Major Groups and Stakeholders Engagement at UNEA

West Asia Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum

23 October 2023

Radhika Ochalik
Secretary, Governance Affairs Office, UNEP
Key milestones in UNEP’s history

1972: Stockholm Conference, UNEP established
UNEP was established in 1972 at the UN Conference on the Human Environment to monitor the state of the environment, inform policy making with science and coordinate responses to the world’s environmental challenges.

2012: Rio+20, UNEP strengthened
At the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, UNEP’s mandate is strengthened, and governance is upgraded to universal membership through UNEA helping to define a new era of international environmental governance.

2022: UNEP@50, UNEP’s contribution acknowledged
Political declaration at the UNEP@50 Special Session of UNEA acknowledged 50-year contribution of UNEP and its role in addressing the triple planetary crisis and called for further strengthening of the organization.
UNEP is Governed by Member States

The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) – meets every two years

The Committee of Permanent Representatives plays an important role:

- CPR regular meetings (4/year)
- Open-ended CPR (once every two years to prepare UNEA)
- Annual CPR subcommittee (one per year to provide review and oversight)
- CPR Subcommittee (as necessary)
UNEA-6 Theme

“Effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution”

The UNEA-6 theme was defined on 30 January 2023 by the UNEA Bureau, in close collaboration with the CPR Bureau and based on extensive consultations with the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)
Consultations are held under the leadership of the UNEA-6 Presidency, who also holds the pen

- A roadmap for the consultation on the UNEA-6 ministerial declaration was shared in April 2023
- A "first draft" was made available to all delegations and stakeholders on 17 August, with an invitation to provide inputs in writing by 29 September
- Second informal consultation was held on 26 September
- A second draft of the ministerial declaration will be circulated at the end of October.
- Third informal consultation will be organized on 8 November
Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
5. International environmental policy and governance issues.
6. Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues.
7. Stakeholder engagement.
8. Contributions to the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
9. High-level segment.
11. Provisional agenda, date and venue of the seventh session of the Environment Assembly.
12. Adoption of the resolutions, decisions and outcome document of the session.
14. Other matters.
15. Adoption of the report.
16. Closure of the session.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday 27 February 2024</th>
<th>Tuesday 28 February 2024</th>
<th>Wednesday 1 March 2024</th>
<th>Thursday 28 February 2024</th>
<th>Friday 1 March 2024</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-9:00</td>
<td>Res/pol group meetings</td>
<td>Res/pol group and MGS meetings</td>
<td>Ministerial breakfast (TBC)</td>
<td>Res/pol group meetings</td>
<td>Res/pol group meetings</td>
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<td>9:00-10:00</td>
<td>Bureau meetings</td>
<td>Bureau meetings and MGS meetings</td>
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<td>Bureau meetings</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Major Groups meetings</td>
<td>MGS meetings</td>
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<td>Major Groups meetings</td>
<td>Major Groups meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Opening of the session [Item 1]</td>
<td>- Committee of the Whole [CR 2-3-4] Working Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution</td>
<td>focusing on actions to tackle biodiversity loss</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Establishment of the COW</td>
<td>- Committee of the Whole [CR 2-3-4] Working Groups</td>
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<td>focusing on actions to tackle climate change</td>
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<td>- Statements [Item 1]</td>
<td>- Committee of the Whole [CR 2-3-4] Working Groups</td>
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<td>- Contributions to the HLPF [item 8]</td>
<td>- High-Level Dialogue on Cooperation with MEAs [CR1]</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30-14:45</td>
<td>UNEA-6 side event(s)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>[Consideration of agenda items 5, 6 and 11]</td>
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<td>focusing on actions to tackle climate change</td>
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<td>18:30-19:45</td>
<td>UNEA-6 side event(s)</td>
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<td>Poss. high-level reception (TBC)</td>
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## Participation modalities for UNEA-6

UNEA-6 held fully in-person

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>In-Person</th>
<th>Online participation</th>
<th>Live streamed (view only)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formal Plenary meetings</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Informal Plenary meetings</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee of the Whole</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Informal consultations</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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Video messages can be provided by Heads of State and Government who will not be able to participate in person.
Preparatory process for draft resolutions/decisions

**November**
- Advance version of ED’s report on progress made on previous UNEA resolutions available

**December**
- **4th December**
  - Deadline to announce submission of proposals

- **11th December**
  - Deadline to submit proposals

- **18th December**
  - Final deadline to submit proposals

**January/February**
- **20-24 November**
  - 10th Annual Subcommittee Meeting
  - Half day
  - Announcement/Intro of drafts proposals

- **6th December**
  - UNEA+CPR Joint Bureaux meeting

- **January/February**
  - Appointment of Co-facilitators
  - Informal consultations, under the auspices of the CPR.

- **19-23 February**
  - OECPR

- **25th February**
  - UNEA+CPR Joint Bureaux meeting

- **26th Feb – 1st March**
  - UNEA

- **February**
HOW?

• In UNEA and CPR as observer with opportunity to provide oral and written statements
• Access to CPR portal including to un-edited working documents and submission of written inputs
• Regional Consultative Meetings (RCMs) – often back-to-back to regional Ministerial Forum
• Global fully virtual preparatory consultation
• Youth Environmental Assembly (YEA)
• Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF) prior to the UN Environment Assembly
• Multi-stakeholder forum during UNEA
Thank you!

https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement

https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/

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