

# International Environmental Governance

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# Institutional framework for sustainable development

## Before Rio+20 (2012)

- Commission on Sustainable Development
- Millennium Development Goals
- UNEP Governing Council (58 Member States)

The future  
we want



## After Rio+20

- High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Development Goals
- UN Environment Assembly (193 UN Member States)



- Strengthen and upgrade the UN Environment through:
  - (a) Universal membership in the governing body
  - (b) Secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources
  - (c) Enhanced coordination function in the UN system
  - (d) Strong science-policy interface
  - (e) Evidence-based environmental information
  - (f) Capacity-building and technology access
  - (g) Consolidation of headquarters functions in Nairobi and stronger regional presence
  - (f) Active participation of relevant stakeholders

# UN Environment and UN Environment Assembly fit for purpose

- Is the strengthened UN Environment meeting up to the expectations of the world leaders at the Rio+20?
- Is UN Environment Assembly adequate in raising high political awareness that the today's environmental problems require?
- How can the UN Environment and the UN Environment Assembly become the driving force in ensuring effective international environmental governance?



Credit: Christabelle Qian Yao Tan, Malaysia  
4<sup>th</sup> Global Prize Winner  
21 International Children's Painting Competition

## Relevant events

- High-level dialogue on “Achieving environmental sustainability for sustainable development” (July 2016, New York)
- Experts’ workshop on “Achieving environmental sustainability for sustainable development” (July 2016, New York)
- Planet Unplugged with Maria Ivanova (December 2016, Nairobi)
- Workshop organized by the Government of Switzerland on international environmental governance (June 2017, Glion)
- Proposed side event on international environmental governance (July 2017, New York)



Participants at the Experts’ workshop in July 2016

## Ideas moving forward: Visibility and effectiveness

- Prioritize the implementation of the UN Environment Assembly resolutions
- Identify environmental nexus issues that would bring development gains in other areas
- Enhance the interface between the UN Environment Assembly and multilateral environmental agreements
- Consider organizing the UN Environment Assembly sessions in other geographical locations
- Play a more active role as environmental norm-setter within the UN system through the Environment Management Group
- Align the membership between the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives (118 members)
- Finalize the new stakeholder engagement policy





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Credit: Ephraim Finapri, Nigeria  
Regional Prize Winner: Africa  
21 International Children's Painting Competition