



Distr.: General
12 September 2022

English only



United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

159th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme

Nairobi, 29 September 2022

Hybrid meeting

10:00 – 13:00, 15:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)

Agenda item 5: Implementation of UNEA resolutions

b) UNEA resolution 5/3: Future of the Global Environment Outlook

This background document has been developed by the Secretariat to inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives on overall progress made in the implementation of UNEA resolution 5/3: Future of the Global Environment Outlook. More specifically, it includes detailed information on the following aspects of the GEO-7 process:

- Status update on establishing the Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee (IMAG), meant to advise the ED on the GEO-7 process.
- Status update on convening of the first open ended expert meeting on GEO-7 (19-22 September, online), which focused on procedural matters.
- Status update on convening of the second open ended expert meeting on GEO-7 (17-20 October, in person), which will focus on scoping of GEO-7, and the related first meeting of the IMAG.
- Outline a roadmap and present planned next steps after the September and October meetings.

The nomination process for the Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (IMAG) has been completed and the Secretariat has proposed a membership of the IMAG which respects disciplinary and gender balance and ensures geographic balance across UN regions, as requested in the resolution.

Member States are invited to provide guidance to the Secretariat on the further implementation of this resolution.

Progress made in implementation of UNEA resolution 5/3 on the Future of the Global Environment Outlook and next steps

1. Following the briefing on the implementation of [UNEA resolution 5/3 Future of the Global Environment Outlook](#) to the Committee of Permanent Representatives provided at its meeting of the subcommittee on 16 June 2022, the Secretariat has facilitated the nomination process for the Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (IMAG) and the nominations for the two inaugural meetings of an open-ended expert group on GEO-7, with the aim of establishing the procedures and time frame for preparing GEO-7 and define its scope.

The Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group

2. In response to the request for nominations to the IMAG from the Executive Director to Member States and accredited stakeholders dated 17 June 2022, the Secretariat received 52 nominations from Member States and 37 nominations from accredited stakeholders for positions on this advisory body. Table 1 outlines the regional and gender distribution of nominees from Member States.

Table 1: IMAG Nominees from Member States by gender and UN Region¹

UN Region	Male	Female	Total Countries
Africa Group	12	11	7
West Europe	2	7	7(1)
Eastern Europe	2	2	4
Asia Pacific	6(1)	6	7(1)
LAC	3	2	5
Totals	25(1)	28	31(1)

3. Based on these nominations and a thorough review of their CVs, as well as informal consultations with chairs and representatives of the UN regional Groups in Nairobi, a proposal has been prepared by the Secretariat which would select 25 Member State experts (five per UN region) to be represented in the IMAG. Table 2 provides an overview of the geographic and gender distribution of the proposed composition of the IMAG.

Table 2: Secretariat proposal for the composition of the IMAG based on expertise, gender and geographical balance

UN Region	Male	Female	Total Countries
Africa Group	3	2	5
West Europe	2	3	5
Eastern Europe	3	2	5
Asia Pacific	2	3	5
LAC	3	2	5
Totals	13	12	24

4. Further, the Secretariat has received nominations from experts from accredited Major Groups and Stakeholders to fill 10 seats within the IMAG. Following a thorough review by the Secretariat, 10 Stakeholder experts have been selected, taking into account balance across different Major Groups relevant to the GEO, geographic balance, and gender balance. See Table 3.

¹ The (1) in the nomination list indicates that an alternate was nominated by the U.S. in the WEOG group, and that Palestine nominated an expert for IMAG in the Asia-Pacific group.

Table 3: Proposed selection for Major Groups and Stakeholders representatives in the IMAG

Relevant Stakeholder	Nominees	Gender	Nationality	Region
Science and Technology Major Group	Mohamed Abdelraouf	Male	Egypt	African Group
	Dr Fabian Wagner	Male	Germany	WEOG
Women Major group	Ruth Spencer	Female	Antigua and Barbuda	Latin American and Caribbean Group
NGO Major groups	Ms. Djatougbe Aziaka	Female	Togo	African Group
	Mr Jan-Gustav Strandenaes	Male	Norway	WEOG
Indigenous peoples	Prem Singh Tharu	Male	Thailand	Asia and the Pacific Group
Children and Youth	Zahra Abu Taha	Female	Jordan	Asia and the Pacific Group
Business and Industry	Dominic Kailash Nath Waughray	Male	India	Asia and the Pacific Group
Local authorities	Ms. Ingrid Coetzee	Female	South Africa	African Group
Faith-based groups	Merylene Chitharai	Female	South Africa	African Group
Totals	Gender	5 M, 5 F		2 from WEOG, 3 from African Group, 1 from GRULAC, 3 from the Asia Pacific Group

5. The nominations from Member States and stakeholders have provided the the Secretariat a wide variety of experienced and knowledgeable experts, from diverse disciplines, from a wide range of countries and regions, with a balanced gender distribution. This will contribute to providing unique perspectives and policy relevant findings from GEO-7.

Table 4 provides the full list of proposed experts for the IMAG.

Table 4: Secretariat proposal for IMAG membership²

	Title	First Name	Family Name	Gender	Nationality	Region(s) of Representation
Member State	Mr	Thomas	Chali	Male	Tanzania	African Group
Member State	Dr	Jerome	Lugumira Sebadduka	Male	Uganda	African Group
Member State	Dr	Modibo	sacko	Male	Mali	African Group
Member State	Dr	Leila	BENDIFALLAH	Female	Algeria	African Group
Member State	Ms.	Anna	Mampye	Female	South Africa	African Group
Stakeholder group	Dr.	Mohamed	Abdelraouf	Male	Egypt	African Group
Stakeholder group		Djatougbe	Aziaka	Female	Togo	African Group
Stakeholder group	Miss	Merylene	Chitharai	Female	South Africa	African Group
Stakeholder group	Ms.	Ingrid	Coetzee	Female	South Africa	African Group
Member State	Ms	Yi	Huang	Female	China	Asia and the Pacific Group
Member State	Dr	Thuraya	AL Sariri	Female	Oman	Asia and the Pacific Group
Member State	Mrs	Rolenas	Baereleo	Female	Vanuatu	Asia and the Pacific Group
Member State	Mrs	maha	maayta	Female	Jordan	Asia and the Pacific Group
Member State	Mr	Takashi	Otsuka	Male	Japan	Asia and the Pacific Group
Stakeholder group	Mr	Prem	Singh Tharu	Male	Thailand	Asia and the Pacific Group
Stakeholder group	Ms	Zahra	Abu Taha	Female	Jordan	Asia and the Pacific Group
Stakeholder group	Mr	Dominic	Kailash Nath Waughray	Male	India	Asia and the Pacific Group
Member State	Ms	Meri	Harutyunyan	Female	Armenia	Eastern European Group
Member State	Mr	TOGHRUL	FEYZIYEV	Male	Azerbaijan	Eastern European Group
Member State	Mr	Miroslav	Havránek	Male	Czechia	Eastern European Group
Member State	Mrs	Dušica	Pešević	Female	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Eastern European Group
Member State	Dr	Marek	Haliniak	Male	Poland	Eastern European Group
Member State	Ms	Gillian	Stanislaus	Female	Trinidad & Tobago	Latin American and Caribbean Group
Member State	Mr	Kenset Amaury	Rosales Riveiro	Male	Guatemala	Latin American and Caribbean Group
Member State	Mr	Silvio	Albuquerque e Silva	Male	Brazil	Latin American and Caribbean Group
Member State	Mrs	Iveth	Torres Bonilla	Female	Panama	Latin American and Caribbean Group
Member State	Mr	Rafael	Monge	Male	Costa Rica	Latin American and Caribbean Group

² Please note that two alternates have been nominated for the WEOG group. These are not counted in the membership totals.

Stakeholder group	Ms.	Ruth	Viola Spencer	Female	Antigua and Barbuda	Latin American and Caribbean Group
Member State	Mr	Arthur	EIJS	Male	Netherlands	Western European Group
Member State	Dr	Salla	Rantala	Female	Finland	Western European Group
Member State	(Alternate) Dr	Lisa	Eriksson	Female	Sweden	Western European Group
Member State	Ms	Claudia	Kabel	Female	Germany	Western European Group
Member State	Dr	Lorenzo	Ciccarese	Male	Italy	Western European Group
Member State	Dr	Toral	Patel-Weynand	Female	United States	Western European Group
Member State	(Alternate) Dr	Keri	Holland	Female	United States	Western European Group
Stakeholder group	Mr	Jan-Gustav	Strandenaes	Male	Norway	Western European Group
Stakeholder group	Dr	Fabian	Wagner	Male	Germany	Western European Group

Open ended expert meetings for GEO-7

6. In mid-June the Executive Director issued a request for nominations of experts to attend the first two open ended expert meetings for GEO-7 by Member States and stakeholders. In addition, UNEP proceeded to invite dedicated experts from academia to support the meeting, in particular experts in the areas energy, food and waste/circularity systems as well as climate change adaptation experts.
7. These nomination process resulted in 258 experts nominated for the first meeting focusing on procedural matters to take place online 29-22 September, and 246 experts nominated for the in-person (hybrid) meeting of the open-ended group scheduled for 17-20 October to consider and approve the scope of GEO-7.
8. Further information on these open-ended meetings of experts for GEO-7, including agenda and background documents, is available on the meeting portals below:
 - **GEO Procedures meeting** (19-22 September 2022, online):
<https://apps1.unep.org/resolutions/?q=Geo-7>
 - **GEO-7 scoping meeting** (17-20 October 2022 online and in person):
<https://indico.un.org/event/1002408/>
9. Tables 5 and 6 provide summaries of the participant geographic and gender distribution for the two meetings.

Table 5: September meeting geographic and gender distribution

Meeting participation			
UN Region	Male	Female	Total participants
Africa Group	38	32	70
West Europe	28	27	55
Eastern Europe	7	10	17
Asia Pacific	38	34	72
LAC	20	24	44
Totals	131	127	258

Table 6: October Meeting geographic and gender distribution

Meeting participation			
UN Region	Male	Female	Total participants
Africa Group	38	26	64
West Europe	35	31	66
Eastern Europe	8	8	16
Asia Pacific	36	29	65
LAC	17	18	35
Totals	134	112	246

10. The high interest from Member States and Stakeholders to be represented at these expert meetings will ensure insightful discussions and thorough consideration of the matters at hand.

Possible outcomes and next steps after the open-ended meetings if experts in September and October

11. The Secretariat will provide an oral update at the 159th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the Outcome of the first open ended expert meeting for GEO-7 scheduled for 19-22 September focusing on procedural matters.
12. The plan for the open-ended expert meeting in October is to convene expert dialogues with the aim to review and approve a scoping document for GEO-7. This is meant to inform Member States about a solutions-focused approach for GEO-7. The expert dialogues are also meant to elicit key policy questions that Member States would like GEO-7 to answer. An online questionnaire, in all UN languages, will also be distributed prior to the meeting to obtain feedback on key questions that GEO-7 should attempt to answer.
13. It is anticipated that a scoping document will be approved at the October meeting, allowing the Secretariat to initiate a call for expressions of interest from collaborating centres with specific areas of expertise to support the GEO process. In addition, the Secretariat expects to establish the profiles of expertise required for each of the chapters of the GEO-7, following approval of an annotated outline following the scoping meeting planned for 17-20 October. From these profiles, a call for expressions of interest will be sent to Member States, institutions, and groups of experts to seek interest in contributing to the GEO-7.
14. The call for expressions of interest are expected to open in early November 2022 and close by the end of the year. From these expressions of interest, a group of authors will be selected to attend a first GEO-7 author's meeting, tentatively planned to take place from 6-10 March 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand.
15. From the call for collaborating centres, the Secretariat will select organizations that have the required expertise and interest to partner with UNEP during the production of GEO-7. Member States will be kept informed of any outreach to institutions in their countries in this regard.

For more information on any of these points, please reach out to pierre.boileau@un.org.