

Name of Member States / Organization	
Date	

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. [Placeholder for the Global Youth Environment Assembly held in Nairobi in December 2025]
3. [Placeholder for 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 pollution issues, ensuring a science-driven approach to pollution reduction/mitigation 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 should raise their commitments to cutting off annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and drastically scale up renewable energy. Stronger international cooperation and support led by developed countries with regard to the provision of adequate and predictable means of implementation, including through enhanced climate finance and affordable technology transfer, capacity-building, partnerships, and the sharing of best practices, will be essential to deliver on the Paris Agreement.
 - (c) Recognizing the interconnectedness of biodiversity loss, desertification, land degradation, droughts and the impacts of climate change, we 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 and scale up financial support to developing countries to facilitate the implementation of agreed outcomes of the 29th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention, (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.

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Commented [WU2]: Should be pending till we receive the final version of GEO-7

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Commented [sE4]: Egypt expresses its concern regarding obligating Member States to commit to cut 40% of their emissions by 2030. We believe that this contradicts with the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities, as well as the commitments pledged by Member States through their nationally determined contributions (NDCs). This also goes beyond the stipulation in article (28) of the first global stocktake adopted at COP28, which calls on Parties to contribute to mitigation global efforts, in a nationally-determined manner, taking into account the Paris Agreement and their different national circumstances, pathways and approaches. Egypt reiterates the need of developing countries to have access to adequate and predictable means of implementation to meet the ambitious environmental targets, the mobilization of which should be primarily led by developed countries, considering the historical responsibilities and different capabilities and institutional capacities. These include scaling up financial support, transfer and development of technology, capacity-building, partnerships, and the sharing of best practices.

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Commented [sE5]: We believe that the Declaration should recognize the interconnectedness between climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, desertification, drought and land degradation, and reaffirm Member States' steadfast commitments to address these challenges, inter alia, in a balanced manner.

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- (e) Welcome the outcomes of the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of Biological diversity (CBD COP16), in particular the establishment and operationalization of the Cali Fund to share the benefits from uses of digital sequence information on genetic resources (DSI) more fairly and equitably. We call upon developed countries to provide adequate finance to developing countries for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to conserve lands, seas and inland waters by 30%, to restore degraded ecosystems by 30% and to ensure their sustainable use, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.
- (f) We welcome with appreciation the outcomes of the 15th and 16th sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, in particular the launch of the Riyadh Global Partnership for Drought Resilience, as well as the Abidjan Call to act on drought, desertification and land degradation.
- (g) 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.
- (h) 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.
- (i) Advance circular economy principles by encouraging industries to adopt sustainable production and consumption models that emphasize resource efficiency, waste minimization, and the rethinking of product life cycles, through policy incentives and innovation, drive a systemic shift towards sustainability, reducing environmental impact and strengthening long-term planetary resilience.
- (j) Encouraging 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.
- (k) Call for the strengthening disaster risk governance to manage natural and manmade disasters by integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels, and calling for enhanced support for Developing countries, including the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), and countries facing specific challenges.
- (l) 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, sand and dust storms, heavy rains, wildfires, heat waves, famines and flooding, leaving no one behind. Recognize the special needs of developing countries, in particular sub-Saharan African countries, for establishing early warning systems to address the extreme weather events.
- (m) Champion a just transition in all of its economic, social and environmental aspects, including towards a clean energy future by advocating for the widespread accessibility and adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies, and the

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Commented [sE6]: We call for revising these subparagraphs in a manner that strongly reflects the need for establishing early warning systems in developing countries, which are highly affected by the extreme weather events, according to the UN Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, launched in 2022, which aims to ensure that everyone on Earth is protected by early warning systems against hazardous weather, water, and climate events by 2027.

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Commented [sE7]: The concept of just transition should not be exclusive to the renewable energy sector, and ought to consider the economic, social and environmental aspects.

advancement of environmental rule of law. Ensure that the shift to a low-carbon economy is just, inclusive and equitable, by reducing emissions across industrial, transportation, and residential sectors, this transition contributes to climate resilience without prejudice to pursuing the right of development by developing countries.

- (n) Highlight the interlinkages between trade in critical energy transition minerals and climate action, and the significance of ensuring adequate elaboration of the emerging energy market that enables the accessibility of all markets to the minerals-based technologies, in order to achieve just energy transition to all countries.

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- (o) Call for enhance the efforts for an effective implementation of sustainable development goals which requires strong support for technology and knowledge transfer, as well as capacity building. This includes fostering partnerships that enable access to new affordable 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.

- (p) Reaffirms the commitment to all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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- (q) Emphasizes the importance of adopting a comprehensive approach to sustainable development that takes into account the environmental, economic and social dimensions and prioritizes the rights of individuals in the most affected communities by environmental degradation, as well as addressing the widened financial gap for the implementation of the sustainable development goals in the global South, hence striking up balance between the development and the rights-based approaches.

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- (r) 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.

- (s) Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet and to enhance capacity building at the national levels 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].

- (t) 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 as well as the transfer of the best available knowledge for responsible and ethical AI deployment to developing countries.

Commented [sE8]: We seek clarification on the meaning of full access to data. Does it mean the fully accessibility of developing countries to data or countries to avail there data?

- (u) [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.]

- (v) Stresses the need for adopting a gradual, just, integrated and science-based transition approach to address plastic pollution, with the aim of attaining environmentally sustainable production and consumption, taking into account the related social and economic impacts.

- (w) Underscores the need to facilitate developing countries accessibility to plastic alternatives through low-cost and sustainable technology transfer that enables a just transition path, as well as to provide additional/stand-alone, adequate, predictable and sustainable finance.
- (x) [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.]
- (y) 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. Their preservation delivers numerous economic, social, and environmental co-benefits, reinforcing efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- (z) Invite member states to enhance the role of all stakeholders, in particular 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 and the right to development.
- (aa) Commit to cooperate to transition to food systems transformations 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.
- (bb) 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, affordability 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.
- (cc) Recognize the inevitability of the negative impacts of armed conflicts on the environment, and hence calls for thorough assessment of such potential negative impact on the environment with the view of mitigating them to the extent possible and in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law.

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