

Meeting of the UNEA Bureau
12 December 2025,
09:00 – 10:00 (GMT+3)
In-person – Conference Room 9

Summary

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

1. His Excellency Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) and President of the Environment Authority of Oman, welcomed the members of the Bureau and the co-chairs facilitating the draft resolutions and decisions, and declared open the meeting. The President also welcomed the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, His Excellency Sultan Hajiye, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan, who joined the Bureau meeting as an ex officio Bureau member.
2. The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Ms. Inger Andersen, delivered her opening remarks.
3. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Preparations for the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

Update on the draft ministerial declaration

4. The President informed that the final draft ministerial declaration, containing only minor edits and compromise language after extensive inclusive consultations, will be circulated to delegations in all official UN languages in the morning, and he asked the Bureau members to support the text.
5. The Bureau members commended the Presidency's leadership and emphasized that the declaration was collectively built from Member States' inputs, guidance, and suggestions.

Update on draft resolutions and decisions

6. The Chair of the Committee of the Whole (CoW), Ms. Joyelle Clarke of Saint Kitts and Nevis, provided an update on the progress made by the contact groups since the establishment of the Committee on Monday, 8 December 2025, and thanked the Rapporteur of the CoW, the co-chairs, and the Secretariat for their intensive support. She noted that seven draft resolutions were successfully transmitted to UNEA for adoption, four draft resolutions were withdrawn by proponents, and a new draft resolution was submitted by Mexico for consideration at the closing plenary of the Assembly.

7. The Chair informed that before the adjournment of the closing plenary of the Committee, delegations requested additional time to continue their informal discussions after the closing of the Committee of the Whole, with a view to finding agreement on some of the outstanding drafts.
8. The co-chairs updated on the progress made during the informal informal consultations, after the closing of the CoW. Co-chair of Cluster A informed that delegations reached a delicate compromise around 1:30 a.m. on the draft resolution entitled “ *The preservation of glaciers and the broader cryosphere, particularly in mountain regions*” after intensive late-night negotiations involving multiple huddles and bilateral meeting; Cluster B likewise managed to conclude its remaining draft resolution entitled “*Environmental sustainability of artificial intelligence systems*” by 11 p.m.; Cluster C also finalised the draft resolutions entitled “ *Sound management of chemicals and waste*” and “ *Environmental dimensions of antimicrobial resistance*”. For Cluster D, the co-chair informed that the draft decision entitled “*Medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2029 and programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027*” had already been agreed *ad referendum* and further informed that delegations would meet at 10:30 a.m. to finalize negotiations on the draft decision entitled “*Provisional agenda, dates and venue of the eighth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly*”. The co-chair expressed strong confidence in achieving a compromise on this draft decision.

General updates

9. The Secretariat briefed the UNEA Bureau members on the preparation for the [closing plenary of the UNEA-7](#), which was scheduled for 12 December 2025 from 15:00 to 18:00. The Secretariat also provided the status of the [nomination of candidates for the Bureau of UNEA-8](#).

Agenda item 3: Other matters

10. The President of UNEA expressed his appreciation to Her Excellency Johanna Lissinger Peitz, Vice President of UNEA and Senior Advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Government Offices of Sweden, for her support to the organization of events under agenda item 10 entitled “*Cooperation with multilateral environmental agreements*” (MEA’s day) and producing ambitious, strategic outcomes.
11. Her Excellency Johanna Lissinger Peitz thanked the President for his strong commitment to cooperation and synergies. Highlighted that MEA discussions emphasized national-level synergy, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, nexus thinking, stakeholder engagement beyond parties, coherent monitoring and scientific assessment, and the idea that actions deliver greater impact when undertaken together.

Agenda item 4: Closing of the meeting

12. The Executive Director conveyed her deep appreciation to the UNEA President and Bureau members for their steadfast leadership and dedicated service over the past two years.
13. The meeting closed at 9:40 am.

Annex: List of Participants

United Nations Environment Assembly Bureau Members:

1. H. E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of UNEA and President of the Environment Authority of Oman.
2. H. E. Mr. Peter Maddens, Vice President of UNEA and Ambassador of Belgium and Permanent Representative of Belgium to UNEP.
3. H. E. Ms. Fitsum Assefa Adela, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Planning and Development of Ethiopia, **represented by** Mr. Demeke Atnafu, Deputy Head of Mission of Ethiopia in Kenya.
5. H. E. Ms. Anikó Raisz, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of State for Environmental Policy and Circular Economy of Hungary.
6. H. E. Mr. Ali Gholampour, Vice President of UNEA and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to UNEP.
7. H. E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Espichán Mariñas, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Environment of Peru.
8. H. E. Ms. Johanna Lissinger Peitz, Vice President of UNEA and Senior Advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Government Offices of Sweden.
9. H. E. Mr. Mike Mposha, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia, **represented by** Mr. Exnobert Zulu, Charge d’Affaires, High Commissioner of Zambia to Kenya
10. H. E. Ms. Joyelle Clarke, Rapporteur of UNEA and Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Climate Action, and Constituency Empowerment of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Ex-officio member of the UNEA Bureau:

1. H. E. Mr. Sultan Hajiyev, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Kenya, and Permanent Representative to UNEP.

UN Environment Programme Secretariat was represented by:

1. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director.
2. Ms. Elizabeth Mrema, Deputy Executive Director.
3. Mr. Nicolas Bertrand, Chief of Staff.
4. Ms. Radhika Ochalik, Secretary of Governing Bodies.
5. Mr. Stadler Trengove, Principal Legal Advisor.

Co-chairs as observers:

From the African States Group:

Mr. Ontumetse Ontumetse of Botswana;
Mr. Tobias Ogweni of Kenya.

From the Asia-Pacific States Group:

Ms. Kanako Okano of Japan.

From the Western European and other States group:

Ms. Marie Haraldestad of Norway.