



**A post second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly Consultation Workshop for Stakeholders in East and Southern Africa region**  
20-21 September 2016, UN Office Nairobi, CR3

# OUTLINE



1. The Law Division
2. Relevant resolutions adopted by UNEA-2
3. In-depth analysis of the **Resolution 2/17**
4. Conclusion
5. Q&A/ Feedback

# The Law Division



The **Law Division of UN Environment** contributes to:

- The development and implementation of environmental law (**Montevideo Programme** for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law)
- Facilitation of intergovernmental platforms for the development, promotion and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements
- Reform of the International Environmental Governance system
- Principles and guidelines aimed at addressing the global environmental issues
- Leads and coordinates UN Environment's work under the **Environmental Governance sub-programme**.

# The Law Division



## Montevideo Programme IV

- promotes awareness among national environmental policymakers, other stakeholders, and enforcement officers of their responsibilities and of the advantages of implementing international environmental law, in particular in.... issues related to human rights and environment to facilitate educational programmes in relation to human rights and the environment.

# RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY

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

**2/14** Illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products

**2/16** Mainstreaming of biodiversity for well-being

**2/17** Enhancing the work of UNEP in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions

**2/19** Midterm review of the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme IV)



# 2/17 Enhancing the work of UNEP in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions



23 -27 May 2016  
Nairobi, Kenya

- **Theme of the resolution: Biodiversity**
- **Relevance for Africa:** African countries are party to several biodiversity-related MEAs;
- ✓ Africa faces environmental challenges related to climate change, biodiversity loss, unsustainable management of water resources, depletion of coastal and marine resources, pollution and waste;
- ✓ Africa hosts the African Hub of the ACP-MEAs project.
  
- **Implementation plans/ activities:** facilitate collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant UN Nations bodies;
- ✓ strengthen coherent system-wide action on capacity-building for facilitating coherent and effective implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions;
- ✓ promote the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity for the period 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and communicate at all levels the importance of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans;
- ✓ share information and to strive to align the programme of work of the UN Environment with decisions and resolutions of the respective conferences of the parties of the biodiversity-related conventions;

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- **Opportunities/challenges in implementation of the resolution:** Formal and informal cooperation mechanisms among NFPs and other key stakeholders i.e. Cameroon, Mozambique, Egypt.
- ✓ absence of adequate legal and legislative frameworks at national and regional levels; lack of information on MEAs;
- ✓ Environment still not considered as a political and financial priority in many countries, and implementation of multilateral environmental agreement (MEAs) is sidelined;
- ✓ no existing policy instruments for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into relevant sectors through all appropriate national planning processes;
- ✓ Lack of integration of biodiversity into common country assessments; non-existence of national sustainable development councils and bodies;
- ✓ Different forms and levels of cooperation i.e. Mozambique Case study

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### ➤ Role for stakeholders in the implementation of the Resolution:

- ✓ Promote and undertake mutually supportive efforts and approaches aimed at enhancing cooperation and synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions;
- ✓ Enhancing coordination, coherence and national-level synergies; support MEA implementation at the local, communal and national levels;
- ✓ Explore the use of regional approaches to address transboundary issues identified in NBSAPs, by focusing efforts on collaboration between national focal points, authorities and stakeholders involved in the implementation of NBSAPs ;
- ✓ contribute to guidance on synergistic approaches in the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions;
- ✓ promote and undertake mutually supportive efforts and approaches aimed at enhancing coordinated and coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions at all levels, building on existing activities and experience;
- ✓ Mobilize and access resources, or coordinate their activities towards a common regional or transboundary goal;
- ✓ Enhance and foster biodiversity coordination and policy planning i.e. Lesotho, Botswana



# CONCLUSION- WHY ENGAGE WITH UNEP?

- UNEP is 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
- Foster international cooperation for the environment, implementation of MEAs and environmental issues so as to address cross-border issues
- Encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.





Thank you.