

**Input of the EU and its Member States into the first draft Ministerial declaration
at the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly**

**Comments to the text of the First draft of the Ministerial Declaration of the United
Nations Environment Assembly at its seventh session**

Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet

until 30 June 2025

1. We, the world's ministers for the environment, have gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, together with representatives of international organizations, major groups and other stakeholders, at the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, with the urgent aim of advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet.
2. We reaffirm all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. Furthermore, we take note of the Pact for the Futures that aims to address climate change, inequality, and other pressing global issues, outlining bold actions and global cooperation to ensure that no one is left behind.
3. {Placeholder} Global Youth Environment Assembly, December 2025.
4. {Placeholder} Seventh Edition of Global Environmental Outlook 2025 and its findings.
- 4.5. {Placeholder} We reaffirm the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment, and we welcome UNEP's Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) for 2026-2029 and Programme of Work (PoW) for 2026-2027.
6. We welcome the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES) Assessment Reports including recently approved reports on the Interlinkages Among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health and on Transformative Change.
- 5.7. We also welcome the adoption of the outlines of the three Working Group contributions to the Seventh Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), as well as the Global Resources Outlook 2024 of the International Resources Panel and the Report on Resourcing the Energy Transition 2024 of the UN SG's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals.
- 6.8. We recognize that the interconnected nature of the global environmental challenges and crises, including climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, ocean, deforestation,

Commented [JG1]: These both documents should also be a key outcome of UNEA-7 and therefore, the Ministerial Declaration should have a reference to these as well.

desertification, land degradation and drought, and land degradation, pollution, alteration of the global water cycle, sand and dust storms among others requires urgent and collective integrated and science-based responses from the international community, and therefore **decide to take the following actions:**

Action 1: We will take bold actions that drive sustainable solutions to address the global environmental challenges and crises of our time.

- A. We, recognizing the urgency to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for importance of sustainable development as a priority, call on Member States to advance sustainable and integrated solutions and promote cooperation and exchange among governments, international organizations and, the scientific community, and civil society.
- B. Strengthen international and regional cooperation to prevent and reduce transboundary pollution issues, including plastic pollution, and prioritize the development of advanced monitoring systems to effectively track and manage these issues across borders, ensuring utilizing evidence-based and science-driven approach to pollution control and environmental resilience.
- C. Encourage Member States to advance circular economy approaches and policy responses towards sustainable consumption and production that leads to a reduction of raw material consumption, promote resource efficiency, waste minimization and the rethinking of product design and life cycles, advance incentives and innovation and drive a systemic shift towards sustainability, whilst reducing environmental impact for a resilient planet, including the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable consumption and Production Patterns.
- D. Champion a just transition pathways towards a net zero future and climate resilient societies clean, healthy and sustainable environment by advocating for acting resolutely towards the widespread accessibility and adoption of renewable energy; and energy efficient technologies, the transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems, and towards sustainable transport systems, and reduced resource intensity, the required societal transformation and the advancement of environmental rule of law as well as minimize negative impacts on biodiversity in this transition, in an effort to create just and equitable societies, leaving no one behind.
- E. We also call for coordinated global efforts to ensure secure, sustainable and transparent supply chains for critical minerals essential to the energy transition, including through improved international cooperation, environmental and social safeguards, and promotion of circularity and recycling of strategic materials, in line with the findings of the UN Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals.
- F. Recognizing that the increasing variability of the global water cycle scarcity and deteriorating water quality pose a significant challenge to the achievement of the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development and affect the resilience of ecosystems, communities, and economies, we reaffirm our commitment to implement integrated water resources management and to enhancing sustainable water management, strengthening cooperation at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation. We also reaffirm our commitment to adopt coherent responses taking into account the interlinkages between water, climate, ecosystems, energy, transport, food security and nutrition and to supporting innovative solutions and nature-based solutions that promote water efficiency and equitable access to safe and clean water. We encourage Member States and relevant stakeholders to share knowledge, build capacity, and mobilize resources to address water-related challenges in a holistic and integrated manner. We underscore the importance of integrated planning across sectors and systems, such as the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus, and call for policy coherence to ensure that energy development, particularly renewable deployment and infrastructure expansion, is aligned with nature protection, sustainable land use, and community resilience. We also encourage Member States to support the implementation of the UN system wide strategy for water and sanitation, the work of the UN Special envoy on Water, and the 2026 United Nations Conference on Water as well as the mainstreaming of water challenges in all related policies and intergovernmental processes.

- G. Advance the implementation of the One Health approach at all levels, whilst enhancing the science-based, knowledge and evidence-based practices amongst countries and stakeholders, for a coordinated and cross-sectoral response, and promoting the work of the Quadripartite (WOAH, WHO, FAO, UNEP) One Health Alliance to enhance its policy impact, taking into account in-line with national circumstances and priorities.

Encourage all Member States to pursue ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), to implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), to advance resilient solutions, including Nature-based solutions, whilst ensuring sustainable resource management, the swift implementation of New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance, and the inclusive engagement of all stakeholders and sectors within each country

- H. ~~Stress the need to~~ Enhance forward-looking coordination, coherence and integration between prevention policies, forecasting and early warning systems and disaster risk management systems to advance climate-resilient development and strengthen preparedness, response and recovery capacities in the face of chronic and acute climate-related hazards anthropogenic or climate-induced disasters, including droughts, heavy precipitation rains, wildfires, heat waves, famines floods, sand and dust storms, coastal flooding, ocean acidification and deoxygenation, leaving no one behind, and call for the strengthening of adaptation and disaster risk governance by integrating forward-looking climate change adaptation and of disaster risk reduction and prevention of risk exposure approaches, into policies, programmes, planning and investments at all levels, including Nature-based Solutions and enhanced support for countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and have significant capacity constraints such as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), and countries facing

Commented [JG2]: We propose to move point G down as it seems to fit better under the section II.

~~specific challenges~~, recognizing that ~~these vulnerability is challenges are~~ often exacerbated by ~~climate fragility~~, armed conflicts, migration and displacement issues.

- I. Encourage Member States to incorporate sustainable digital solutions and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in national development plans as innovative solutions that contribute to accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and cooperate to deepen knowledge and the scientific assessment of the environmental impacts of AI and other digital technologies; exchange best practices for responsible deployment; take steps to ensure environmentally responsible development and deployment, while encouraging accessibility and affordability of data and AI tools as appropriate, leaving no one behind.
- J. Call on Member States to strengthen the capacity of citizens, including youth, and professionals to foster individual and collective agency, drive socio-behavioural change, and build the skills needed to empower individuals, communities, and nations to engage in sustainable practices and adapt to the evolving labour market in the context of the green transition. To achieve this, member states should invest in education-formal and non-formal, informal and lifelong, adapting curricula and education programs to integrate sustainability, technical skills, and transversal competencies.

Commented [JR3]: Environmental education offer strong solutions - therefore making it particularly relevant to the UNEA-7 theme

Action 2: We will implement multilateral environmental agreements and other internationally agreed environmental frameworks with collective resolve and commitment.

- K. Recognizing that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, we have to contribute to the goals set forth in the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake adopted at the UNFCCC COP28 in Dubai in order to achieve net zero by 2050, in keeping with the science, including by transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy system, in a just orderly and equitable manner, tripling renewable energy capacity, and doubling the global annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030.
- L. Recall the urgent need to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, in line with the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the need to advance the shift implementation of the KM GBF, and encourage all Member States to update their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF), to aim for significant results in the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the KM GBF.
- M. Strive for achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (SDG 15.3) and Land Degradation Neutrality targets under the UNCCD through effective policy responses and mobilization of financial resources as appropriate and from all sources to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, forest loss and ecosystem degradation. Stocktake.
- ~~M.N.~~ Recall the need to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030, in line with the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 and the first Global

Stocktake and encourage all Member States to strengthen their effort for forests at the UNFCCC COP 30 in Belém.

N.O. Affirming the need to Advance the swift implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals to protect human health and the environment from harmful effects of chemicals and waste, by promoting the sound management of chemicals and waste across all sectors, which contributes directly to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

O.P. {Placeholder} on the outcome of the resumed third session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.

P.Q. {Placeholder} on the outcome of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, taking into consideration national circumstances and capabilities for developing countries.

Q.R. Welcoming the outcomes of the Third UN Ocean Conference in Nice, strengthen sustainable ocean-based efforts to tackle climate change, marine and coastal biodiversity loss and pollution, and further support the implementation of commitments and objectives to ensure the protection, conservation and sustainable use of the ocean, particularly SDG14. Call upon all States and regional economic integration organizations that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying, approving or accepting the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement), towards its prompt entry into force and effective implementation. This milestone reflects our shared commitment to strengthening ocean governance, advancing equity, and safeguarding marine biodiversity for current and future generations. Recalling the key role of UNEP Regional Seas Program and Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs), in ocean governance, reaffirm the commitment to promote high visibility of the regional dimension, in particular their participation in all relevant global processes and fora on ocean and seas and their key role in their preparatory processes and implementation of the relative outputs.

S. Encourage all Member States, aligned with UNEA Resolution 6/13, to support the implementation of the UN system-wide strategy for water and sanitation and the work of the UN Special Envoy on Water. We also call for an inclusive, ambitious and action-oriented United Nations Water Conference to Accelerate the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all in 2026.

~~A. Advance the swift implementation of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and strive for the achievement of the Land Degradation Neutrality targets of the UNCCD through effective policy responses and financial resources to halt and reverse biodiversity loss; address ecosystem, land degradation and drought through land restoration, land protection and conservation; maintain ecosystem services and develop sustainable food and agricultural production systems that can enhance food security.~~

Action 3: We will advance equity, inclusive societal participation and accessible means of implementation in our actions for the benefit of present and future generations.

~~R.T.~~ Acknowledge that access to means of implementation from all sources, as appropriate help ~~Ensure adequate and predictable~~ for developing countries in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, to to enable them to accelerate the implementation of ~~advance~~ sustainable solutions to tackle the global interconnected environmental challenges and crises through financing from all sources; capacity-building, and technology development and transfer as appropriate and on mutually agreed terms.

~~S.U.~~ Welcome efforts to reform the international financial architecture and call for making financial flows consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the financing for development system, inviting cooperation and policy responses from all Member States and Observer States of the United Nations and; relevant stakeholders, including international financial institutions, global funds and financial mechanisms, multilateral and bilateral development banks, agencies, and private foundations and private financial institutions.

~~T.V.~~ ~~Invite~~ Member States to promote gender equality and enhance the engagement of all women and; girls, youth, people with disabilities Indigenous Peoples local communities and civil society in the conservation and protection of the environment and ensuring their full, equal inclusive and meaningful participation in all decision-making processes to advance sustainable solutions for a resilient planet, whilst protecting and promoting the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (SDG7), including clean cooking solutions.

~~U.W.~~ Call on Member States to deepen cooperation and collaboration with Indigenous Peoples local communities and civil society to incorporate indigenous and local knowledge and practices in environmental decision-making, while further emphasizing the importance of localized and culturally sensitive approaches that empower all segments of society and contribute to inclusive and sustainable development, leaving no one ~~is left~~ behind.

Action 4: We will promote effective and coherent global environmental governance that adheres to the rules of international law.

V. In light of the accelerating and multifaceted environmental and climate challenges that pose significant threats risks to the planet, it is imperative to build decisively upon existing UNEA resolution 6/4 on promoting synergies, cooperation or collaboration for national implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant environmental instruments with clearly articulated roles and responsibilities. Such a coordinated and integrated approach will unify global efforts, optimize synergies, and ensure the delivery of efficient, effective, and coherent environmental social and economic outcomes aligned with our shared international commitments, combat food crises and poverty and the urgent demands of our time.

Y. We will promote effective and coherent global environmental governance that adheres to the rules of international law.

Z. Collaborate towards the full implementation of the UNEA resolution 6/12 to increase the effectiveness of environmental assistance and recovery in areas affected by armed conflict, while urging all Member States to adhere to the rules of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, human rights law and international humanitarian law, as applicable, in relation to the protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict.

Z1. We reaffirm our strong support for multilateral environmental cooperation.
