

Effectively engage with the United Nations Environment Assembly, understand Multilateral Environment Agreements, and learn to identify ways to contribute to the delivery of UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work

# Capacity Building for the Fifth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 5) Asia-Pacific Region

September 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> 2020

9:30 AM India Standard Time (GMT+5:30) on both days

**Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future**



# Capacity Building for the Fifth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 5) Session 1

training by

Jan-Gustav Strandenaes, Leida Rijnhout, and Felix Dodds

Senior Advisers on Governance and Sustainable Development

**Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future**



# Agenda for this online course

## Day 1

### Session 1

1. Understanding UNEA and UNEP (including CPR), structure and history.
2. UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work.
3. Role of Stakeholders in UNEP and UNEA.

### Session 2

1. National and Regional Processes
2. Attending UNEP and UNEA and engaging with Member States.
3. What it's like to be a member state representative and how to engage best.

## Day 2

### Session 3

1. How to draft a resolution for a UN meeting.
2. Working with the Media (traditional and social).
3. Fundraising tips.

### Session 4

1. Multi-stakeholder Partnerships and Partnerships to deliver the UNEP Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Works.
2. UNGA Resolution 73/333, formerly known as Global Pact for the Environment.
3. Relevant other processes (e.g. human and environmental rights) and the United Nations organizations linked to them.



# Session 1

- 1. Understanding UNEA and UNEP (including CPR), structure and history**
- 2. UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work**
- 3. Role of Stakeholders in UNEP and UNEA**



# Module 1

**Understanding UNEA and UNEP (including CPR), structure and history**



# UNEA 5: Strengthening Actions for Nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

- The Oslo consultation in June 2020 was the first of a series of consultations where non-state stakeholders and the UNEA 5 Bureau including the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the CPR, will consult with each other and deepen the understanding of the overarching theme.
- This capacity building session will take the participants through the formalities of the process, outline the official themes, point to opportunities for input, discuss strategies and explain who the players are.
- It will help participants to input to the CPR meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October, the regional meetings and UNEA-5 itself.





# The UNEA Bureau has identified 4 action areas:

- Nature for Jobs and Economic Prosperity
- Nature for Health
- Nature for Climate
- Nature for Sustainable Food Systems



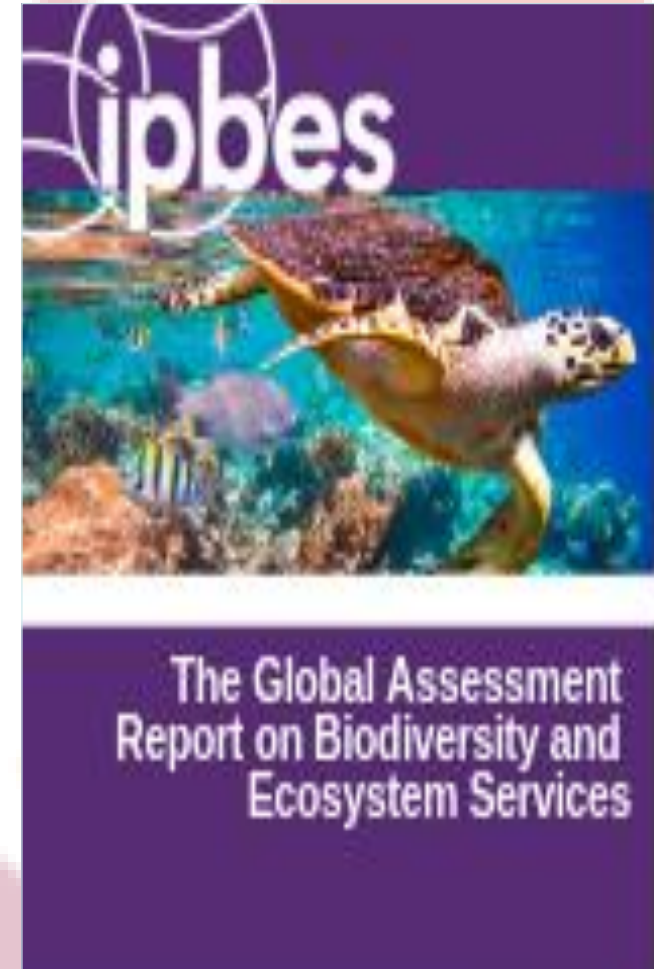
# The UNEA Bureau has identified 3 challenges

1. Limit the number of resolutions under the four proposed action areas
2. Take into account decisions and resolutions previously adopted by the Assembly and the next Medium-Term Strategy
3. Focus on gaps and value - addition in relation to existing commitments and those previously adopted.





# Key references are made to these reports and SDGs



# Major Groups and Stakeholder Consultation Process towards UNEA 5

Regional Capacity Building for stakeholders (September)

International Major Groups consultation with Annual CPR Sub-committee (October 6<sup>th</sup>)

Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (February 2021)

Global Youth Environment Assembly (February 2021)

Science-Policy-Business Forum (February 2021)

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY 5 (February 2021)



# UNEP Management Structure

- UNEP has an Executive Office, a leadership level and the following eight main divisions:
  - Communications Division
  - Economy Division
  - Ecosystems Division
  - Law Division
  - Science Division
  - Policy and Programme Division
  - Corporate Services Division
  - Governance Affairs Office

- UNEP also has six regional offices for Africa, Asia and Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, and West Asia





# Key UNEP Staff



**Inger Andersen**  
UNEP Executive Director



**Joyce Msuya**  
UNEP Deputy Executive  
Director



**Satya Tripathi** appointed as UNEP  
Assistant Secretary General and Head  
of New York Office



**Jorge Laguna-Celis**  
Director, Governance  
Affairs Office



**Tim Kasten**  
Programme and  
Policy Division



**Arnold  
Kreilhuber**  
OIC Law Division



**Susan Gardner**  
Director, Ecosystems Division



**Ligia Noronha**  
Director, Economy Division

# United Nations Environment Assembly

United Nations Environment Assembly every 2 years. UNEA is the central governing body of UNEP, has universal membership. Its functions are that it:

- sets the priorities for global environmental policy,
- advises the UN system on environmental policy issues,
- identifies new environmental challenges, examines existing practices,
- organises dialogues with Major Groups and Stakeholders promotes partnerships on environment and mobilise resources.





# United Nations Environment Assembly

## United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

Universal membership: 193 members

Meets biennially on uneven years

Concludes with a 2-day high-level segment

Supported by UNEA Bureau with 10 members

## Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

Missions accredited to UNEP: 122 members

Supported by CPR Bureau with 5 members

### Open-ended CPR (OECPR)

Meets in uneven  
years for five days

### Annual subcommittee meeting

Meets annually for  
five days

### Regular meetings

Meets quarterly  
for one day

### Subcommittee meeting

Organized on a  
needs basis

### Other meetings

Thematic  
debates, briefings



# The Role of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

- CPR is composed of all accredited Permanent Representatives to the UNEP) and is a subsidiary organ of UNEA.
- The CPR is led by a five-member bureau elected for a period of two years.
- Each bureau member represents one of the five UN regional groups of Member States.
- The CPR meets at least four times every year.
- Chair of CPR is H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra , Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representatives of Brazil.

- Contribute to the agenda of UNEA.
- Provide advice to the UNEA on policy matters.
- Prepare decisions for adoption by UNEA and oversee their implementation
- Convene thematic and/or programmatic debates.
- The Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, OECPR, meets in odd years to prepare UNEA, with the Bureau.



# The UNEA Bureau

- Advise and provide input on the UNEA agenda, the draft programme of work and schedule items for the Assembly
- Consider/facilitate the negotiation of draft resolutions and decisions for consideration by the Assembly
- Recommend the allocation of items to subsidiary bodies of the Assembly
- Ensure coherence and complementarity between CPR and the Assembly







**H.E. Mr Sveinung Rotevatn.**  
President, Minister of Environment and  
Climate of Norway.



**H.E. Mr. Carlos Manuel  
Rodriguez Echandi**  
Vice President, Minister of  
Environment and Energy of the  
Republic of Costa Rica



**H.E. Mr. Reggy Nelson,** Vice  
President, Ambassador Extraordinary and  
Plenipotentiary of Suriname



**H.E. Ms. Brune Poirson** Vice President,  
Secretary of State for the Ecological and  
Inclusive Transition of France

## UNEA 5 PRESIDENCY AND BUREAU



**H.E. Dr. Mohammed Bin Dainah**  
Vice President and Chief Executive of  
the Supreme Council for Environment  
of Bahrain



**H.E. Ms. Laskmi Dhewanthi**  
Vice President, Senior Advisor to the  
Minister of Environment and  
Forestry of Indonesia



**H.E. Mr. Goran Trivan**  
Vice President, Minister of  
Environment of the Republic of Serbia



**Hon. Ms. Barbara Creecy**  
Rapporteur, Minister of Environment,  
Forestry and Fisheries of the Republic  
of South Africa

## UNEA 5 BUREAU



**Mr. Ado Lohmus**  
Vice President and Permanent Representative of  
Environment of the Republic of Estonia



**H.E. Mr. Bassiere Batio Nestor**  
Vice President and Minister of  
Green Economy and Climate  
Change of Burkina Faso





**Q & A – 10 minutes**



# Module 2

## UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work



# What is a Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work - MTS?

## Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021

- Context analysis
- Overall Strategic Focus
- 2030 Vision aligned to SDGs
- Outcome maps
- Business Strategy

## Programme of work 2018-2019

First biennial plan - results, baselines, targets and budget

## Programme of work 2020-2021

Second biennial plan - revisions based on emerging issues

## Project Portfolios 2018-2021

Detailed activities and initiatives



# Three Strategic Pillars of UNEP's vision (2022-2025)

## Strategic Pillar 1: Climate Stability

- Fossil fuel subsidies and other climate-damaging incentives will be redirected towards
- sustainable energy sources, creating at least a level playing field for the clean energy transition;
- The energy transition will have accelerated to a pace that can significantly contribute to energy sector carbon neutrality by 2050 at the latest;
- The world will have harnessed climate benefits from resource and energy efficiency measures in resource and energy-intensive industries;
- The role of nature for climate change solutions will be fully harnessed and a “green gigaton” will have been mobilized; and
- Member States, with a focus on developing countries, increasingly invest to adapt to and protect their populations from unavoidable climate change.

## Strategic Pillar 2: Living in Harmony with Nature

- The post-2020 global biodiversity framework will be integrated into national planning, implementation, monitoring, and reporting processes;
- Biodiversity will be mainstreamed for sustainable development and integrated with other key areas and sectors, including food and agriculture, sustainable forest management and zero deforestation, health, infrastructure, trade, energy, finance, governance, and justice;
- The environmental foundation of sustainable agriculture will be strengthened through nature positive practices;
- The degradation of ecosystems will be halted with significant action to restore nature and build the resilience of landscapes and seascapes, with ecosystems also leveraged as a tool for disaster risk reduction and greater social resilience; and
- Private financial flows will be shifted towards improving ecosystem management.



# Three Strategic Pillars of UNEP's vision (2022-2025)

## Strategic Pillar 3: A pollution Free Planet

- Member States will be supported in achieving pollution-reduction related goals, SDG targets and other multilateral environmental goals and targets;
  - Mechanisms to incentivize and redirect finance and investments to cleaner economic activities through internalizing the costs of pollution in financial decisions and the adoption of costs and
  - Disclosure frameworks will be in place;
  - Circularity will be built across value chains, with a focus on high impact sectors and products, including food and agriculture systems, the extractives sector, transportation, and building and construction.
- Ecosystem-based approaches, nature-based solutions, and green and digital technologies to mitigate and manage pollution, including in response to disasters, conflicts and other emergencies will be adopted;
  - Integrated policies and practices to tackle pollution, with a specific emphasis on city-level action and participatory action through citizen science approaches, will be in place;
  - Responsible consumption choices will be aided by increased awareness and incentives; and
  - Safe production processes and safeguards will benefit from fiscal support.





# UNEP's Programme for 2022-2025

## 1. Thematic Programmes:

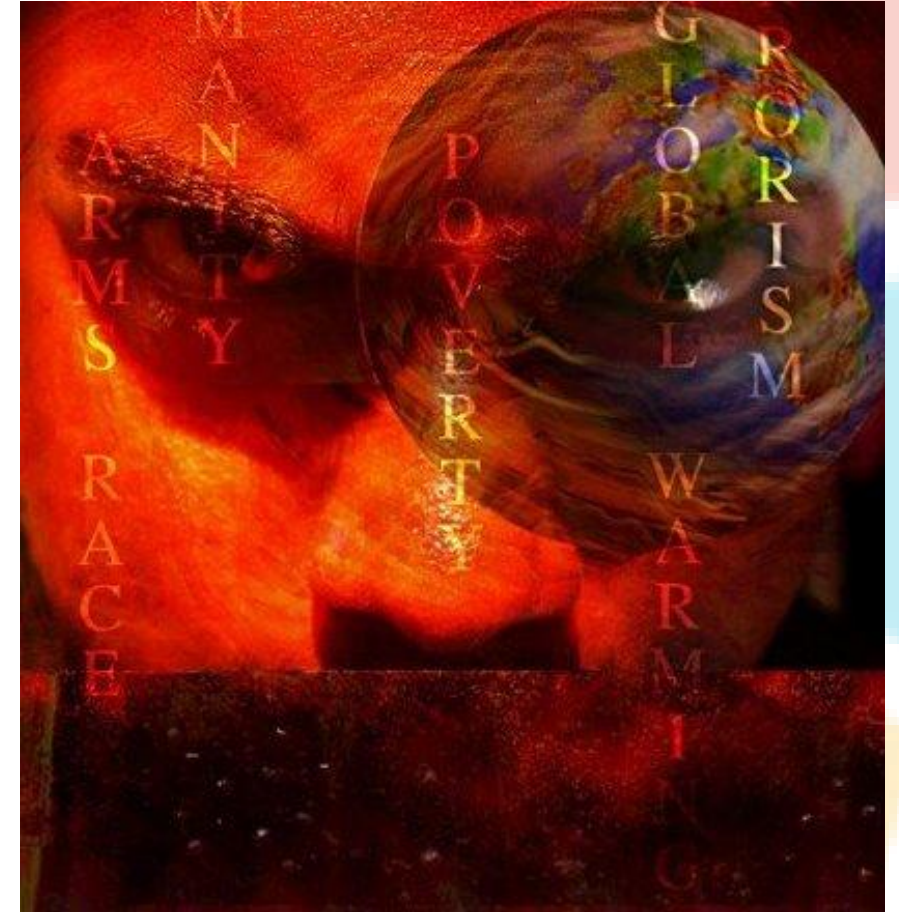
- Climate Action
- Nature Action
- Chemical and Pollution Action

## 2. Foundation Programmes:

- Science-Policy;
- Environmental Governance

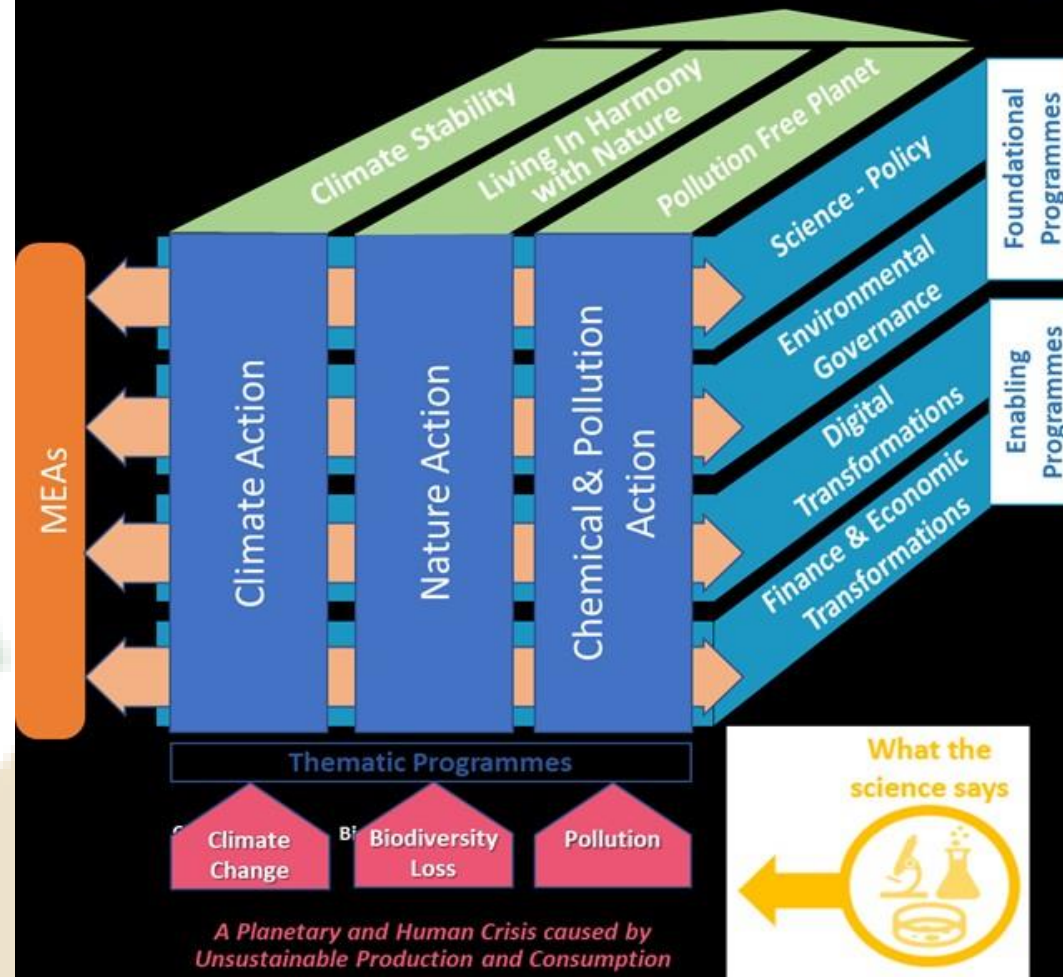
## 3. Enabling Programmes:

- Finance and Economic Transformations;
- Digital Transformation





*"For people, prosperity and equity"*



# Poll 1

Which Thematic Programmes are you most engaged with?



Introduction to the Strategy Pillar <https://youtu.be/w8uEWcdQRJo> via @YouTube



**Q & A – 10 minutes**





# Module 3

## Role of Stakeholders in UNEP and UNEA



# Definitions and players

- **Stakeholders:** Those impacted by a decision or impact on a decision - **it enables a unique space for each stakeholder group.**
- **Social movements:** are a type of group action. They are large, sometimes informal, groupings of individuals or organizations which focus on specific political or social issues. In other words, they carry out, resist, or undo a social change.
- **Civil society:** is the "aggregate of non-governmental organizations and institutions that manifest interests and will of citizens. **It excludes** Academics, Local Government, Foundations etc. It are engaged citizens.

- **Global citizenship:** defines a person who places their identity with a "global community" above their identity as a citizen of a particular nation or place.
- The idea is that one's identity transcends geography or political borders and that the **planetary human community** is interdependent and whole; humankind is essentially one.



# Defining Non-Governmental Organisations

## How do you describe an NGO?

One survey found 48 different terms and acronyms. Here is a sample:

<b>BINGOs</b>	Big International NGOs	<b>IPOs</b>	Indigenous Peoples Organizations
<b>BONGOs</b>	Business Organized NGOs	<b>GROs</b>	Grassroots Organizations
<b>CBOs</b>	Community Based Organizations	<b>GSCOs</b>	Global Social Change Organizations
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations	<b>NPOs</b>	Nonprofit Organizations
<b>ENGOS</b>	Environmental NGOs	<b>Vos</b>	Voluntary Organizations
<b>GONGOs</b>	Government Organized NGOs		

In short, there is **no agreed terminology** for describing the NGO sector.

In some ways, it is easier to describe what NGOs are *not*, rather than what they are.

It is generally agreed that NGOs are not:

- part of government, or
- organized primarily for private profit.

# Major Groups and Other Stakeholders

- The nine major groups: Women, **Children and Youth**, Farmers, **NGOs**, Indigenous Peoples, **Workers and Trade Unions**, Science and Technology, **Local Authorities**, Business and Industry.
- Rio-process: Elderly, disabilities, or multi-sectoral networks



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## Poll 2

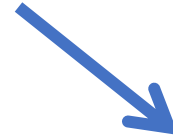
Are you a member of one of the 9 Major Groups?

If so, which one?



# Major Groups Engagement at UN Environment Programme

**Major Group Facilitating Committee (elected by accredited organizations for a 2 year term)**



Major Group  
representatives  
(2 representatives per  
major group, total of 18)

Regional facilitators  
(2 representatives per region,  
total of 12)  
Observer status

➤ **Facilitate Major Group and Stakeholder Engagement with UN Environment Programme**





# Further stakeholder engagement opportunities for UNEA 5

- Regional Consultations:
  - Update of MGS on UNEA 5 and its preparatory process.
  - Regional proposals for Thematic Clusters.
  - Regional Input to CPR/UNEA 5 Bureaus.
  - Input with Ministerial Consultations (if any) and Input to Ministerial Consultations, if possible, along the line of thematic clusters.
- Input to thematic clusters
- International Consultation
  - CPR October
  - Online consultation on themes
  - Government preparation for the themes and resolutions.
- Individual Major Group Consultations
- Each Major Group is running its own preparatory.
- Global Major Groups and Stakeholder Forum (Feb 21)
  - Exchange of Information
  - Preparation of joint positions and input as the result of the work of thematic clusters
  - Working arrangements for UNEA 5 for stakeholders
  - Capacity building workshops
- Youth Forum (Feb 21)
- Science Policy Business forum (Feb 21)



**Q & A – 10 minutes**

**Followed by a 15-minute  
comfort break**



# We'll be back in 15 minutes

- Stakeholder Forum

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# Capacity Building for the Fifth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 5) Session 2

training by

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**Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future**



# Session 2

- 1. National and Regional Processes**
- 2. Attending UNEP and UNEA and engaging with Member States**
- 3. What it's like to be a member state representative and how to engage best**





# Module 1

## National and Regional Processes



# Timetable issues to think about – One year out

- When will your government start preparing?
  - Have they set up an interdepartmental committee to coordinate?
  - Are they producing a report?
  - If so when can you engage?
- Are they agreeing a common position with other governments?
  - Have you approached them about an input to their thinking BEFORE they have agreed a position?
  - Have you met all the relevant officials?
  - Would they consider having a stakeholder on the government delegation?



# National and Regional Preparations What Can You Do?

- Know the **government officials in charge in capital** and meet with them
- Utilize **parliament to raise the issue to the Minister**
- Write **article/articles** for national newspaper
- Town Hall Meetings – Citizens Charter
- Follow up – start a conversation with government on what you want in the follow up now – do you have projects to implement



# National and Regional Preparations What Can You Do?

- Are you working with **other groups** who are engaged in the UN process?
- If not. Why not?
- Have a **briefing paper** no longer than two pages
- What do you want?
- What does the text that is being negotiated say?
- Have some **paragraphs** ready

UNITED  
NATIONS

EP

UNEP/EA.4/4

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United Nations  
Environment Assembly of the  
United Nations Environment  
Programme

United Nations Environment Assembly of the  
United Nations Environment Programme

Fourth session

Nairobi, 11–15 March 2019

Item 5 (c) of the agenda\*

Medium-term strategy, programme of work and budget,  
and other administrative and budgetary issues: proposed  
programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021

Proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–  
2021<sup>1</sup>

Report of the Executive Director

#### Summary

The present report sets out the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021, reflecting the outcome of consultations with the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme. Without prejudice to further work that might be undertaken by the Committee of Permanent Representatives on this matter, the proposed programme of work and budget are being submitted to the United Nations Environment Assembly for its consideration.

\* UNEP/EA.4/L.

<sup>1</sup> All references to dollars (\$) are to United States dollars.



**Q & A – 10 minutes**





# Module 2

**Attending UNEP and UNEA and engaging with Member States**



# Multilateral Agreements

## Synonyms

Legally binding and non-legally binding agreements come in many shapes and forms .

Legally binding		Non-legally binding
Treaties	Accords	Resolutions
Conventions	Pacts	Decisions
Agreements	Charters	Declarations
Protocols		Recommendations
Amendments		



# How does a multilateral agreement enter into force internationally?

- **Adoption:** Upon finalising the negotiation of text, a treaty will be first “adopted.
- **Signature:** A country begins a process of endorsing a treaty by “signing” it. This action is at times called “Signature Subject to Ratification, Acceptance or Approval.”
- **Ratification, acceptance, or approval:** Action by which a nation specifies its assent to being bound by the treaty after completion of required national constitutional procedures for ratification or accession or approval depending upon the country’s legal system.
- **Entry into force:** Normally, multilateral treaties enter into force after an established period has elapsed subsequent to a set number of nations ratifying or acceding to the agreement. Some agreements have other terms that must be met so that it enters into force.
- **Accession:** This is the act by which a nation accepts to become a party to an agreement whose text has been negotiated, adopted and signed by other countries.
- **Withdrawal or denouncing:** Countries can (and do) withdraw or denounce themselves from some international agreements in accordance with the procedure set in that instrument.

# Stakeholders in Intergovernmental Processes

**FOUR** important functions:

- Setting agendas
- Negotiating outcomes
- Conferring legitimacy
- Implementing solutions (session 4)



# Setting Agendas – Example 1: Rio+20 – the Donostia Declaration

2006 President Mbeki

2007 President Lula

2008 Stakeholder Forum IAB ask SF to lead on Rio+20

2008 September G77 call for a Rio+20

2008 November Donostia Declaration

- Green Economy, Emerging Issues, Institutional Framework for sustainable development

2009 February Rio+20 dinner

2009 Feb-August campaign in European and US capitals

2009 October workshop with Member States





# Setting Agendas Example 2: Sustainable Development Goals

**2011** UNDG Develop a more comprehensive idea to replace the MDGs.

**July 2011** Colombia suggest SDGs at meeting in Solo Indonesia.

**September 2011** The UN DPI NGO Conference proposed 17 SDGs.

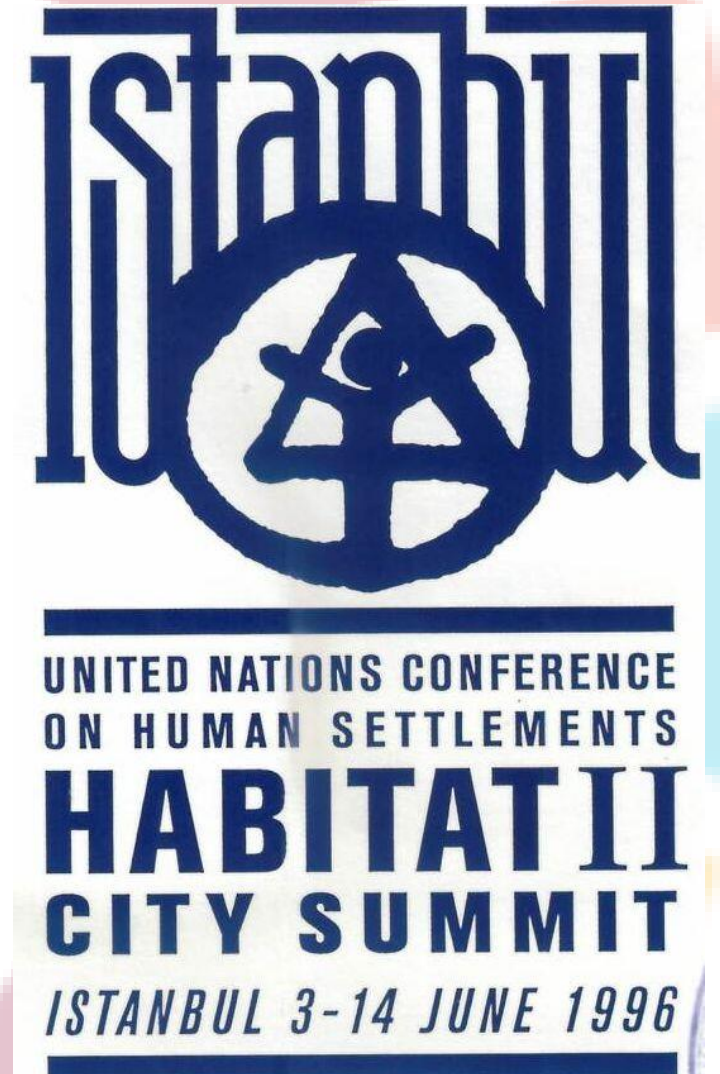
**October 2011** UNDESA Briefs for Rio+20 pick up the DPI NGO suggestions.

**November 2011** Colombia host government retreat in Bogota – main document given out to governments is the DPI NGO outcome document.



# Negotiating Outcomes Example 1: Habitat II (1996)

- Informals in Paris treat stakeholders at the same level as governments.
- Text entered into the negotiations become alive if a government picks it up.
- Joint government-stakeholder text suggestions.
- This practice continues at Habitat II in Istanbul.
- The NGO suggested amendments come out as an official UN information document for the first time.



# Negotiating outcomes Example 2:

## Anti-biotic resistance

- **Never give up example** – anti biotic resistance
- SDG OWG – Sweden only promoter
- April 2014 WHO Report comes out saying that millions of people will be impacted
- July 2014 UK government commissioned the review on Antimicrobial Resistance sets
- July 2014 push for UK to join the call at SDG-OWG using parliamentarians
- September 2014 USA launch their national strategy for combating Antibiotic Resistance
- NO target on Antimicrobial Resistance
- July 2015 last INC negotiations
- Para 26 “we will equally accelerate the pace of progress made in fighting ...including by addressing growing anti-microbial resistance”





# Negotiating outcomes Example 3: Chemicals -Providing Content and influencing

- By always being present, and always providing substantive and relevant input, the network of NGOs working on chemical issues, IPEN, helped create SAICEM, Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is a policy framework to promote chemical safety around the world. Which is part of UNEP.
- IPEN also helped develop the Minamata Convention on mercury.
- After providing substantive and relevant input in refugee matters, UNOCHA and UNAIDS now have representatives of NGOs at the highest level.
- Greenpeace provided substantive input on the ocean's chapter in the Rio+20 Outcome document.



## GLOBAL CHEMICALS OUTLOOK II

FROM LEGACIES TO  
INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

SYNTHESIS REPORT (2019)

IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 AGENDA  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



**Stakeholder Forum**  
FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

# Conferring Legitimacy: Commission on Sustainable Development

1992 NGOs and G77 create CSD

2003 – two year cycle

2005 Reform of the CSD first raised

2007 CSD for first time doesn't agree any policy  
(it did the same in 2011)

UNDESA paper by SF on institutional framework  
for Sustainable Development tabled a UN  
Council on Sustainable Development (July 2011)

Stakeholders made it clear that the CSD had to be  
reformed at the CSD in 2010 (June) and 2011  
(June) and the DPI NGO Conference 2011  
(September)





# Understanding the countries

**European Union:** Germany (July- December 20), Portugal (Jan- June 21)

**Group of 77:** (134) and China Chair: Guyana (<http://www.g77.org/>)

**Key G77 countries:** Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, China, Cuba, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, Tanzania

**Key EU 27 countries:** Denmark, Germany, France, Czech Republic (President of ECOSOC), Netherlands, Sweden, Slovak Republic (President of UNGA)

**Single decision countries:** e.g. Australia, Canada, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Monaco, Russia, Switzerland, Ukraine United States,

**AOSIS:** (43 countries) Belize (Chair)



# Before UNEA 5

Government	Strong For	Weak For	Not yet declared	Weak Against	Strong Against
Capital					
New York					
Other Venues					



# The World of Brackets

- Alternative brackets
- Contentious brackets
- Suspicious brackets
- Tactical or trading brackets
- Uncertain brackets
- Waiting brackets
- Weary brackets



# What to do about brackets?

- Who put the bracket in?
- When you know who put it forward, ask why.
- The ‘why’ may not be clear to other delegations and you can play an important role in highlighting the ‘why’ in your lobbying.





# Why have they bracketed?

- If it was because they are waiting for instructions from the capital, then phone your colleagues in the capital and get them to raise the issue with relevant civil servants or ministers. This only works if you are completely on top of the negotiations and can act immediately.
- If it involves trading brackets with somewhere else in the text, then you need to be able to work with the stakeholders who are trying to lobby on that section.
- If it is because of exhaustion brackets, then make some text suggestions. This can be a very opportunistic time as officials are tired and looking for a way through the darkness – or even to go home for the night!
- If there are suspicious brackets, then it is important to work out why and try to help build trust.



# Why go on a government delegation?

- You will have access to the brief of your country;
- You may be able to sit in on delegation meetings within blocks;
- You may be able to sit in on delegation meetings between blocks;
- You will be able to push for the NGO or stakeholder position during the appropriate meetings of the delegation;
- You can be asked to act as the intermediary between the NGOs and the government;
- You will be aware of where there is possible movement in a negotiation and may be asked to draft text for your delegation to put forward;
- You will be able to cultivate relationships with the delegation for future work.



# The downside of being on a delegation

- If you do join a government delegation you will lose some independence. Some governments will require NGOs on a delegation to sign an official document saying they will not divulge what they have heard in delegation meetings;
- You will have limited time available for being with other NGOs if you are an active member of the delegation;
- You may be seen as the doorkeeper for NGOs with the delegation;
- You may be viewed as having ‘switched sides’ and joined the government team more than what is expected;
- You may not be allowed to speak publicly on a position – if you find this something that you cannot agree to, do not join a delegation or resign when it becomes difficult for you. Some delegations allow their NGOs to speak but they just have to first ask the Head of delegations permission.



# What participation and influence mechanisms should stakeholders employ?

- Game plan for the **whole negotiation** – most of the work should be done before you arrive at a UN meeting
  - ✓ Detect **other groups** in your country/region to coordinate with
  - ✓ organize several meeting in **capitals** with key governments
  - ✓ brief the **media**, place early stories in the media
  - ✓ Meet with **key parliamentarians/ representatives of your national body** before leaving – initiated a debate in parliament
  - ✓ Set up a **rapid response mechanism** in the capital in case you need it
  - ✓ Try to get an **NGOs on delegation** and allowed to attend pre inter-departmental meetings before the event





# What participation and influence mechanisms should you employ?

- At the UN event a coalition/stakeholder should:
  - ✓ have a photo booklet of key negotiators and UN staff so they are easy to find [www.iisd.ca](http://www.iisd.ca)
  - ✓ Designate **point contacts** for all key people e.g. G77, EU, US, key countries, Bureau members, UN officials (Bella)
  - ✓ There should **be floor managers** in each negotiation room
  - ✓ Use **coffee bar diplomacy**, receptions
  - ✓ Use any informal possibilities **drinks/dinner/dancing**
  - ✓ If you are spending **more than 20% of your time with other Stakeholders** you are not doing your job.



# What not to do at a meeting

- Do not go up to a government when they are speaking.
- Do not sit in a government seat – unless you are on that government's delegation.
- Do not interrupt the meeting.
- Do not target a government in your intervention.
- Do not wear inappropriate clothes.
- Do not do a demonstration inside the venue.
- Do not take a country's flag/name.
- Do not deviate from your message when you are speaking as a representative of the major groups





## Poll 3

Why are you thinking of attending UNEA5?

# Summary

- Know Your Own Goals
- Know the Decision-making Process in Your Country
- Know When To Work at What Level
- Know the Decision-making Context
- Know the Tools at Your Disposal
- Know When To Make Your Position
- Know the Government Officials
- Know the Key UN Officials
- Know Your Allies
- Know Your Adversaries
- Know Your Limits
- Know Your Brackets and Terms





**Q & A – 10 minutes**



# Module 3

**What it's like to be a member state representative and how to engage best**



# Attending MEA meetings as a Government Official

- What it is like to be a government official?
- How they decide their positions and red lines?
- How they negotiate?
- How they build alliances?
- How to write a UN Resolution and what language means.





# What it is like to be a government official?

- **Mission staff:** Depending on what level they are coming in they need to build a good relationship with their Ambassador and their Counsellor/First Secretary these people will be critical to be on the right side of. For larger Missions there may be a number of people covering the portfolio and work can be shared out. If not for smaller Missions then they can be covering a lot of ground.
- **What can you do?** If they are new then become their best friend help them understand the system they have come into and the best cafes. Anything you can do to help them seem amazing with their Ambassador/Counsellor/First Secretary will be very much appreciated this might be speaking opportunities for their Ambassador/Counsellor/First Secretary.



# What it is like to be a government official?

- **Capital desk officers:** They will have a desk officer in capital who will act as your main liaison with other parts of the government. The Mission is usually staffed by Foreign Office staff – though larger delegations may have experts from other Ministries - and so in capital they will coordinate through what is a Foreign Office desk officer.

- **What can you do?** Where possible you or a colleague should have a relationship with the Desk Officer in the Foreign Office but also the relevant expert in the issue Ministry. Finally, if the issue is negotiated in multiple spaces e.g. health and the environment then you or a colleague in your organization or coalition should know the relevant WHO staff and the countries colleagues in Geneva.



# What it is like to be a government official?

- **Political Grouping:** The new delegate will need to find their way through a number of formal and informal groups that the country is a member of. This could include regional (Africa), G77/EU – both formal negotiations groups or more informal mostly not negotiating groups such as a Friends Group. The job of the any delegate is to get to know the coordinators/chairs as well the key players inside those groups.
- **What can you do?** For new delegates coming in, any help in identifying the right people or even doing introductions will pay back big time.



# What it is like to be a government official?

- **UN Staff:** Whatever area a new delegate is working in, they need to try and get to know the key UN staff that are behind any negotiating; from the Director of a division to the expert staff on particular issues your government is interested in taking a position on. There will be UN staff nationals from your country, and it's worth contacting them and getting to know them. There may even be an informal social group that meets if nothing else to enjoy your own culture and who understand it.
- **What can you do?** If you know an informal social group that exists for their country, then an introduction is helpful. As far as key UN staff is concerned, if you know them then again an introduction helps solidify your relationship.





# What it is like to be a government official?

- **Stakeholders:** There may or may not be a stakeholder group from their country that has an office around the UN HQ they are placed at, but if they do then they should get to know the organization and individuals. There may be nationals working for international stakeholders and they will make themselves known. It enables the delegate to get a foothold in the stakeholder world and to be able to start to have access to other expert information.
- **Experts:** There are a number of 'expert think tanks' that operate around the UN that have experts or access to experts on most things; they are worth searching out.
- **What can you do?** If you know any of these people you can make introductions.
- There are three types of stakeholders
  1. The knowledgeable;
  2. the powerful; and
  3. the well meaning.
- **What can you do?** Any introduction to these by you while also offering your own organization as an expert in **your specialized field** will be helpful to a new delegate.



# How they negotiate

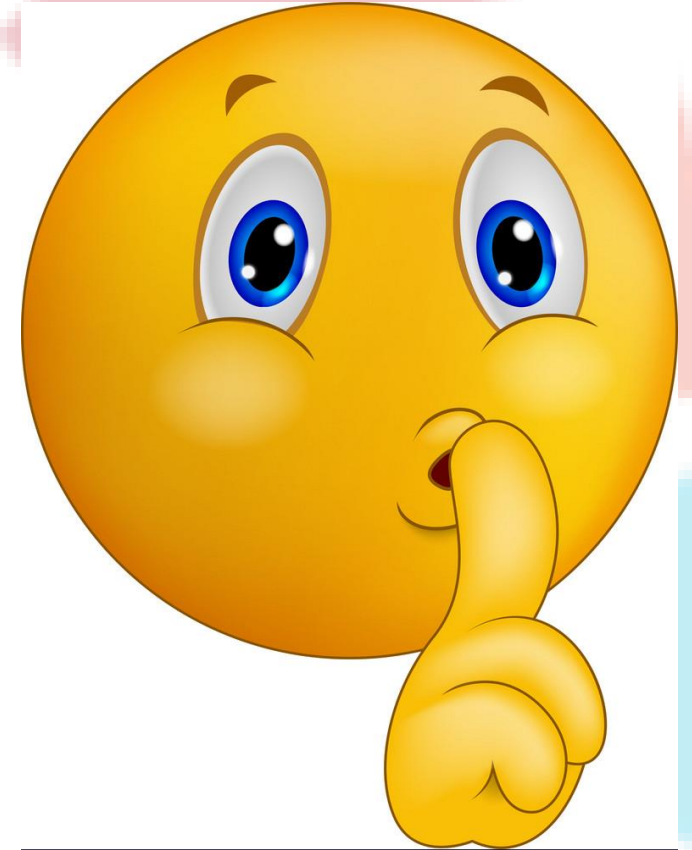
**Transparency good or bad?** Now we can watch the negotiations often on UN WebTV, and we can sit in the rooms tweeting whatever a delegate says.

**Silent Procedure:** The Chair can place the resolution when they think everything has been agreed under what is termed 'silent procedure.' This allows a time for government delegates to go back for a final time to their capitals to check they are ok and do not have any final comments.

**Agreed as ref:** This will appear at the end of paragraphs that have been agreed.

**Inter alia:** Is used so that you don't have to list everything.

**Nothing is agreed:** Until everything is agreed.



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# How they decide their positions and red lines and how they negotiate?

- Government timetables
- Nairobi v Capital
- Red lines real or negotiable
- Instructions or not
- Transparency and the web
- Negotiators are usually civil servants not political appointments



# **Q & A – 10 minutes and wrap-up**





# Thank you for listening to us... we'll see you again tomorrow.

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