

<i>Name of Member State / Organization</i>	<i>CANADA</i>
<i>Date</i>	<i>June 25, 2025</i>

CAN General Comments:

- CAN was pleased to see the addition of references to water, chemicals, One Health, and the BBNJ Agreement.
- CAN appreciates the current structure with sub-sections, which can enhance clarity and communication of UNEA outcomes.
- CAN suggests additional text on the need for coordinated action across the environmental crises, and a paragraph on UNEP in the governance section as UNEP is absent from the Declaration.
- CAN notes with regret the removal of the language on deforestation and forest degradation. CAN recommends the addition of “forest” before “biodiversity loss” in several areas in the text, as forests are a crucial component of nature-based solutions and deforestation continues at an alarming rate at the global level. The importance of halting and reversing deforestation has been recognized under the UN Forum on Forests, the Glasgow Declaration on Forests and Land Use, the Forest and Climate Leaders’ Partnership, the G7 Nature Compact and the Global Stocktake among others.

First draft

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

Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet

[29 May 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.
3. {Placeholder} Global Youth Environment Assembly, December 2025.
4. {Placeholder} Seventh Edition of Global Environmental Outlook and its findings.
5. We welcome the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES) Assessment Report on the Interlinkages Among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health
6. We recognize that the interconnected nature of the global environmental challenges and crises, including climate change, forest and biodiversity loss, desertification, drought and land

degradation, pollution, sand and dust storms among others requires urgent and collective 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. Recognizing the 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, the scientific community and civil society.
- B. Recognizing pollution intensifies other environmental challenges by degrading and weakening natural systems that support resilience, strengthen international and regional cooperation to prevent and reduce **all** pollution including transboundary pollution, and air 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 **including ethical and equitable consideration of Indigenous knowledge** to pollution control and environmental resilience.

Para B:

CAN notes the importance given to transboundary pollution and would like to see it expanded to all types of pollution (both transboundary and domestic) so that there is no ambiguity that all types of pollution need to be addressed. In this regard, CAN would like to see a specific reference to action on air pollution, which results in over 7 million deaths annually.

CAN strongly encourages the Presidency to include language on the ethical and equitable consideration of Indigenous knowledge, alongside an evidence-based and science-driven approach, in accordance with UNDRIP.

Bbis

Implement integrated and coordinated approaches, such as nature-based solutions, informed by the best available science, and Indigenous knowledge, to address the interconnected challenges of forest and biodiversity loss, desertification, climate change and pollution, while advancing low-emissions and climate-resilient development.

Para Bbis:

CAN proposes an additional paragraph to emphasize the importance of integrated and coordinated approaches for effectively addressing interconnected environmental challenges.

- C. Encourage Member States to advance circular economy approaches and policy responses towards sustainable consumption and production that promote resource efficiency, waste minimization and the rethinking of product design to consider the impacts of products

across their full life cycles, and advance incentives and innovation and drive a systemic shift towards sustainability, whilst reducing environmental impact for a resilient planet.

Para C:

CAN proposes textual changes to ensure clarity and accuracy in tying product design to a lifecycle approach. The current phrasing that alludes to rethinking both product design and the lifecycle as separate factors is unclear. Reference to considering the impacts broadly aligns with a sustainable development lens and encompasses the range of impacts including environmental, human health and socio-economic impacts.

- D. Champion a just transition 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.
- 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, 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.
- 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 impact, in line with national circumstances and priorities.
- G. Recognizing that limiting global warming to 1.5°C, with no or limited overshoot, requires deep, rapid and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions, we reaffirm the importance of responding to the outcomes of the first global stocktake under the Paris Agreement. 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.

Para G:

CAN proposes additional language to highlight the urgent need to implement the Paris Agreement temperature goals and the importance of responding to outcomes of the GST. At present, the global community is not on track to reach its emissions reduction targets, and it is

more critical than ever to take meaningful, collective action to combat climate change.

- 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-induced disasters, including droughts, heavy rains, wildfires, heat waves, famines floods, sand and dust storms, leaving no one behind, and call for the strengthening disaster risk governance by integrating of disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels, and enhanced 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 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and cooperate to deepen knowledge and the scientific assessment of, and minimize, 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 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.
- K. Welcome the establishment of the new Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste, and Pollution, a landmark achievement that will strengthen the global science-policy interface in addressing the adverse impacts of chemicals, waste, and pollution on human health and the environment.

Para K:

CAN proposes this paragraph now that the new Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel has been launched.

Kbis

[Placeholder for the outcomes the Conference of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions]

Para Kbis:

CAN proposes that the text includes a paragraph on the outcomes of the BRS COP.

- 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, taking into consideration national circumstances and capabilities for developing countries.
- 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 reflects our shared commitment to strengthening ocean governance, advancing equity, and safeguarding marine biodiversity for current and future generations.

Mbis

[Placeholder for COP30]

Para Mbis:

CAN proposes adding a placeholder for the outcomes of COP30.

- N. 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 forest and biodiversity loss; address ecosystem degradation, 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.

Para N:

CAN recommends adding “degradation” to ensure clarity of the text.

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. Highlight the importance of 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 financing, capacity-building, and technology transfer.

Para O:

~~CAN's suggested text highlights the importance of adequate and predictable means of implementation, as member states are unable to ensure MOI on an individual 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, 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, local communities in the conservation and protection of the environment and ensuring their inclusive and meaningful participation 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.
- R. Call on Member States to deepen cooperation and collaboration with Indigenous Peoples to incorporate Indigenous knowledge and practices in environmental decision-making, in addition to local knowledge 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.

Para R:

CAN proposes capitalizing ‘Indigenous Peoples,’ in accordance with UNDRIP, in addition to textual changes to avoid conflation between Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

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 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.

Sbis

Recognize the essential role of UNEP in setting the global environmental agenda and in strengthening global environmental governance. Such efforts require strong predictable funding to ensure a continued momentum towards meeting global environmental goals.

Para Sbis:

UNEA being the governing body of UNEP and this section being about environmental

governance, CAN would like to see a paragraph that highlights the importance of UNEP's role in strengthening global environmental governance and the importance of resource mobilization. It is relevant that the section on environmental governance mentions the importance of a strong and well-funded UNEP.

- 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 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.
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