

Written input from Norway

ZERO DRAFT: Ministerial declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its seventh session

Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet

General remarks:

- a) Regarding placeholders and paragraphs which are contingent on future events and decisions, it is reasonable to put these paragraphs into brackets to communicate this.
- b) Notwithstanding UNEA's mandate to set the global agenda on environment, care must be taken when referring to issues which fall under the ambit of MEAs and other multilateral bodies. UNEA has a mandate to support these fora and undertake actions which complement and contribute to the fulfilment of commitments undertaken there. Actions which contribute to co-benefits or other synergies between these fora which are not otherwise covered in the activities of these fora are also within the ambit of UNEA. Several paragraphs in the draft need to be re-drafted with this in mind.
- c) If UNEA decides to refer to decisions and commitments undertaken in other fora, it is important that these reflect the agreed language and approaches of these fora.
- d) Given UNEP's mandate to promote the "coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system", Norway supports the proposal made by several delegations in the consultations on the declaration, to reference appropriate initiatives from the UN system. These include on One Health, the UN Oceans Conference, and Financing for Development. At a minimum, the outcome of these has implications for our deliberations on the environment and will contribute to the solutions we seek to highlight in this declaration.
- e) The draft lacks meaningful reference to marine issues or oceans. These issues could be integrated into appropriate paragraphs or be included in placeholders related to the UN Oceans Conference, first steps of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement, including recognition that these include ecosystems which need to be sustainably managed, also as part of sustainable food systems.
- f) Many of the paragraphs in the draft reflect the strong action-orientation of the draft, but it may be useful to specify by whom, and how, these actions will be implemented.

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.	
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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 seventh Global Environmental Outlook 2025 and its findings.	As the Summary for Policymakers for GEO-7 will be discussed and adopted by member states by consensus, this paragraph can be strengthened. Possible language could draw on agreed language regarding GEO 6: “Welcomes with appreciation the flagship sixth Global Environment Outlook report and its summary for policymakers, which was reviewed and approved by Members from 21 to 24 January 2019” (UNEP/EA.4/Res.23).
4. We decide, recognizing the importance of sustainable development as a priority, to take the following actions:	Consider a reference which recognises that achieving sustainable development requires a balanced approach to all three of its dimensions. Furthermore, the actions being taken in the context of this declaration relate in large part to the environmental dimension.
(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, ensuring a science-driven approach to pollution control 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 must commit to cutting 42% per cent off annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, phase out fossil fuels, and drastically scale up renewable energy. Stronger international cooperation and support, including through enhanced climate finance, will be essential to deliver on the Paris Agreement.	Redraft to reflect division of responsibility between different fora.
(c) Recognizing the interconnectedness of biodiversity loss, desertification, and the impacts of climate change, we	The recognition of the interconnectedness between these environmental issues is critical and itself the basis for the types of

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.	solutions we need. As such, this paragraph may however be better suited to be in the preamble and should inform actions taken by ministers.
(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 Strategic Framework 2018 – 2030.	Redraft to better reflect division of responsibility between different fora.
(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.	
(f) 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.	
(g) Advance circular economy principles by encouraging industries to adopt	Include a reference to the One Planet Network/10-year Framework of Programmes.

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) Encouraging sustainable solutions and environmental policies that is are 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 clean energy future by advocating for	Norway supports a general reference to working for a <i>Just Transition</i> towards

the widespread accessibility and adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency 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 industrial, transportation, and residential sectors, this transition contributes to climate resilience while fostering sustainable economic growth.	<i>Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies for All</i> , consistent with Resolution V from the 111 th International Labour Conference, which recognises the imperatives of such just transition for all, as well as the guiding principles.
(l) 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 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.	This paragraph would benefit from a greater emphasis on the environmental dimension of sustainable development and should be consistent with agreed language from other relevant international documents.
(m) 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.	
(n) Advancing 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.	Appropriate language relating to the availability, retrievability, usability and interoperability of data could be drawn from the Global Environmental Data Strategy, when this is complete.
(o) Stress the need for a comprehensive assessment of the potential negative environmental impacts of artificial	This paragraph focuses on the potential negative impacts without recognising the

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.	potential positive impacts for the environment. Action can be taken to make appropriate knowledge available on the impact of AI on and for the environment.
(p) [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.]	Supported by Norway
(q) [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.]	Supported by Norway
(r) 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	To be consistent with agreed language, it would be better to use language based on the CBD objectives of sustainable management: conservation and sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing. More specific mention should be made of UNEP's contribution to such sustainable management, in particular Nature-based Solutions (NBS).
(s) Invite member states to enhance the role of women, youth and civil society,	Technical correction

Indigenous Peoples in the protection sustainable management 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.	
(t) Commit to cooperate to transition to sustainable food systems 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.	Norway supports.
(u) 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 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.	