Agenda items 2 and 3.1:

Assessment of the online UNEA-5.1
Format and structure of UNEA-5.2

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Joint Bureaux Meeting - 24 June 2021
UNEA-5.1 and UNEA-5.2: Background

- Due to COVID-19, Member States decided that the UNEA-5 should take place in a two-step approach.
- The first part (UNEA-5.1) focused on urgent and procedural decisions.
- The outcomes of UNEA-5.1 were prepared at OECPR-5.1.
- Substantive matters deferred to the resumed session; UNEA-5.2 in February 2022, to be prepared at OECPR-5.2.
- UNEA-5.2 to followed by a Special Session in March 2022, to commemorate of the 50th anniversary of UNEP.
- All preparatory work conducted online.
Summary of UNEA-5.1 – main outcomes

• **Joint message endorsed** - “Looking ahead to the resumed UNEA – Message from online UNEA-5, Nairobi 22 – 23 February 2021”

• **Three decisions adopted**
  - Medium-term strategy and programme of work and budget
  - Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions
  - Adjournment and resumption of UNEA-5

• **High-level leadership dialogue**: “Contribution of the environmental dimension of sustainable development to building a resilient and inclusive post-pandemic world”

**UNEA-5.1 Demonstrated that the international community remains committed to making progress on the global environment**

**Lessons-learned can offer insights for other meetings and future UNEAs**
Summary of UNEA-5.1 – some statistics

- **2043 delegates in total** (48% female, and 52% male); **114 Ministers** (87 Ministers, 27 Deputy Ministers)
- **1038 Member State delegates** (151 Member States, 2 Observer States, 2 Members of Specialized agencies)
- 101 delegates from **16 intergovernmental organizations**; 667 delegates from **300 non-governmental organizations**; 67 journalists attended; 570 journalists following online live feed
- Reached almost **10 million people online with 2.1 million views** of UNEA-5 videos
- Generated **887 media articles** across 71 countries in 21 languages
- UNEA website received **80,000 pageviews**; 17,000 views of UNEA blog
Key success factors for UNEA-5.1

- Early **consensus on format and outcomes**
- Informal **consultations on high-level message** led by UNEA President
- Effective & timely preparatory **consultations and negotiations under CPR**
- Substantive inputs from **regional ministerial fora**
- Timely and accessible **background documentation**
- Efforts to achieve **transparency, inclusivity, and universal participation despite challenges**
- Compliance with **UNEA rules of procedure**
- **Independent stakeholder-led events** preceding the Assembly - *but with less opportunity to influence the decision-making process during online meetings*
Looking ahead towards UNEA-5.2

- Timely *intergovernmental preparatory consultations* and negotiations conducted under the CPR;
- **Substantive inputs from regional ministerial foras** and other events organized by UNEP regional offices;
- Continued *consultations on the political declaration* led by the UNEA President;
- **In-person negotiations** - as soon as related to the COVID-19 pandemic allow
- **Online or hybrid side events**
- Improved *IT platforms and technical training* for online events and informal consultative meetings
Proposed structure for UNEA.5.2

- **Resumed meeting of OECPR-5**: 21 - 25 February 2022
  - Preparations of the political outcomes: Regional groups meetings; Bureau meetings; contact group negotiations on draft resolutions; consultations on the Ministerial Declaration
  - Major Groups preparatory meetings
  - Science Policy interface meetings

- **Resumed session of UNEA-5**: 28 February - 2 March 2022
  - Regional groups meetings; Bureau meetings; UNEA-5 opening plenary; National statements; Committee of the whole; High-level segment, Leadership dialogues; Multi-stakeholder dialogue; Closing plenary.
  - Side events

- **Special session to commemorate UNEP@50**: 3 – 4 March 2022
  
  to be decided under leadership of UNEA-6 Presidency and Bureau
UNE A-5.2 - involving Multilateral Environmental Agreements

- UNEA-5 theme remains highly relevant for MEAs
- Possible avenues for enhancing the engagement of MEAs in UNEA5:
  - Consult with MEAs secretariats in the preparation of substantive documentation
  - MEA technical support to consultations on draft resolutions for UNEA-5
  - Involve MEAs in the organization of key events leading up to and during UNEA-5, incl at regional levels
  - Further explore modalities for MEAs to contribute to consideration of relevant agenda items for UNEA 5.2 and the UNEA Special Session on UNEP@50
- Uncertainties relating to COVID-19 require flexibility
- Experiences can feed into planning of future UNEA sessions
Thank You