Name of Member State / Organization	*Australia*
Date	*30 June 2025*

First draft

Ministerial Declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its seventh session

Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet

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.	Australia supports the framing of the Declaration in the context of our collective commitment to the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.
3. {Placeholder} Global Youth Environment Assembly, December 2025.	We welcome this placeholder.
4. {Placeholder} Seventh Edition of Global Environmental Outlook 2025 and its findings.	We welcome this placeholder.
5. We welcome the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES) Assessment Reports on the Interlinkages Among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health, and the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.	We consider it important to welcome both IPBES Assessment Reports that were adopted at IPBES-11 in December 2024. Referencing only one appears to diminish the value of the other. The Transformative Change Assessment is relevant alongside Nexus because it considers the drivers of nature loss and the options for society to change to sustain a fair and healthy planet. It covers which

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	actions should be taken and how to ensure transformative change is equitable, inclusive and reflective. These reports were approved by 149 IPBES members and were the result of years of work, including multiple reviews, providing key recommendations to tackle the biodiversity crisis and other global challenges.
6. We recognize that the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, as well as other challenges including ~~climate change, biodiversity loss,~~ desertification, drought and land degradation, ~~pollution, and sand and dust storms~~ sea-level rise, ocean warming and acidification among others, and the disproportionate impacts of these crises and challenges on groups including women and girls, persons with a disability and Indigenous Peoples, requires urgent and collective responses from the international community, and therefore **decide to take the following actions:**	Australia considers it important to retain reference to the triple planetary crisis, as this is the language used in UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2025, and the framing most commonly used within UNEP and the wider UN system. This formulation recognises that all three issues of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution are global crises and are interlinked in a way that must be addressed together by the global community. We recognise desertification, land degradation, and drought (DLDD) are all important environmental challenges. Australia views them as cross-cutting challenges that fall within the remit of the biodiversity and climate crises. Australia would like this paragraph to acknowledge the disproportionate impacts of these issues on groups including women and girls, persons with a disability and Indigenous Peoples.
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 importance of sustainable development as a priority, call on Member States to advance sustainable, equitable, and integrated solutions and promote cooperation and exchange among governments, international organizations, the scientific	

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community and diverse civil society including women, persons with a disability and Indigenous Peoples.	
B. Strengthen international and regional cooperation to prevent and reduce transboundary pollution issues 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.	Australia supports the strengthening of cooperation on pollution issues. Regarding prioritisation of the development of advanced monitoring systems, Australia can in principle support this. However, we note there has been minimal work to date under existing chemicals & waste conventions to implement advanced monitoring systems.
C. Encourage Member States to advance circular economy approaches and policy responses, including mutually supportive trade and environment policies, towards sustainable consumption and production that 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.	The WTO cites research that over one quarter of global CO2 emissions are embedded in traded goods – meaning the supply chains, production processes and transport needed to make a product and get it into a shop. Paragraphs C and D refer to member state adoption of policies around circular economy, sustainable consumption and production, resource efficiency, product life cycles, adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies but the missing piece to support these ambitions is international trade.
D. Champion a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities, and advocate for ~~towards a clean, healthy and sustainable environment by advocating for~~ the widespread accessibility and adoption of renewable energy, energy efficient technologies and reduced resource intensity, in an effort to create just and equitable societies, leaving no one behind.	We consider it important to bring the language around a 'just transition' in line with its' scope previously agreed under the Paris Agreement. This would ensure that the used term has a shared understanding by all Member States.
E. Recognizing that increasing water scarcity poses a significant challenge to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and affects the resilience of ecosystems, communities,	Australia's proposed edits seek to emphasize the role of water as an enabler and solution.

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and economies, we reaffirm our commitment to enhancing sustainable water management, strengthening cooperation at all levels, and 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, recognizing effective water management as an enabler of the 2030 ~~-~~Agenda and its SDGs.	
F. Advance the implementation of the One Health approach at all levels, whilst enhancing the science, knowledge and evidence amongst countries and stakeholders, for a coordinated and cross-sectoral response, and promoting the Quadripartite One Health Alliance to enhance its policy and implementation impact, in line with national circumstances and priorities.	Australia supports the inclusion of this paragraph on One Health. Our edits seek to highlight, as outlined in the Quadripartite's One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022–2026) (OH JPA), that the aim of the Quadripartite and their actions are broader than just "policy impact" (refer bolded text below): The desired impact of the OH JPA is a world better able to prevent, predict, detect and respond to health threats and improve the health of humans, animals, plants and the environment while contributing to sustainable development. The OH JPA aims to work towards this vision in the following way: • Provide a **framework for action and propose a set of activities** the four organizations can offer together to advance and sustainably scale up One Health. • Provide **upstream policy and legislative advice and technical assistance**, to help set national targets and priorities across the sectors for the development and implementation of One Health legislation, initiatives and programmes. • **Take stock of existing cross-sectoral global and regional initiatives around**

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	One Health, identify and advise on synergies and overlaps, and support coordination. • **Mobilize and make better use of resources** across sectors, disciplines and stakeholders. • The OH JPA is guided by a theory of change and makes use of One Health principles to strengthen collaboration, communication, capacity building and coordination equally across all sectors responsible for addressing health concerns at the human– animal–plant–environment interface.
G. Encourage all Member States to pursue ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), ~~to~~ implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to advance resilient solutions, including Nature-based solutions, whilst ensuring sustainable resource management, the swift implementation of the 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 coordination, coherence and integration between early warning systems and disaster risk management systems to advance climate-resilient development and strengthen preparedness, response and recovery capacities in the face of anthropogenic or climate and natural hazard ~~climate~~-induced disasters, including droughts, heavy rains, wildfires, heat waves, including marine heatwaves, famines, floods, sand and dust storms, and sea level rise, leaving no one behind., ~~and~~ Ceall for the strengthening disaster risk governance by integrating of disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels, and enhanced	We would like to ensure an 'all natural hazards' approach to disaster risk, so the language should cover non-climate induced disasters as well. E.g. earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

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support for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), and countries facing specific challenges, recognizing that these 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, exchange best practices for responsible deployment, while encouraging accessibility and affordability of data and AI tools as appropriate, leaving no one behind.	
Action 2: We will implement multilateral environmental agreements and other internationally agreed environmental frameworks with collective resolve and commitment.	
J. Advance the swift implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste 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 Sustainable Development Goals.	Australia supports the inclusion of this paragraph and suggest using the full name of the agreement.
K. {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	We welcome this placeholder.

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management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.	
L. {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.	We welcome this placeholder.
[Proposed new para on the UN Ocean Conference] We reaffirm the Political Declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: united for urgent action", adopted at the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference, co-hosted by Costa Rica and France and held in Nice, France, from 9 to 13 June 2025, and urge the full and effective implementation of its commitments. In this context, we commit to enhancing and accelerating just and transformative action on marine conservation and restoration, ocean governance, and sustainable fisheries; to fostering sustainable ocean-based economies; and to preventing, significantly reducing, and controlling marine pollution of all kinds, in support of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	Australia supports the inclusion of a reference to the significant outcomes of the 2025 UN Ocean Conference, by reaffirming its adopted Political Declaration and urging the full and effective implementation of its commitments. We also consider it important that this Declaration strengthens its references to the ocean and coasts throughout and therefore request that the proposed text on this subject is included. Action on the ocean and coasts is critical, and we support a focus on the implementation of international agreements pertaining to the ocean and meeting Sustainable Development Goal 14, which is Life Below Water.
M. 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 effective implementation. This milestone Agreement reflects our shared commitment to strengthening ocean	

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governance, advancing equity, and safeguarding marine biodiversity for current and future generations.	
N. Advance the swift implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 through protection and conservation, and strive for the achievement of the Land Degradation Neutrality targets of the ~~UNCCD~~ United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification that address ~~through effective policy responses and financial resources to halt and reverse biodiversity loss; address ecosystem,~~ land degradation and drought through ~~land~~ restoration, effective policy responses and from financing from all sources to ~~land protection and conservation;~~ maintain ecosystem services and ~~develop~~ support sustainable food and agricultural production systems that can enhance food security.	Australia's suggested framing ensures the text reflects the different mandates of the UNCCD and CBD. These amendments also clarify what each convention relates to, aims to achieve, and reduces the risk of conflation. "Advance the swift implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 through protection and conservation, and strive for the achievement of the Land Degradation Neutrality targets of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification that address land degradation and drought through land restoration, by effective policy responses and from financing from all sources to maintain ecosystems services and support 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.	
O. ~~Ensure~~ Call for enhanced efforts to ensure adequate and predictable means of implementation for developing countries to enable them to advance sustainable solutions to tackle the global interconnected environmental challenges and crises through adequate financing, capacity-building, and technology transfer on voluntary and mutually-agreed terms.	Australia supports the transfer of technology when it is on a voluntary and mutually agreed basis.
P. Welcome efforts to reform the international financial architecture and the financing for development system, inviting cooperation and policy responses from all Member States and Observer States of the United Nations,	

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relevant stakeholders, international financial institutions, global funds and financial mechanisms, multilateral development banks and private foundations.	
Q. Invite Member States to promote gender equality and enhance the engagement of women, girls, youth, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, persons with a disability, local communities in the conservation and protection of the environment and ensuring their inclusive and meaningful participation and leadership in 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.	Australia recognises the important relationship between a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and the enjoyment and realisation of a broad range of human rights. However, Australia considers that a standalone 'right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment' is not yet established under international law. If our proposed edits are not acceptable, we think it is more appropriate to see the language in this text altered to, "...human rights **relating** to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment".
R. Call on Member States to deepen cooperation and collaboration with Indigenous Peoples 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.	
S. In light of the accelerating and multifaceted environmental and climate challenges that pose significant 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	

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	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 outcomes aligned with our shared international commitments and the urgent demands of our time.	
T.	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 comply with ~~adhere to the rules of~~ international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as applicable, in relation to the protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict.	Our edits to this paragraph aim to streamline the text**,** and to clarify that we are referring to international human rights law.

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