



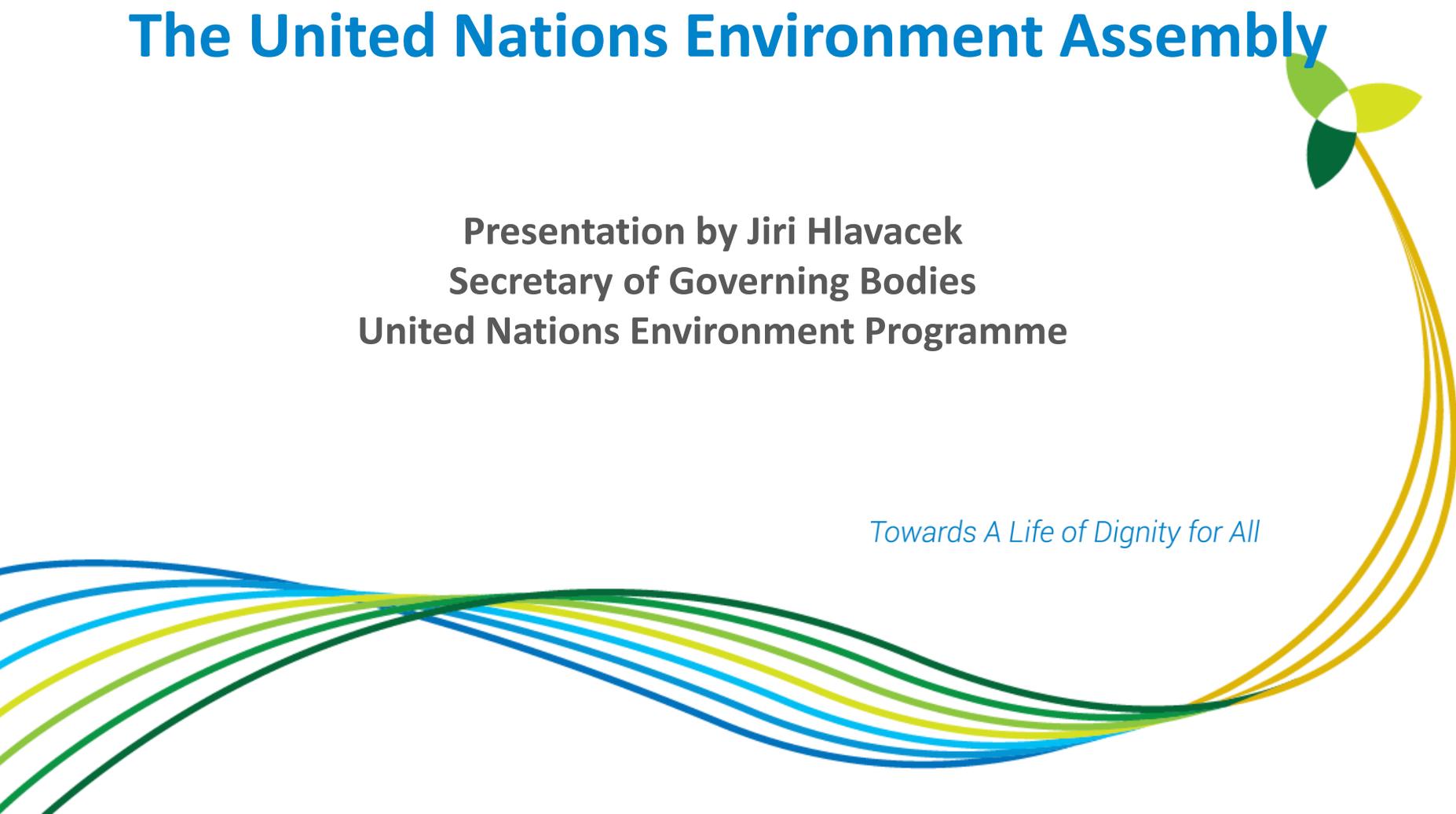
UNEPA

United Nations
Environment Assembly
of the United Nations Environment Programme

The United Nations Environment Assembly

**Presentation by Jiri Hlavacek
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United Nations Environment Programme**

Towards A Life of Dignity for All



First session of UNEA (23-27 June 2014)

- ✚ More than 160 Member States
- ✚ More than 90 led by Ministers/Vice Ministers
- ✚ 1,200 participants
- ✚ Various events being organized to bring diverse actors to Nairobi, making UNEA a truly interactive forum to discuss global environmental issues
- ✚ Dignitaries include: President and Vice President of the Republic of Kenya, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, UN Secretary-General and President of UN General Assembly, as well as Chief Justices, leading private sector and IGO representatives

UNEA responding to call of Rio+20

Paragraph 88:

“We are committed to strengthening the role of the UNEP as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the UN system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.”

(a) Establish universal membership in the Governing Council of the UNEP , as well as other measures to strengthen its governance as well as its responsiveness and accountability to Member States.

First Universal Session of GC in Feb. 2013

Decision 27/2 – Paragraph (1):

Recommends to the UN General Assembly that the Governing Council of the UNEP, an inter-governmental body established pursuant to Article 22 of the UN Charter, be renamed as the UN Environment Assembly of the UNEP.

■ Prior to the introduction of universal membership to the governing body, the Governing Council comprised 58 members elected by the General Assembly for staggered four calendar-year terms.



First Universal Session of GC in Feb. 2013

Decision 27/2 – Paragraph (6):

Decides that the governing body will ensure the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries...



Decision GC27/2 – Paragraph (5):

Decides that each session of the governing body of the UNEP will conclude with a **two-day high level segment** as an integral part of the governing body of the UNEP, which will take strategic decisions and provide political guidance and will perform inter alia the following functions:

- (a) Setting the global environmental agenda;
- (b) Providing overarching policy guidance and defining policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges;
- (c) Undertaking policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences;
- (d) Setting the strategic guidance on the future direction of the UNEP;
- (e) Organizing a multi-stakeholder dialogue;
- (f) Fostering partnerships for achieving environmental goals and resource mobilization;



United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

- Universal membership
- Meets biennially starting in 2014
- Concludes with a 2-day high level segment

Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

- Missions accredited to UNEP

Other Meetings

- Regular quarterly meetings, ad-hoc meetings, thematic debates and briefings

Open-ended Meeting

- Meets in even years for 5 days

Subcommittee Meeting

- Meets annually for five days

Decision GC27/2 – Paragraph (9):

Decides that an open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives will be the subsidiary inter-sessional body of the governing body of the UNEP and, in addition to its mandate and in open and transparent manner, will perform the following functions:

- (a) Contribute to the preparation of the agenda of its governing body;
- (b) Provide advice to its governing body on policy matters;
- (c) Prepare decisions for adoption by its governing body and overseeing their implementation;
- (d) Convene thematic and/or programmatic debates
- (e) Promoting effective ways and means to facilitate participation of the non-resident members of the Committee, particularly from developing countries;
- (f) Perform any other functions delegated to it by its governing body.

- ✚ Open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR) held on 24-28 March 2014, preceded by the meeting of the Major Groups and Stakeholders.
- ✚ Considered the reports of the Executive Director and decisions/resolutions to be adopted UNEA.
- ✚ Discussed the structure of the high-level segment and possible outcome of UNEA.
- ✚ Agreed on the intersessional work to be undertaken by CPR, including amendments to the rules of procedure, stakeholder engagement policy and UNEP programme of work and budget.



Provisional agenda includes:

- ✚ Amendments to the rules of procedure
- ✚ Policy issues:
 - (a) State of the environment
 - (b) Emerging policy issues
 - (c) International environmental governance
 - (d) Coordination and cooperation within the UN system on environment matters
 - (e) Coordination and cooperation with major groups
 - (f) Environment and development
- ✚ Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of UN summits
- ✚ Budget and programme of work for 2016-2017 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters



Decisions/Resolutions expected to be adopted

- + Omnibus decision on science-policy interface
- + Omnibus decision on chemicals and waste
- + Ecosystem-based adaptation
- + Promoting air quality through UNEP
- + Marine plastic debris and microplastics
- + GEMS/Water
- + Illegal trade in wildlife
- + Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility
- + Trust funds and earmarked contributions;
- + Stakeholder engagement



- ✚ Two themes:
 - (1) SDGs and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, including Sustainable Consumption and Production
 - (2) Illegal Trade in Wildlife
- ✚ Agreement that the first session of UNEA should be capitalized to highlight critical environmental issues and mobilize concerted action
- ✚ However, format of outcome still under debate by Member States:
 - (1) President's summary *versus*
 - (2) Ministerial declaration



- ✚ UNEA submits its report to the UN Economic and Social Council
- ✚ UNEA President is expected to report on the outcome of UNEA to the 2nd meeting of the High Level Political Forum in July 2014 in NY
 - UNEA's contribution may help deepen the environmental dimension in the ongoing discussion on SDGs
- ✚ UNEA provides the highest political forum which can issue a message on behalf of the world's Ministers of Environment



- ✚ The Bureau conducts the business of the governing body session and guides its preparations
- ✚ Current Bureau consisting of 5 members
 - President: Sudan
 - Vice Presidents: Japan, Norway and Peru
 - Rapporteur: Poland
- ✚ New Bureau will consist of 10 members, 2 from each Regional Group (to be elected at the beginning of UNEA on 23 June)
 - President: Asia-Pacific Group
 - Vice Presidents: Other Groups
 - Rapporteur: GRULAC
- ✚ Amended rules of procedure will likely to have the Bureau members elected at the end of each UNEA Session



First session of UNEA in June 2014

	Mon 23 June	Tues 24 June		Wed 25 June		Thurs 26 June	Fri 27 June	
Morning	UNEA Opening - Adoption of agenda - Election of officers - Organization of work - Policy statement	COW	Symposium on Environmental Rule of Law	COW	Symposium on Financing a Green Economy	UNEA High-level Segment Opening - Briefing by the Executive Director on the State of the Environment	Ministerial Plenary on SDGs and Post-2015 Development Agenda, including SCP	
13:00	Press Conference (1-1:45pm)						UNEP Briefing on the two themes of the high-level segment*	G77+China Ministerial Luncheon* (1-2:30pm)
13:30	SE on Air Quality	SE on SCP	SE on Chemicals and Waste	SE on Illegal Trade in Wildlife	SE on Green and Decent Jobs	SIDS Ministerial Consultation		Press Conference (2-2:45pm)
14:00								
14:30								
Afternoon	COW	Gender Forum	COW	Gender Forum	Symposium on Environmental Rule of Law	COW	Ministerial Plenary on SDGs and Post-2015 Development Agenda, including Sustainable Consumption and Production	
Evening	Reception hosted by Kenyan Govt.		UNEA Unplugged		Africa-China Ministerial Meeting ECO Consultative Ministerial Meeting on Environment	Symposium on Financing a Green Economy	Cocktail reception	
				Climate Change Dinner hosted by Poland, Peru and France* (7-9pm)			Screening of documentary film "Waste Land" (2010) by Brazil	Ministerial Dialogue on Illegal Trade in Wildlife (7-10pm)

THANK YOU!

<http://www.unep.org/unea>

