

Draft elements for a decision on the adjournment and resumption of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling Decision 4/2 of the United Nations Environment Assembly, entitled “Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly” by which the United Nations Environment Assembly decided to hold the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its headquarters in Nairobi from 22 to 26 February 2021;

Recalling the theme for the fifth session of the United Nations; “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”;

Conscious of the fact that the restrictions related to the COVID 19 pandemic have not allowed for representatives from member States and stakeholders to meet in person at its fifth session during these dates;

Deeply committed to fulfilling the mandate of the United Nations Environment Assembly as the United Nations highest-level decision-making body on the environment;

Having convened by virtual means between 22 and 23 February 2021:

1. *Decides* to adjourn the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and to resume deliberations at its headquarters in Nairobi from 28 February to **X March** 2022 [pending conclusion of paragraph 9/alt.9] to conclude the consideration of its agenda;
2. *Decides* that the Open-Ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives will resume its fifth session from 21 to 25 February 2022, and requests the Committee of Permanent Representatives to decide on the format and agenda of its meeting;
3. ***Calls upon the Secretariat as well as Member States, with support of the Secretariat as appropriate, to continue work on all relevant work streams, with a view to continue our joint efforts to strengthen actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and to address follow up on relevant existing mandates from previous sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly, including on the Future of the Global Environment Outlook, follow-up to UNGA resolution 73/333, the CPR-based review and on identifying action to address marine litter and micro plastics.***
4. *Takes note* of the reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme submitted to the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly on progress achieved in the implementation of resolutions of the Assembly, as set out in the Annex to this decision, and *decides* to defer action on these reports to the resumed session of the Assembly on 28 February 2022;
5. ***Decides that the United Nations Environment Assembly shall at its resumed fifth session finalize implementation of the mandate entrusted to it by General Assembly resolution 73/333 of 30 August 2019, to prepare a political declaration for a United Nations high-level meeting. It further recommends the adoption of such declaration at a [Special Session/high level event] of the United Nations Environment Assembly to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Environment Programme, to be held on 3 March 2022; and invites the General Assembly to approve this recommendation;***
- ~~5.6.~~ *Decides* that the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue to review the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Assembly;
- ~~6.7.~~ *Decides* that the resumed fifth session of the Assembly shall consist of plenary meetings, a sessional Committee of the Whole, and a high-level segment, including leadership dialogues and a multi-stakeholder dialogue;

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~~7.8.~~ *Strongly encourages* member States, without prejudice to the rules of procedure, in particular rule 44, to submit draft resolutions for consideration by the resumed session of the United Nations Environment Assembly at an early stage, preferably at least **ten** weeks in advance of the resumed session of the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, to allow for a productive period in-between the virtual and resumed session of the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly, taking into account the limited time and resources available for negotiation of such draft resolutions.

Commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972

~~8.9.~~ *Decides* to convene a Special Session of the UN Environment Assembly to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme, to be held on ~~[3 and] 4~~ **3 March** 2022, under the leadership of the Presidency and the Bureau of the sixth session of the Environment.

9.alt Decides to include in the agenda of the resumed fifth session an item entitled “Commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme in 1972” and to hold a special event on ~~[3 and] 4~~ **3 March** 2022 as an integral part of its high-level segment.
