

Name of Organization	Business and Industry of Major Group and Other Stakeholder
Date	30th of April 2025

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. We welcome 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 welcome the Global Environmental Outlook 2025, and Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction 2024/202 and its findings.
4. We decide, recognizing the importance of sustainable development as a priority, we recommend ~~recommend~~ ew to take the following actions:
 - (a) Strengthen international cooperation to mitigate transboundary pollution issues, prioritize the development of advanced monitoring systems to effectively track and manage these issues across borders, ensure ~~ensuring~~ a science ~~driven~~ and risk based approach to pollution control and environmental resilience, emphasizing on the effects of conflicts and call for evidence-based ~~their~~ environmental evaluation and rehabilitation.
 - (b) Stress the importance of targeted and consistent implementation of unprecedented emission reductions. Member States are encouraged to must commit to cutting 42% per cent off annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 against a 2019 baseline, implement abatement technologies to reduce emissions from industrial sectors and transition away from phase-out fossil fuels, and drastically scale up investment in low-carbon renewable energy sources as part of wider commitments to a just energy transition. Stronger international cooperation and support, including through enhanced climate finance, will be essential to deliver Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) National Declaration Commitments on the Paris Agreement.
 - (c) Recognizing the interconnectedness of biodiversity loss, desertification, 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 restoration desertification, while climate change exacerbates these processes through rising temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, and extreme weather events.

Commented [1]: Blanket figures won't work for all member states, particularly those with a low contribution to emissions and commensurate low levels of energy access.

Commented [2]: Energy access in parts of Africa may mean furthering hydrocarbons in support of transition to lower-carbon alternatives over time.

Commented [3]: Cefic's comments :
-42% of what? What is the reference year? 2024? 2005? 1990? We'd then have to see how that figure compares to EU 2030 target. From what I can quickly see online, the 42% figures come from a UNEP report, where it states= "To get on a least-cost pathway for 1.5°C, emissions must fall 42 per cent by 2030, compared with 2019 levels." <https://www.unep.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2024>) If that's the case, it should be clearly mentioned. Btw, if the report is correct UNEP says the EU is responsible for 6% of total GHG emissions in 2023, the same as the African Union. And almost half of the US (11%) and 1/5 of China (30%). Worth keeping it in mind.
-The fossil fuels phase out is tricky. Already in UNFCCC didn't work out. There have been other formulations in the past, like "phasing down fossil fuels", or "phasing out/down unabated fossil fuels". COP28 conclusions (Dubai 2023) ended up with "transition away from fossil fuels". For consistency, we could advocate for the latter

Commented [4]: I agree with the comment - to avoid long discussions why remain more general and simply state "Urge Member States to fulfil their commitments and increase efforts to implement unprecedented action on greenhouse gas emissions and related actions."

Commented [5]: I would agree that such a text would be much neater and avoid rehashing already ongoing debates

Commented [6]: This is incorrect and changes the meaning of the sentence fundamentally. Revert to original language.

- (d) Encourage Member States to engage and mobilize the international community to enhance financial support to 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 [COP16 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia including](#) Strategic Framework 2018 – 2030.
- (e) 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, [whilst avoiding duplication of work across MEAs](#).
- (f) Call on regional [consultation](#) 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 [and by ensuring mainstreaming of such approaches with other ministries, i.e., health, agriculture, trade and finance, their ridiffapproaches acro-](#)
- (g) Advance [national](#) 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.
- (h) [Empowering](#) ~~Encouraging~~ sustainable solutions and environmental policies that [are based 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.
- (i) Call for the strengthening disaster risk governance to manage natural and manmade hazards by integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels, and calling for enhanced support for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), and countries facing specific challenges.
- (j) 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.
- (k) Champion a just transition towards a [low-carbonelean](#) energy [and](#) [clean water](#) future by advocating for the widespread accessibility and adoption of [low-carbon renewable energy sources](#), ~~and~~ energy efficiency [and emissions abatement](#) technologies, and the advancement of environmental rule of law. Ensure that the shift to a low-carbon economy is inclusive and equitable, by reducing emissions across [energy](#), industrial, transportation, and [construction](#) ~~residential~~ sectors, this transition contributes to climate resilience while fostering sustainable economic growth.

Commented [7]: Should retain original language

Commented [8]: Does not fit here

Commented [9]: These are different - let's stick to the original language

- (l) Call for ~~enhancing~~ ~~enhance~~ the efforts for an effective implementation of ~~the~~ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which requires strong ~~interlinkage~~ support for ~~innovation~~ technology and knowledge transfer, as well as capacity building ~~inclusion~~. 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.
- (m) Emphasizing the importance of cooperation and exchange of expertise between governments, ~~intergovernmental organizations~~, ~~nongovernmental international organizations and the private sector~~ ~~with and~~ collective action to combat different environmental issues such as climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss, building capacity at ~~local, -and~~ national, ~~and regional~~ scale.
- (n) Advancing ~~Natural Based Solutions (NbS) and sustainability~~ ~~sustainable solutions~~ for a resilient planet and 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.
- (o) 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 for responsible and ethical AI deployment.
- (+)(p) ~~Governance structures to be intentionally designed to align artificial intelligence with the principle of sufficiency. This requires a shift from purely efficiency-driven or profit-oriented approaches toward models that place human and ecological well-being at the center~~
- (+)(q) [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.]
- (+)(r) [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.]
- (+)(s) 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. Their preservation delivers numerous economic, social, and environmental co-benefits, reinforcing efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- (+)(t) Invite member states to enhance the role of women, youth, ~~business~~ 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.

Commented [10]: suggest keeping original language

Commented [11]: These edits do not really make sense - revert to the original language.

Commented [12]: We are not prepared to support this inclusion - sufficiency is not language we could get behind.

Commented [13]: Suggest deletion

(+)(u) Commit to cooperate to transition to sustainable food systems in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, emphasizing with great urgency that a science-based 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.

(+)(v) Urge Member States, international financial institutions, trust private foundations, funds and other actors to cooperate to align the global financial architecture with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and strengthen national policy and regulatory frameworks to enhance the accountability, transparency, availability and predictability of economic financial-support to implement the goals and targets of the Paris Agreement, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Global Framework on Chemicals and other global environmental treaties of relevance.