

Name of Member States / Organization	Saudi Arabia
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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.

This We reaffirms the importance of continuing recognizing all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CNDR-RC), the three Rio Conventions principles, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

We welcomes the outcomes of the sixth session of the United Nations Assembly for Environment, as well as the outcomes of the sixteenth conference of the Parties to the UNCCD, the twenty-ninth Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC outcomes, as well as the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

We reaffirm the urgent need to scale up global efforts to address biodiversity loss, degraded land, drought, pollution and desertification.

2. We note 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 note the **Global** Environmental Outlook 2025 and its findings.
4. We acknowledge, recognizing the importance of sustainable development as a priority, to take the following actions on the basis of **common** but differentiated responsibilities:
 - (a) Promote economic growth, social, and environmental sustainability as interconnected pillars of sustainable development.
 - (b) Strengthen international cooperation to mitigate pollution issues, promoting the exchange of knowledge and technologies for enhanced **environmental** management encouraging a science-driven approaches **in a balanced and integrated manner informed**

- by the best available science to pollution control and environmental resilience through national-level approaches, emphasizing on the effects of conflicts and call for their environmental evaluation and rehabilitation.
- (c) Stress the implementation of emission reductions through Nationally Determined Contributions in line with national circumstances, pathways, and approaches: . Stronger international cooperation and support, including through enhanced climate finance from developed countries, will be essential to deliver on the climate action.
 - (d) Recognizing the interconnectedness of biodiversity loss, land degradation, drought, desertification, and the impacts of climate change, we emphasize the need for integrated and coordinated approaches as appropriate to address these challenges. Land degradation and increasing drought conditions pose significant threats to food security and biodiversity.directly undermines ecosystem services and livelihoods.
 - (e) Urge Developed country Parties to fulfil their obligations and provide finance, technology and capacity building support to developing countries. Such support will also 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 as well as UNCCD Sixteen Conference outcomes (COP16) held from 2 to 13 December 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- (a) Foster cooperation and collaboration where appropriate to advance the effective and inclusive implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and other internationally agreed global commitments, including through capacity-building, technology transfer and financial mechanisms inviting the governing bodies of MEAs, whilst respecting their independence and respective mandates, avoiding duplication of efforts and works to collaborate with the United Nations Environment Assembly to promote integrated approaches and policy coherence that take into account national circumstances and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.
 - (b) Call on regional cooperation, including through forums of ministers of the environment and environmental authorities to engage in multilateral cooperation for a more effective international environmental Cooperation that advances synergies and integrated solutions across climate change, biodiversity, desertification and land degradation, pollution .
 - (c) Advance circularity approaches by promoting sustainable systems strengthening long-term planetary resilience.
 - (d) Encouraging sustainable solutions and environmental policies that is based on scientific research and innovations in monitoring, early warning and action systems to support drought-resilient ecosystems,information and services, societies and economies, 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.
 - (e) Call for the strengthening national disaster risk governance to manage hazards by integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels, and calling for enhanced support for developing countries .
 - (f) 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.

- (g) Champion just transitions guided by the principles of CBDR-RC towards a sustainable and resilient future by ensuring that environmental actions and policies are fair, equitable, and considerate of their social, economic, and cross-border impacts. . Ensure that the shift to a low-GHG economy **is inclusive and equitable, with developed countries taking the lead and providing means of implementation support to developing countries,** contributing to environmental resilience while fostering sustainable economic growth.
- (h) Call for enhance the efforts for an effective implementation of sustainable development goals which requires strong support from **developed countries to developing countries, under fair and most favourable** for finance, technology and knowledge transfer, as well as capacity building **in line with the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities.** 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.
- (i) 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, **desertification, land degradation, drought, pollution and biodiversity loss,** building capacity at national scale.
- (j) Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet and to encourage develop & incorporate digital solutions and AI as innovative solutions that contribute to accelerate achieving SDG plan towards sustainability **and promote international collaboration to ensure all countries can access AI tools for sustainable development.**
- (k) Stress the need for a comprehensive assessment of the potential environmental impacts of artificial intelligence, . This may be accompanied by strengthened frameworks to ensure its development and use align with environmental sustainability and ecosystem protection, while promoting international cooperation and the exchange of best practices for AI deployment.
- (l) [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.]
- (m)[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.]
- (n) 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 as well as addressing desertification, land degradation and drought. Their preservation delivers numerous economic, social, and environmental co-benefits, reinforcing efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Global efforts should promote partnerships like the Riyadh Global Partnership for Drought, established during Saudi Arabia's hosting of the UNCCD COP16, focusing on sustainable land management, ecosystem restoration, and community resilience to enhance community resilience and promote sustainable land management practices globally. Their preservation delivers numerous economic, social, and environmental co-benefits, reinforcing efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- (o) Invite member states to enhance the role of women, youth, civil society indigenous peoples and local communities in the protection of the environment and to ensure their

inclusive participation in decision-making processes, protecting and respecting human health

- (p) 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 addressing land degradation ,drought, and accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and relevant multilateral environmental agreements.
- (q) Urge Member States, international financial institutions, private foundations, funds and other actors to cooperate under the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) to enable 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 UNCCD Strategic Framework 2018 – 2030 in line with respective obligations..

