

# Civil Society Engagement in UNEP

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Laetitia Zobel  
Civil Society Unit, UNEP

# What is Civil Society Engagement in UNEP

- Rule 70 of Rules of Procedure
- UN practice as also outlined in “The Future We Want” and Governing Council Decision 27/2
- Civil Society and stakeholder expertise enriches the inter-governmental decision-making process without questioning the intergovernmental nature of UNEP
- Adds transparency and legitimacy to the work of UNEP
- Gives an opportunity for those who might be affected by decisions to raise their concerns but also make constructive suggestions.

# How

- Nine Major Groups and Stakeholders
- Formal accreditation as a condition for participation
- 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
- Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF) prior to the UN Environment Assembly as well as Youth Environmental Assembly (YEA)
- Regional Consultative Meetings (RCMs) – often back-to-back to regional Ministerial Forum
- Major Groups Facilitating Committee and Regional Facilitators (MGFC)

# The Nine Major Groups



**NGOs**

**Farmers**

**Indigenous Peoples and their communities**

**Local Authorities**

**Women**

**The Scientific and Technological Community**

**Children and Youth**

**Workers and Trade Unions**

**Business and Industry**

# The Major Group Facilitating Committee



- The Major Groups Facilitating Committee (MGFC) is a self-organized group that facilitates Major Groups and Stakeholders engagement with UNEP.
- The MGFC consists of two representatives per Major Group (Major Group Facilitators) and two representatives per regions (Regional Facilitators) which are elected by Major Groups and Stakeholders (MGS) organizations accredited by UNEP.
- The work of the MGFC:
  - provide support on logistics and foster understanding of the process so that Major Groups and Stakeholders can maximize their presence,
  - operating within the rules of engagement and procedure that UNEP has set up;
  - providing guidance and finding expertise to develop policy positions representing the best contributions from the Major Groups and Stakeholders constituencies relevant to the agenda points of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and other specialized meetings

# Major Group Facilitators

- Major Group Facilitators are elected for a period of two years by their constituency.
- Role of Major Group Facilitator:
  - Help maximize participation of representatives of its Major Group worldwide in UNEA and its related meetings
  - Facilitate the involvement of Major Groups members with specific issue knowledge in UNEP-related work, both in the local, national and regional contexts as well as at UNEA;
  - Assist participating Major Group members in having access to information related to the agenda for the UNEP meetings; participating fully in UNEA and its related meetings, and having free and unfettered access to delegates;
  - Provide general information, training and capacity building on UNEP process
  - Coordinate the preparation of the Major Groups policy papers

# Major Group Facilitators

- Major Group Facilitators can be found [here](#):

- **Business and industry**

- [Duncan Ochieng' Onduu](#)
- [Dominic Kailash Nath Waughray](#)

- **Children and Youth**

- [Gyubin Hwang](#)
- [Zuhair Ahmed Kowshik](#)

- **Farmers**

- [Paul Temple](#)
- [Arthur Kawamura](#)

- **Indigenous Peoples**

- [Rodion Sulyandziga](#)
- [Lena Yanina Estrada Asito](#)

- **Local Authorities**

- [Jean-Baptiste Buffet](#)
- [Dr Magash Naidoo](#)

- **NGOs**

- [Djatougbe AZIAKA](#)
- [Christopher Chin](#)

- **Science and Technology**

- [Stephen Stec](#)
- [Mohamed Abdelraouf](#)

- **Women**

- [Frezer Yeheyis](#)
- [Dalia Fernanda Márquez Añez](#)

- **Workers and Trade Unions**

- [Rhoda Boateng](#)
- [Bert De Wel](#)

# Regional Facilitators



- Regional Facilitators are elected for a period of two years by their constituency.
- They are specifically selected to ensure agreed Major Groups and Stakeholders' regional views are presented to UNEA and its subsidiary organs, as well as in other meetings that may be convened

Regional Facilitators can be found [here](#):



# Three Levels of Engagement

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

Expert Input and Advice in:

**Agenda-setting**

**Decision-Making**

**Implementation**

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

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

# Civil Society Unit in Governance Affairs

- Administers Accreditation of non-governmental observers to UNEA
- Civil Society Engagement Website
- Organisation of meetings, consultations, capacity building, outreach
- Stakeholder Engagement Handbook as a guiding tool
- Assists Major Groups Facilitation Committee (MGFC)
- Facilitates Global Major Groups and Stakeholders (GMGSF) and Regional Consultative Meetings (RCMs) and the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue during UNEA
- Supports MGS engagement across the organisation, such as for the INC or the Science-policy panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution Prevention or other consultative processes across substantive matters.
- Perspectives publication series



# Upcoming Meetings and Consultations

What	When	Where
<b>Plastic Pollution</b>		
Preparatory meetings – INC	11. nov	Nairobi, Kenya
Regional consultations – INC	12. nov	Nairobi, Kenya
Third INC session	13-19 nov	Nairobi, Kenya
<b>Chemical, waste and pollution prevention</b>		
OEWG 2	11.-15. dec	Dead Sea, Jordan
<b>Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)</b>		
10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee of the CPR	20. – 24. November	Nairobi, Kenya (Hybrid)
<b>Global Major Group and Stakeholder Forum (GMGSF)</b>		
Global preparatory consultation on the way to GMGSF	November	Online
In Person GMGSF	24. – 25. February	Nairobi, Kenya
<b>UNEA – 6</b>	26. February – 1. March	Nairobi, Kenya

**THANK YOU!**

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

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