

Input of the EU and its Member States into the first revised draft Ministerial declaration at the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

First Revised draft

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

Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet

[29 August 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.

2bis. We reaffirm the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, keeps the environment under review, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment and we welcome the Medium Term Strategy - Solutions for a healthy, prosperous and resilient people and planet: the United Nations Environment Programme Strategy for 2026–2029 - that sets out UNEP's vision for a healthy, prosperous and resilient people and planet.
3. {Placeholder} Global Youth Environment Assembly, December 2025.
4. {Placeholder} Seventh Edition of Global Environmental Outlook 2025 and its findings.

4bis. {Placeholder} New Global Environmental Data Strategy (GEDS) developed by UNEP.
5. **We take note with appreciation of the Pact for the Future. We also welcome the findings of** the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES) Assessment Report on the Interlinkages Among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health and the Thematic Assessment Reports on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, **as well as latest scientific assessments of relevant bodies.**
6. We recognize that the interconnected nature of the global environmental challenges and crises, including climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, as well land, **soil and ocean** degradation, desertification, **deforestation**, sand and dust storms, global water cycle variability, marine and terrestrial heat waves 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. We, recognizing the importance of sustainable development, **will strengthen international** cooperation among governments, international organizations, the scientific community and civil society, **which remains a fundamental catalyst** to advance sustainable, **equitable** and integrated solutions **to the global environmental challenges and crises we face.**
- B. **We will** strengthen international and regional cooperation to prevent and reduce **all forms of** pollution and **promote** the **technological** development, **availability and accessibility to** advanced and innovative monitoring systems to effectively **detect** and manage **pollution within and** across borders, ensuring a science-based approach.
- C. **We commit** to advancing policy responses and circular economy **that promote resource efficiency** in consumption and production, waste minimization, **the prevention and minimization of exposures to harmful chemicals, the reduction of air, soil and water pollution** and the rethinking of product design across **its full** life cycle, supporting also valuable job and other beneficial economic opportunities. **We will** advance innovation and systemic shifts **in all sectors, in particular in key high impact sectors** to decouple economic growth from resource use and environmental pressures, thereby contributing to a resilient planet, **including through the implementation of 10Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns.**
- D. **We will** drive a transition to sustainable food systems and sustainable, healthy diets in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, emphasizing the importance of a multisectoral and integrated approach for addressing biodiversity loss, water stress, ocean, land and soil degradation, pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, and for achieving global food security, ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition, accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and relevant multilateral environmental agreements.
- E. **We will,** in an effort to create just and equitable societies and leave no one behind, promote and facilitate a just transition towards a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. We will advocate for the widespread **development, transfer** on voluntary and mutually agreed terms **and** accessibility to renewable energy and energy efficient technologies, accelerating efforts towards net zero emission energy systems well before or by around mid-century. **We will promote the adoption of practices that** reduce resource intensity, **ensure traceability, transparency and accountability throughout value chains, including for critical minerals**

essential to the energy transition; and we will protect vulnerable workers and communities.

- F. We recognize that the increasing **variability of the global water cycle** and **deteriorating water quality** pose 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 for full implementation of resolution UNEA-6.13 to enhance sustainable water management, strengthen cooperation at all levels, and support innovative solutions, including naturebased solutions as defined by UNEA Resolution 5/5, **and ecosystem-based approaches**, that promote water efficiency and equitable access to safe and clean water. We encourage all Member States, in line with UNEA Resolution 6/13, to support the implementation of the UN system-wide strategy for water and sanitation and the work of the UN Special Envoy on Water. We also call for an inclusive, ambitious and action-oriented United Nations Water Conference to Accelerate the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all in 2026. We encourage sharing of knowledge, capacity building, and mobilizing resources to address water-related challenges in a holistic and integrated manner, **involving all relevant stakeholders.**
- G. We will 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 **to sustainably balance and optimize human, animal and ecosystem health.** We will promote the **work of the** Quadripartite One Health Alliance (WOAH, WHO, FAO, UNEP) to enhance its policy impact, taking into account national circumstances and priorities.
- H. Recognizing that climate change is one of the severe crisis of our time, which adverse impacts are already being felt across the world, affecting vulnerable regions and countries more severely, with unprecedented floods, extreme droughts, above-average heat waves, wildfires and other events, we urge all Member States to pursue ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) **that include all greenhouse gases in an effort to limit global warming to 1.5°C through deep, rapid and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions and the transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems,** and to develop and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to advance resilient solutions, including nature-based solutions **and ecosystem-based approaches**, whilst ensuring **the inclusive engagement of all stakeholders and sectors within each country.** We recognize that, as part of a global effort, developed countries continue to take the lead in mobilizing climate finance from a wide variety of sources - public and private, bilateral and multilateral - through a variety of actions, including supporting country-driven strategies and plans, and taking into account the needs and priorities of developing country Parties to contribute to the swift

implementation of the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance under the Paris Agreement.

- I. We stress the need to enhance coordination, coherence and integration between early warning systems and disaster risk **reduction** systems to advance climate-resilient development, while strengthening **disaster prevention**, preparedness, response and recovery capacities in the face of anthropogenic or climate-induced disasters, including droughts, wildfires, heat waves, heavy rains and floods, sand and dust storms. We call for the strengthening of disaster risk governance **to build long-term resilience** by integrating **ecosystem-based** disaster risk reduction **and nature-based solutions** into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels, and enhancing support for developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and have significant capacity constraints, such as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), recognizing that **local vulnerabilities** are often exacerbated by climate fragility, armed conflicts, migration and displacement issues.
- J. We encourage Member States to incorporate sustainable digital **technologies, including** Artificial Intelligence (AI), in national development plans to accelerate progress towards the achievement **of the SDGs. We also encourage** cooperation to deepen the scientific assessment of the environmental impacts of AI **to inform policy** and to exchange best practices to ensure **environmentally responsible development** and deployment, while **promoting** accessibility and affordability of data and AI tools, leaving no one behind, and fostering data quality to support responsible use, **to implement the goals of the Global Digital Compact.**

X. We encourage Member States to implement the new Global Environmental Data Strategy (GEDS) and Frascati Principles for trusted, transparent, accessible data as well as enabling accountability, including on the environmental footprint for sustainable and transparent AI and data system.

X. Call on Member States to strengthen the capacity of citizens, including youth, and professionals to foster individual and collective agency, drive socio-behavioural change, and build the skills needed to empower individuals, communities, and nations to engage in sustainable practices and adapt to the evolving labour market in the context of the green transition. To achieve this, member states should invest in education-formal and non-formal, informal and lifelong, adapting curricula and education programs to integrate sustainability, technical skills, and transversal competencies.

Action 2: We will implement multilateral environmental agreements and other internationally agreed environmental frameworks with collective resolve and commitment.

- K. We will advance the swift implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals to protect human health and the environment from the 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.

- L. **We welcome the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution and commit to advancing a strong science-policy interface in addressing the adverse impacts of chemicals, waste, and pollution on human health and the environment.**



- M. **We take note of the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics, in line with resolution UNEA 5/14 and reaffirm our shared commitment to continue engaging constructively and actively and with a sense of urgency and solidarity to those most effected by the plastic pollution in the ongoing negotiations with a view of completing the work of the INC at the third part of its fifth session.**

- N. We welcome the historic achievement of 60 ratifications of 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), paving the way for its forthcoming entry into force, call upon all States and regional economic integration organizations that have not done so to consider 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. **We commit to enhancing and accelerating bold, ambitious, just and transformative action on marine conservation, restoration, and ocean governance to foster sustainable ocean-based economies, and advance the implementation of the Political Declaration adopted at the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference to safeguard marine biodiversity for present and future generations.**

- O. We recall the urgent need to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, in line with the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. We further recall the urgent need to halt deforestation and forest degradation, reverse forest loss, and restore degraded forest by 2030, in line with our shared global commitments and the first global stocktake by the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, and encourage all Member States to strengthen their commitments for forests at COP 30 in Belém. We will advance the swift implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through **ambitious National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and effective policy responses to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. We will address ecosystem degradation and maintain ecosystem services that support all systems of life on Earth, including terrestrial, aquatic and marine**

ecosystems which act as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases. We recognize that we depend on these services for food, medicine, energy, clean air and water, the protection from natural disasters, as well as recreation and cultural inspiration.

- P. We will, in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, increase the mobilization of finance for nature to address the biodiversity funding gap, by identifying and addressing harmful subsidies and mobilising at least 200 billion USD annually by 2030 from all sources, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in effective, timely and easily accessible manner, to support biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, including through the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund.
- Q. We will strive for the achievement of the Land Degradation Neutrality targets of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification through the implementation of effective National Action Programmes and mobilizing financial resources from all sources, building capacity and facilitating technology transfer on voluntary and mutually agreed terms. Our efforts will focus on addressing land and soil degradation and improving drought resilience through land protection and conservation, sustainable land management and restoration of degraded areas, as well as the development of sustainable food and agricultural production systems and practices that enhance food security.

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.

- R. We call for enhanced partnerships to ensure the provision and mobilization of means of implementation for developing countries to enable to tackle the global environmental challenges and crises we face, whilst pursuing their sustainable development pathways to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, through financing, capacitybuilding, and technology transfer on voluntary and mutually agreed terms.
- S. We welcome efforts to reform the international financial architecture and the financing for development system and call for making financial flows consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and consistent with the Paris Agreement, 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. We recognize the need to promote coherent policy and regulatory frameworks to mobilize and align public and private business and finance with the transition to sustainable, climate-resilient economies.

- T. **We will** promote gender equality **and intergenerational** equity, and enhance the engagement of women and girls, youth, **the elderly, persons with disabilities**, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and **people of African descent** 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.
- U. We will deepen cooperation and collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, **local communities and people of African descent** to incorporate indigenous, **traditional** and local knowledge and practices in environmental decision-making, 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 behind.

Action 4: We will promote effective and coherent international environmental governance that adheres to the rules of international law.

- V. **We reaffirm the critical importance of synergies, cooperation, and collaboration in the national implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and other internationally agreed frameworks**, including Regional Sea Conventions and Action Plans. **We invite the governing bodies of these agreements, while respecting their mandates and independence, to work with the United Nations Environment Programme to support working towards a more coherent and effective international environmental governance framework, promote integrated approaches, and ensure full engagement of all countries.**
- W. **We commit to** increasing 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, in relation to the protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict.
- X. **Recognizing that crimes that affect the environment are a serious threat to advancing sustainable solutions for a safer and more resilient planet, we invite Member States to harmonize legislation, improve international cooperation, and enhance data collection and enforcement capacity to protect the environment and its natural resources from the most serious offences.**
- Y. **We note the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 23 July 2025 on obligations of States in respect of climate change, which provides authoritative clarification on the legal obligations of States under international law in relation to climate change and encourage all States to strengthen international cooperation and promote the implementation of the**

legal obligations referenced by the opinion, in line with existing international commitments and obligations, and recognizes that the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is essential for the enjoyment of other human rights.
