

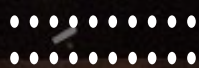


# Briefing on the online and resumed 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Environment Assembly and its preparatory meetings



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# Outline

- 1. Online UNEA-5, 22-23 February 2021:**
  - Format
  - Agenda and structure
  - Expected outcomes
- 2. OECPR-5, 15-16 February 2021**
- 3. Towards the resumed session of UNEA-5 in February 2022**





## UNEA-5

- Online, 22-23 February 2021
- In person, February 2022

- In October 2020, the UNEA Bureau agreed to a “two-step” approach due to the COVID 19 pandemic; 1) a 2-day **online meeting** of UNEA-5 on 22-23 February 2021, and 2) a **resumed in-person meeting** in February 2022.
- The online session will focus on a limited number of **urgent administrative and procedural decisions** (UNEP Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work).
- Formal **negotiations on substantive matters will be deferred** to the resumed in-person session.
- An **interactive leadership dialogue** on the under the theme *“Contribution of the environmental dimension of sustainable development to building a resilient and inclusive post-pandemic world”*

# Structure for online UNEA-5

## Organization of work of the online meeting of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

	22 February 2021	23 February 2021
11 a.m.–2 p.m.	<p>Opening of the session (agenda item 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Functional opening (President and Executive Director)</li> <li>- Address by the Secretary-General of the United Nations</li> <li>- Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 2)</li> <li>- Statements by regional and political groups</li> <li>- Credentials of representatives (agenda item 3)</li> <li>- Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (agenda item 4) on draft decisions recommended by the Committee for adoption by the Environment Assembly at its fifth session</li> </ul> <p><b>ACEFRS<sup>a</sup></b></p>	<p>Leadership dialogue: Group B</p> <p>“Contribution of the environmental dimension of sustainable development to building a resilient and inclusive post-pandemic world”</p> <p><b>ACEFRS<sup>a</sup></b></p>
2–4 p.m.	<b>BREAK</b>	
4–7 p.m.	<p>Leadership dialogue: Group A</p> <p>“Contribution of the environmental dimension of sustainable development to building a resilient and inclusive post-pandemic world”</p> <p><b>ACEFRS<sup>a</sup></b></p>	<p>Adjournment (wrap-up) plenary session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Summary of the leadership dialogue</li> <li>- Adoption of procedural decisions, including on the medium-term strategy and the programme of work and budget (agenda item 12)</li> <li>[Consensual statement]</li> <li>[Kick-off for UNEP@50]</li> <li>- Adjournment of the session</li> </ul> <p><b>ACEFRS<sup>a</sup></b></p>

<sup>a</sup> Interpretation available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish (ACEFRS), the six official languages of the United Nations.

# Expected outcomes from online UNEA-5

## ***Procedural decisions which require urgent consideration***

- Decisions on programme of work 2022–2023 and medium term strategy 2022-2025 and on management of trust funds
- Decision on the date and format of the resumed session in 2022

## ***Possible consensual message from the President of UNEA***

- Draft consensual message shared in mid-November focusing on green recovery
- Open online consultation held in December 2021, followed by further consultations with the UNEA Bureau in January 2022
- Significant support from many Member States, but some remain concerned about potential online negotiations and status of the text

## ***Other ongoing processes – for consideration at the resumed meeting***

- Future of the Global Environment Outlook process
- Outcome of the ad hoc expert group on marine litter and microplastics
- Implementation of UNGA resolution 73/333
- ...

# Online OECPR-5

	15 February 2021	16 February 2021	17-19 February 2021
10:00 - 12:00	TBC Regional Groups Meetings Bureau Meeting	TBC Regional Groups Meetings Bureau Meeting	
12:00 – 15:00	<p><b>Opening Plenary</b></p> <p><u>Item 1:</u> Opening and adoption of the agenda  <u>Item 2:</u> Adoption of minutes of the 153<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the CPR  <u>Item 3:</u> organization of work  <u>Item 4:</u> Budget and Programme Performance, including implementation of UNEA resolutions  <u>Item 5:</u> Administrative and budgetary matters  <u>Item 6:</u> Contribution to the meeting of HLPF  <u>Item 7:</u> General Assembly resolution 73/333  <u>Item 8:</u> Preparation of draft decisions for the online session of UNEA-5</p> <p><i>Online interpretation into all official UN languages</i></p>	<p><b>Contact Group (Plenary)</b>  <i>Consideration of administrative and procedural draft decisions**</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Draft decision on the on the POW/B and MTS</i></li> <li>• <i>Draft decision on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions;</i></li> <li>• <i>Draft decision on date and format for the resumed session of UNEA-5 and OECPR-5</i></li> </ul> <p><i>English only</i></p>	
15:00 - 15:30	<b>BREAK</b>		
15:30 – 18:30	<p><b>Contact Group (Plenary)</b>  <i>Consideration of administrative and procedural draft decisions**</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Draft decision on the on the proposed Programme of Work and Budget and on the Medium Term Strategy</i></li> <li>• <i>Draft decision on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions;</i></li> <li>• <i>Draft decision on date and format for the resumed session of UNEA-5 and OECPR-5</i></li> </ul> <p><i>English only</i></p>	<p><b>Wrap-Up Plenary*</b></p> <p><u>Item 9:</u> Preparation of decisions and outcomes from UNEA-5  <u>Item 10:</u> Consideration of a draft Chair's summary</p> <p><i>Online interpretation into all official UN languages</i></p>	

# Regional inputs to UNEA-5

- Many regions have environment ministerial forums to facilitate the preparation of joint positions and political inputs to UNEA – often supported by UNEP Regional Offices
- Examples:
  - Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific
  - African Ministerial Conference on the Environment
  - Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean
  - Currently there is no established environment ministerial forum in the West Asia region, but a first Environment Ministerial Meeting held in August 2020 provides a good starting point to establish such as Forum
- Regional ministerial meetings are often preceded by regional stakeholder forums;
- A complete overview of regional preparations available here:  
<https://www.unenvironment.org/events/subcommittee-meetings/committee-permanent-representatives-subcommittee-meeting-43>

# Stakeholder Engagement towards UNEA 5

## Three levels of engagement



### Agenda-setting

- Policy shaping
- Global political agenda setting
- UNEA agenda setting



### Decision-making/shaping

- Policy deliberations leading to decision-making
- Transparency and access-to-information



### Implementation

- Strategic partnerships for implementation of UNEP's policies
- Strategic partnerships for achieving sustainable development

Expert input and advice



# Looking ahead towards the resumed session of UNEA-5

- Takes place in Nairobi in February 2022, as an in-person meeting – exact date to be decided
- Overall theme remains *“Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”*
- UNEA President to continue consultations on a Ministerial Declaration
- Member States may table early draft resolutions with a focus on the “nature” theme
- Possible follow-up decisions to support the implementation of strengthened global agreements on biodiversity, climate change and chemicals
- UNEP@50 celebrated back-to-back
- Possible adoption of a declaration under General Assembly resolution 73/333



# Thank you

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