MGFC and RF and UNEP meeting

Summary

2 September 2025 Time: 1:30 pm, Nairobi time

Agenda Points:

- **Introduce/Welcome new MGFC members.**
- **12th ASC**
- **MGFC Co-chairs elections - Follow up CSO.**
- **Discussion of global consultation in preparation of the GMGSF (RF EU)**
- **UNEA Task forces (Dalia and Mohamed) identify leaders per task force.**
- **Webinar Series Towards UNEA-7, co-organized by Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas and Animal People Inc**
- **RCMs updates**
- **Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues**
- **AOB**

Participants

- UNEP: Zuhair Ahmed, Laetitia Zobel, Peter Kirongothi, Zhenwen Wu, David Ombisi, Isaiah Otieno, Olga, Kennedy Wangari.
- Business and Industry: Nill
- Children and Youth: Clive Donnley
- Farmers: Paul Temple
- Indigenous Peoples and their Communities: Frankie Orona
- Local Authorities: Magash Naidoo
- NGO: Mussa, Christopher Chin
- Scientific and Technological Community: Camilla Alexander-White
- Women: Dalia Marquez, Teresia Gitau
- Workers and Trade Unions: Nill
- Africa: Nill
- Asia and the Pacific: Chinkie Pelino Golle, Ajay Jha
- Europe: Nill
- North America: Kelly Sheridan
- Latin America and the Caribbean: Alejandro Luque
- West Asia: Nill

Summary of Minutes

1. **Introduce/Welcome new MGFC members.**

➔ The chair introduced new MGFC members.

2. **12th ASC**

- David, Chief of the CSU, commented that the progress that MGFC has made in the ASC has been commendable—there has been good engagement so far—and encouraged Major Groups to keep intervening as much as possible during the entire ASC.

3. **MGFC Co-chairs elections - Follow up CSO.**

- MGFC Co-chairs elections - Follow up CSO. Following the conclusion of the NGO Major Group elections, the MGFC is now fully constituted. The MGFC co-chairs' election will be facilitated by CSU, to be finalised in the next two weeks (By early October). The election is only open to the co-facilitators of the Major Groups.

4. **Discussion of global consultation in preparation of the GMGSF (RF EU)**

- A GMGSF Taskforce has been set up to prepare Major Groups for the global Major Groups consultations ahead of UNEA, and the GMGSF during UNEA. Any co-facilitator who wants to join the team can express their interest to do so. A coordination WhatsApp group has been created, and Patrizia is working on the draft program for the global consultations.

5. **UNEA Task forces (Dalia and Mohamed) identify leaders per task force.**

- MGFC has set up five taskforces: the Multistakeholder Dialogue Taskforce, the GMGSF and Global Consultations Taskforce, the Green Room Events Taskforce, the MG Newsletter (UNEA Monitor) Taskforce, and the Major Groups Press Conference Taskforce.

Multistakeholder Dialogue Taskforce:

- The taskforce will implement the Multistakeholder Dialogue concept note, which is in the final stage, by identifying and inviting panellists from the Major Groups and respondents from member states.
- The taskforce will choose among themselves two co-chairs to lead the team.
- A coordination WhatsApp group will be created for members of the taskforce.

GMGSF Taskforce:

- The GMGSF Taskforce shall work alongside the European Environment Bureau (EEB), the facilitating organisation, in preparation for the global Major Groups and Stakeholders consultations ahead of UNEA and the GMGSF during the UNEA.

Green Room Events Taskforce:

- The taskforce will review proposals received before the 31 October deadline for accredited NGOs to host side events and select the side events to be hosted at the Green Room.

Major Groups Newsletter (UNEA Monitor) Taskforce:

- The taskforce will be tasked with daily coverage of what's happening each day of UNEA, covering select Green Room events, writing an article on a select topic being discussed in UNEA, and designing the newsletter, which should be 3-4 pages with pictures.
- The taskforce will form a coordination WhatsApp group, and work will start close to UNEA.

Major Groups Press Conference taskforce:

- The taskforce work will start close to UNEA, just like the newsletter taskforce.
- It will be comprised of two experts speaking on hot topics, usually on the first day of UNEA.
- The press conference will provide the Major Groups a chance to influence and give their opinions and expectations regarding UNEA.
- The taskforce will start sending media invites 1/2 weeks before UNEA to keep the media aware of the MGFC press conference and keep the event in the loop.
- The taskforce will invite journalists from the Major Groups to join and support the press conference.
- The taskforce will designate a focal point to liaise with the UNEP Communications Division to keep reminding them of the event.

In addition, MGFC will form taskforces to assist in organising capacity-building sessions before UNEA and to coordinate the UNEA cluster and resolution focal points.

6. Webinar Series Towards UNEA-7, co-organized by Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas and Animal People Inc

- Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas and Animal People Inc. have collaborated to organise a series of capacity-building sessions to prepare members of the Major Groups to participate in UNEA. Friezer to send more information via email.

7. RCMs updates

Asia-Pacific Regional Consultative Meeting, 27 August 2025, Fiji:

- The Major Groups in the Asia-Pacific region organised a Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum preceding the 6th Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities in the Asia-Pacific region. The event was attended by 70 Major Groups representatives. The opening ceremony was graced by the UNEP ED and DED, the UNEA President, the IPCC Chair, and the Minister for Environment of Fiji.
- The meeting was organised into five sessions: context and framing (NGOs shared environmental concerns in the Asia-Pacific region from a civil society perspective), People Solutions in Response to the Triple Planetary Crisis, a session on AI and digital technologies that looked at the intersection of technology and environmental justice, a session on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (that provided updates on, inter alia, the BBNJ, INC and SPP-CWP processes), and the final session being a dialogue with the UNEA President on issues such as the working of the SPP (Chemicals and Waste) panel, financing of the SPP, INC, balancing the economy and the environment and regional issues such as deep sea mining.
- The outcome document of the forum was a joint statement that was delivered at the Ministerial forum. During the Ministerial forum, Major Groups in the Asia-Pacific made six structured interventions, providing recommendations with people-centred solutions.
- The Major Groups in the Asia-Pacific also collaborated with the UNEP Regional Office for Asia-Pacific (ROAP) to organise a side event focused on gender equality and social inclusion.

- The Asia-Pacific Youth Environment Forum was organized on the sidelines of the Ministerial Forum and was attended by 60 participants. The Youth Environment Forum focused on capacity building, youth priorities in UNEA, and regional priorities of the Asia-Pacific region. The outcome document was the Asia Pacific Youth Environmental Declaration.
- Major Groups in the Asia Pacific participated in the Science-Business Forum. The Regional Facilitators for the Asia-Pacific region will share the joint statement with the CSU to be included in the inf. Doc.

Europe RCM:

- The Europe RCM will be held virtually due to resource constraints. The European Youth Day will be held on 1 October 2025 and will be preceded by preparatory youth events. The joint statement will be launched virtually by 8 October 2025.

Latin America and the Caribbean RCM:

- Scheduled for 29 September and will be hosted at the ILO offices in Lima, Peru. The Women Major Group will host the Women Environmental Assembly on 27 September in partnership with UN-Women, Peru, at the Catholic University of Lima. The CYMG is conducting a virtual survey to get inputs for the preparatory process of Major Groups in the LAC region.

North America RCM:

- North America RCM is scheduled for 2 October 2025. The North America RFs will coordinate their Major Groups to finalise the joint statement within the same week.

West Asia RCM:

- The West Asia RCM is scheduled for 10-11 September 2025 and will be held virtually for West Asia-based accredited NGOs.

8. Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues

- The latest concept note was approved by the UNEA Taskforce and will be shared with the Multistakeholder Dialogue task force.

9. AOB

- Sabine informed the MGFC that members will have access to draft resolutions and concept notes submitted by member states by 29 September, using the e-delegate portal, which will be accessible to MGFC members from 15 September 2025. Information regarding draft decisions and concept notes will be shared by CSU via email until 15 September 2025, when MGFC will have access to the portal.