# Spaces for Engagement with UN Environment and the United Nations Environment Assembly

Kenyan Non-Governmental Stakeholder Workshop, 25 September 2017

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#### **Table of Content**

#### 1. Civil Society Engagement at UN Environment

- Basis for Engagement
- Definition
- Why engage with Civil Society: The Added Value
- Accreditation with UN Environment
- Accredited Organizations at Meeting of UN Environment Assembly and its Subsidiary Bodies
- Major Group Engagement at UN Environment
- 2. Civil Society Engagement at the 2017 UN Environment Assembly
- Events
- Commitments from Civil Society
- 3. Resources

Questions



### 1. Civil Society Engagement at UN Environment: Basis for Engagement

- ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31 on Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations
- Rio+20 Outcome Document "The Future We Want": "ensure the active participation of all relevant stakeholders drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and exploring new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society"
- Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Environment Assembly



#### **Definition**

- International Non-Governmental Organizations/ 9 Major Groups
  - Women; Children and Youth; Indigenous Peoples; NGOs,
     Local Authorities; Workers and Trade Unions; Business and
     Industry; Scientific and Technological Community; Farmers





#### Why Engage Civil Society: The Added Value

- Represent those most likely to be directly affected by environmental problems and related policies
- Legitimacy
- Transparency
- Expertise and knowledge enriches the inter-governmental decision making
- Awareness raising on emerging issues
- Implementation of decisions, including by providing financial means and expertise



#### **Accreditation with UN Environment**

- Consultative Status with UN Environment
- Criteria:
- 1. Registered Non-governmental organization
- 2. Not-for profit
- 3. In existence for at least 2 years
- 4. Interest in the field of environment
- 5. International scope

#### For more information:

http://www.unep.org/about/majorgroups/modalities/accreditation



#### Accredited Organizations at meetings of the United Nations Environment Assembly and its subsidiary bodies

- Accredited organizations only, reserved seats for the nine Major Groups
- Opportunity for written and oral interventions
- Accredited organizations receive relevant documentation and have access to the CPR portal
- Interactive online participation



#### Partners for implementation

Civil society is crucial for the implementation of projects and activities

- ☐ Climate Change
- ☐ Disasters and Conflicts
- ☐ Ecosystem Management
- ☐ Environmental Governance
- ☐ Chemicals and Waste
- ☐ Resource Efficiency
- ☐ Environment under Review



#### Major Groups Engagement at UN Environment

Major Group Facilitating Committee (elected by accredited organizations for a 2 year term)

Major Group representatives (2 representatives per major group)

Regional representatives(2 representatives per region)

Observer status

➤ Facilitate Major Group and Stakeholder Engagement with UN Environment



## 2. Civil Society Engagement at the 2017 UN Environment Assembly Events

- Global Major Group and Stakeholder Forum
   27-28 November 2017
- Science, Policy and Business Forum
  - 2-3 December 2017
- Multistakeholder Dialogue
  - 5 December 2017

More info:

http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/assembly



#### Act now!

- Sign the Clean Planet Pledge
- Make your commitment towards a pollutionfree planet
- Share your story

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More info:
http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/act
-now
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#### 3. Resources

- Civil Society Website: http://web.unep.org/about/majorgroups/
- ECOSOC Resolution: https://goo.gl/nyiDjt
- UN Guidelines for Engagement with the Business Community: https://goo.gl/w9p8af
- Assembly Rules of Procedure: https://goo.gl/hPrnwg
- Stakeholder Engagement Handbook: https://goo.gl/xfMMIo
- Accreditation: https://goo.gl/uNHd0Y
- List of Accredited Organisations: https://goo.gl/JNkZVA
- UNEP Access to Information Policy: https://goo.gl/jysx0o



