Name of Member States / Organization	*Republic of Korea*
Date	*30 April 2025*

ZERO DRAFT – 28th March 2025

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 welcome the Global Youth Environment Assembly held in Nairobi in December 2025 and its role in fostering active participation by young people in multilateral environmental governance.
3. We welcome the Global Environmental Outlook 2025 and its findings.
4. We decide, recognizing the importance of sustainable development as a priority, to take the following actions:

(a) Strengthen international cooperation to mitigate transboundary pollution issues, prioritize the development of advanced monitoring systems to effectively track, and manage these issues across borders, ensuring a science-driven approach to pollution control and environmental resilience, emphasizing on the effects of conflicts and call for their environmental evaluation and rehabilitation.

(b) Stress the implementation of unprecedented emission reductions: Member States must, globally commit to cutting 42% ~~per cent~~ off annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, ~~phase out~~ [transition away from] fossil fuels, and drastically scale up renewable energy. Stronger international cooperation and support, including through enhanced climate finance, will be essential to deliver on the Paris Agreement.

Reason: **It is not realistic to apply uniform greenhouse gas reduction targets, so ROK suggests to insert 'globally' for emphasizing common obligation on reducing greenhouse gas emission.**

And term 'transition away from' is one we have already determined in the Global Stocktake.

(c) Recognizing the interconnectedness of biodiversity loss, desertification, and the impacts of climate change, emphasize the need for integrated and coordinated approaches to address these challenges. Biodiversity loss accelerates land degradation and

desertification, while climate change exacerbates these processes through rising temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, and extreme weather events.

(d) Encourage Member States to engage and mobilize the international community to enhance financial support to facilitate the implementation of agreed outcomes of the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) held from 11 to 24 November 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan as well as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and UNCCD Strategic Framework 2018 – 2030.

(e) Foster synergies, cooperation and collaboration to advance the effective and inclusive implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and other internationally agreed global commitments, inviting the governing bodies of MEAs, whilst respecting their independence and respective mandates, to collaborate with the United Nations Environment Assembly to promote integrated approaches and policy coherence.

(f) Call on regional forums of ministers of the environment and environmental authorities to engage in multilateral cooperation for a more effective international environmental governance that advances synergies and integrated solutions across climate change, biodiversity and land degradation, pollution and waste action.

(g) Advance circular economy principles by encouraging ~~industries~~[all sectors including industry] ~~–~~to adopt sustainable production and consumption models that ~~emphasize resource efficiency, waste minimization, and the rethinking of product life cycles~~ [minimize natural resources use, enhance resource efficiency, extend product lifespan, and reduce waste through circular practices such as reuse, recycling, and energy recovery] through policy incentives and innovation~~.~~, Promote the mainstreaming of circular economy principles throughout society, and drive a systemic shift towards sustainability, reducing environmental impact and strengthening long-term planetary resilience.

Reason: **While the participation of industrial sector is important for a transition to a circular economy, it must be emphasized that achieving a circular society requires participation from all sectors and stakeholders. In addition, the draft text should better reflect the need for life-cycle management of plastic pollution**

(h) Encourage sustainable solutions and environmental policies that is based on scientific research and innovations in monitoring, early warning and assessment systems in various fields to support the capacity of vital sectors, stressing the need to enhance coordination, coherence, and integration between early warning systems and disaster risk management systems.

Reason: **It is necessary to specify key sectors. Environmental, economic, health, and social sectors are those in which early warning and disaster risk management systems are especially essential.**

(i) Call for the strengthening disaster risk governance to manage natural and manmade hazards by integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels, and calling for enhanced support for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), and countries facing specific challenges.

(j) Stress the need to enhance coordination, coherence and integration between early warning systems and disaster risk management systems to advance climate-resilient development and enhance response and recovery against manmade and natural disasters

induced or exacerbated by climate change, such as droughts, heavy rains, wildfires, heat waves, famines, and flooding, leaving no one behind.

(k) Champion a just transition towards a clean energy future by advocating for the widespread accessibility and adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies, the advancement of environmental rule of law. Ensure that the shift to a low-carbon economy is inclusive and equitable, by reducing emissions across industrial, transportation, and ~~residential~~[building] ~~-~~sectors, this transition contributes to climate resilience while fostering sustainable economic growth.

Reason**: The building sector is a major source of energy consumption and carbon emissions. Therefore, it is appropriate to broaden the scope from the residential sector to the entire building sector**.

(l) Call for enhance efforts for an effective implementation of sustainable development goals which requires strong support for technology and knowledge ~~transfer~~ [sharing], as well as capacity building. This includes fostering partnerships that enable access to new technologies, expertise, and resources, while strengthening local skills and institutions. By enhancing the capabilities of local communities and industries, developing countries can better drive their own growth and development.

Reason: **It is necessary to emphasize the importance of mutual and reciprocal development through the sharing of knowledge.**

(m) Emphasizing the importance of cooperation and exchange of expertise between governments and international organizations and collective action to combat different environmental issues such as climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss, building capacity at national scale.

(n) Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet and to encourage develop & incorporate digital solutions and AI in national plans as innovative solutions that contribute to accelerate achieving SDG plan towards sustainability and encouraging the full access to data.

(o) Stress the need for a comprehensive assessment of the potential negative environmental impacts of artificial intelligence, including energy consumption and carbon emissions associated with digital infrastructure. This should be accompanied by strengthened regulatory frameworks and standards to ensure its development and use align with environmental sustainability principles and ecosystem protection, while promoting international cooperation and the exchange of best practices for responsible and ethical AI deployment.

(p) [Placeholder on the outcome of the second part of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.]

(q) [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.]

(r) Call for ecosystem protection by strengthening nature-based solutions, ensuring sustainable water management, minimizing deforestation and forest degradation, and safeguarding, conserving, and restoring degraded land, soil, and ecosystems. These ecosystems support food, water, and [energy security], serve as habitats for biodiversity, and contribute to carbon storage and sequestration. Their preservation delivers numerous

economic, social, and environmental co-benefits, reinforcing efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

Reason: **It is ambiguous to insert 'energy security' as the paragraph does not show the clear connection between nature-based solutions and energy security. Kindly ask the clear reason and meaning of the energy security.**

(s) Invite member states to enhance the role of women, youth and civil society, indigenous people in the protection of the environment and to ensure their inclusive participation in decision-making processes, protecting and respecting the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

(t) Commit to cooperate to transition to sustainable food systems in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, emphasizing with great urgency that a multisectoral and integrated approach to food systems is critical to achieving global food security, ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition, while accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

(u) Urge Member States, international financial institutions, private foundations, funds and other actors to cooperate to align the global financial architecture with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and strengthen national policy and regulatory frameworks to enhance the transparency, availability and predictability of financial support to implement the goals and targets of the Paris Agreement, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Global Framework on Chemicals.