on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, the leading global environmental authority, to enhance its activities, in cooperation with other United Nations entities, in support of the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the national, regional and global levels, taking into account the recommendations of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;

4. *Welcomes* the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the secretariat of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns and its support and requests the Executive Director to continue the efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme to operationalize the six programmes of the framework, thus facilitating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. *Encourages* the Executive Director, within the mandate, programme of work and budget of the United Nations Environment Programme, to take action to enhance coordinated,

coherent and integrated delivery within the United Nations system on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by, inter alia:

- (a) Fostering partnerships and other means of cooperation with other relevant United Nations bodies;
- (b) Engaging with regional coordination mechanisms, as appropriate;
- (c) Actively promoting the integration of the environmental dimension into the United Nations Development Assistance Framework at the country level;
- (d) Enhancing institutional and human capacity-building at the national, regional and international levels;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its next session on progress in the implementation of the recommendations and findings of the Environment Management Group effectiveness report and the System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment for the United Nations system and to invite the members of the Environment Management Group to report to their respective governing bodies on the progress of the Group's work;

7. *Invites*, as appropriate, the Secretary-General and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to continue their support for the implementation of the recommendations of the Environment Management Group effectiveness report as well as the system-wide framework of strategies on the environment;

8. *Encourages* the Executive Director to support Governments' efforts to enhance institutional and human capacities, as well as policy and legal frameworks, upon request, towards effectively integrating and implementing the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

9. *Underlines* the key role that cities and human settlements play in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and therefore calls on the United Nations Environment Programme to support the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable urban development in close cooperation with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and other relevant United Nations entities, to continue to play an active role in the preparation of the Habitat III Conference and its follow-up;

10. *Encourages* the Executive Director to further promote, at the national, regional and global levels, synergies between multilateral environmental agreements, recognizing the institutional independence of the governing bodies of those agreements, with a view to increasing efficiency, effectiveness and inclusiveness and avoiding duplication of effort;

11. *Invites* multilateral environmental agreements to take into account relevant targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in their reporting obligations under those agreements;

III

Multi-stakeholder partnerships

12. *Requests* the Executive Director to initiate new multi-stakeholder partnerships, where appropriate, and within available resources, and strengthen existing ones, including with the private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to promote activities that contribute to delivering the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

13. *Also requests* the Executive Director, within the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, to continue to consult international financial institutions and the private finance sector, building on the report of the United Nations Environment Programme inquiry, *The Financial System We Need*, with regard to issues at the intersection of finance and the environment in support of the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

14. *Welcomes* the co-coordinator role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is an important part of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, noting that there is an opportunity to promote coordination, coherence and cooperation to enhance synergies and efficiencies, in particular to enhance capacity-building initiatives of environmentally sound technologies and innovation as well as science, technology and innovation in other sectors in order to reduce harmful impacts on the environment;

IV

Follow-up and review

15. *Emphasizes* that the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, has an important role in the follow-up to and review of progress in implementing the environmental dimension of sustainable development, including the provision of policy-relevant information through assessment processes such as the Global Environment Outlook, as a contribution to the Global Sustainable Development Report and to the annual Sustainable Development Goals progress report, all of which should support the overall follow-up and review by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;

V

Science-policy interface

16. *Encourages* the Executive Director to continue the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, in a manner that avoids duplication, on indicators to support monitoring the delivery of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

17. *Invites* the Executive Director to continue to raise awareness about environmental policies that have been proven effective in achieving sustainable development, in a manner that ensures the integration of its three dimensions;

18. *Requests* the Executive Director to strengthen the science-policy interface regarding the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by:

(a) Using data, disaggregated where applicable, and information from a wide range of sources across all relevant areas and strengthening cooperation with partners beyond the environment community, building on existing national and international instruments, assessments, panels and information networks;

(b) Continuing to collaborate with other relevant United Nations bodies and to facilitate the work of scientific panels that provide integrated assessments to support policymaking, especially those for which United Nations Environment Programme is secretariat, such as the International Resource Panel and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services;

(c) Increasing the visibility and impact of such assessments by presenting them to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and facilitating their dissemination to a wide range of audiences;

(d) Continuing to provide policy-relevant information, including the Global Environment Outlook assessments, to track progress regarding the environmental dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, as well as information on trends in global sustainability, and to present them to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to support informed decision-making with regard to strengthening implementation;

(e) Providing relevant reports and assessments that contribute to the development of the Global Sustainable Development Report, which shall inform the meetings of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the General Assembly;

VI

Assessments and early warning

19. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that the Global Environment Outlook process, products and thematic assessments, which include assessments of the state of, the trends in and the outlook for the environment, and cover the internationally agreed environmental goals, take into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

20. *Also requests* the Executive Director to ensure that the early warning activities of the United Nations Environment Programme support relevant decision makers, as well as the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, through the provision of information on emerging issues and risks that may have an impact on the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

VII

UNEP Live

21. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that UNEP Live, which already covers the internationally agreed environmental goals, provides credible, up-to-date information to support the follow-up to and review of progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, at all levels, by establishing a long-term plan for the maintenance of the programme and the relevance of its content and ensuring good traceability of the data and information made accessible through it;

VIII

Link with the programme of work, the budget and the medium-term strategy

22. *Reflects* in the programme of work, the budget and the medium-term strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme its contribution to the 2030 Agenda, which can be achieved by building synergies across the subprogrammes, by dedicating resources and by working with others towards that objective;

IX

Progress report

23. *Requests* that the Executive Director prepare a report for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its next session, reporting on the Programme contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with a view to forwarding the report to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development for its consideration.

6th plenary meeting
27 May 2016
