

## The UN Environment Assembly, the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment, will gather in Nairobi, Kenya, from 4-6 December 2017 under the overarching theme of pollution.

The UN Environment Assembly has the universal membership of all 193 UN Member States and the full involvement of UN organizations, specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations, [civil society](#) and the [private sector](#). In bringing together these varied communities, the Assembly provides a groundbreaking platform for leadership on global environmental policy.

This year's Assembly will be [sustainable and climate-neutral](#), and it will feature [side events](#) that confront pollution in its various forms. The Assembly aims to deliver a number of tangible commitments to end the pollution of our air, land, waterways, and oceans, and to safely manage our chemicals and waste. These will include the following:

- [A political declaration on pollution](#), linked to the Sustainable Development Goals, to signal that humanity can work together to eliminate the threat of pollution and the destruction of our planet
- [Resolutions and decisions](#) adopted by Member States to address specific dimensions of pollution
- [Voluntary commitments](#) by Governments, private sector entities and civil society organizations to clean up the planet
- [The #BeatPollution Pledge](#), a collection of individual commitments to clean up the planet

### Towards a Pollution-Free Planet

[Read our background report](#)



[A Political Declaration on Pollution](#)

[About the UN Environment Assembly](#)

[Register for the Assembly](#)

[Resolutions by Member States](#)



<http://web.unep.org/environmentassembly/assembly>



## EA.2/5 “Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for SusDev”

- **UNEA** provide overarching Policy guidance and conveying key messages to HLPF on environmental dimension;
- **UN Environment:** integrated delivery within UN system on environmental dimension of 2030 Agenda:
  - (a) Fostering **partnerships** with UN bodies;
  - (b) Engaging with **regional coordination mechanisms**;
  - (c) **integration** of the environmental dimension **UNDAFs**;
  - (d) Enhancing **institutional and human capacity building** at the national, regional and international levels;
  - **Multi-stakeholder Partnerships**
  - **Follow up and review** : policy relevant info ( **GEO** )
  - **Science-policy interface**
  - **Environment Live**
  - **Link with PoW/MTS**



## “Healthy Environment, Healthy People”

*UNEA2: Ministerial Policy Review*



Showcased how **poor environmental quality** affects **health and human well-being**.

1. **Decouple & change life styles:** economic activity - **less resource use, less waste, less pollution, and less environmental destruction.**
2. **Detoxify:** Remove harmful substances from and/or mitigate their impact on the environment in which people live and work.
3. **Decarbonize:** Reduce emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>) through substitution of **non-carbon energy.**
4. **Enhance ecosystem resilience:** Build capacity of the environment, economies and societies to anticipate, **respond to and recover from** disturbances and shocks)





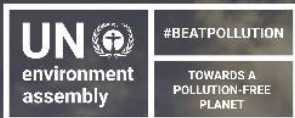
Four events will take place in Nairobi in the week ahead of the Assembly:

- **27-28 November:** Civil society will host the [Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum](#), which facilitates the participation of civil society in the Environment Assembly and associated meetings.
- **29 November - 1 December:** The Committee of Permanent Representatives will hold its third open-ended meeting.
- **2-3 December:** The [Science, Policy and Business Forum](#) will bring together top scientists, citizen groups, policymakers and business leaders to promote and operationalize science-driven policies and innovations that address planetary challenges and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **3-6 December 2017:** The [Sustainable Innovation Expo](#) will take place on the margins of the Assembly and will complement the high-profile Leadership Dialogues. The Expo will showcase that science teaches problem solving; it will also encourage critical thinking in how important, though small, our world is. The Expo will also engage participants in the oldest science of all—astronomy.

This year's Assembly will also launch the interactive Leadership Dialogues, which will provide participants with an opportunity for high-level engagement and discussion on how to achieve a pollution-free planet.



<http://web.unep.org/environmentassembly/assembly>



Dec 4-6, 2017

Third Session of the United Nations  
Environment Assembly  
and its associated meetings  
**27 November – 6 December 2017**  
United Nations Office Nairobi, Kenya

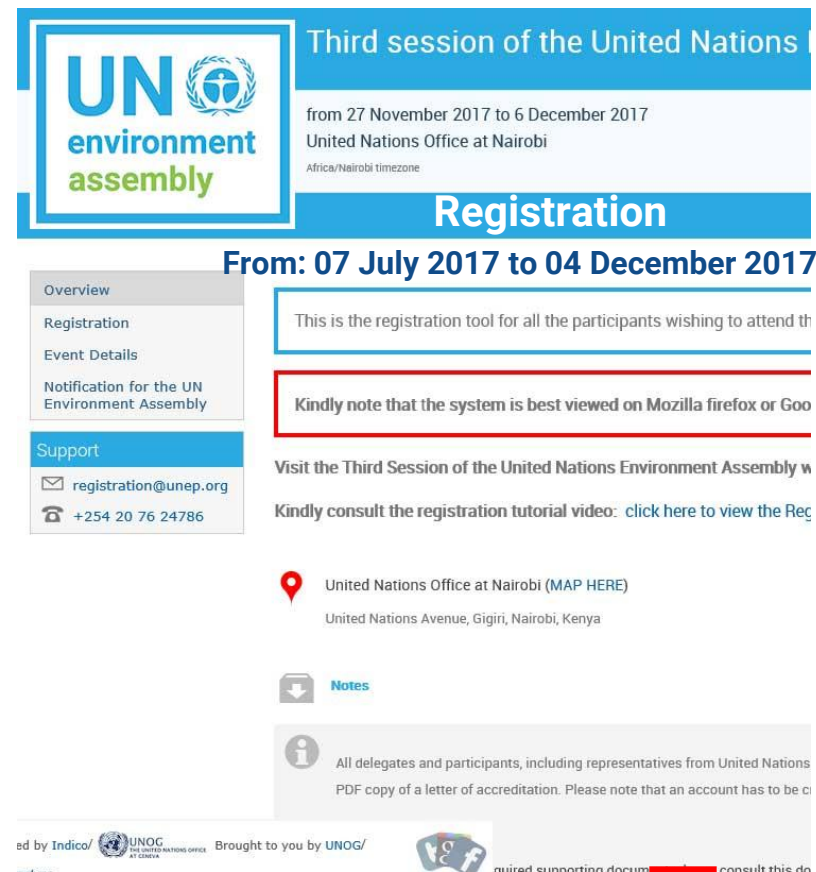
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Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, **27 – 28 November 2017**Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, **29 Nov – 1 December 2017**Science-Policy and Business Forum, **2 - 3 December 2017**United Nations Environment Assembly, **4 - 6 December 2017**Sustainable Innovation Expo, **3 - 6 December 2017**

## Information for Participants



[http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/  
documents/official-documents](http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/documents/official-documents)



Third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly  
from 27 November 2017 to 6 December 2017  
United Nations Office at Nairobi  
Africa/Nairobi timezone

## Registration

**From: 07 July 2017 to 04 December 2017**

This is the registration tool for all the participants wishing to attend the Third Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

**Kindly note that the system is best viewed on Mozilla firefox or Google Chrome.**

Visit the Third Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly website for more information. Kindly consult the registration tutorial video: [click here to view the Registration Tutorial Video](#)

United Nations Office at Nairobi (MAP HERE)  
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya

Notes  
All delegates and participants, including representatives from United Nations and other organizations, must submit a PDF copy of a letter of accreditation. Please note that an account has to be created for each participant.

Organized by Indico/UNOG Brought to you by UNOG/UNEP

<https://reg.unog.ch/event/21349/>







Notification by the Executive Director

**Third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme  
(Nairobi, 4–6 December 2017)**

1. The third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme will be held in Nairobi from 4 to 6 December 2017, under the theme, "Towards a Pollution-Free Planet". The session will be opened at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, 4 December 2017 at the headquarters of UN Environment Programme in Nairobi. The session will be preceded by informal consultations between regional groups and the Executive Director on Sunday, 3 December 2017.
2. The third Open Ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, which will take place from Wednesday 29 November to Friday 1 December 2017, will serve as its main preparatory meeting. The Agenda and relevant documentation for this meeting, including draft resolutions for consideration of the Assembly, will be made available at the [Committee's website](#).
3. Member States considering the submission of draft resolutions linked to the theme of the Assembly are invited to submit them in writing to the Secretariat by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September of 2017 in order for these to be considered by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in keeping with its mandate set out in decision 27/2 of February 2013. At the request of Committee of Permanent Representatives, all draft resolutions will be made available on the Assembly's [resolutions platform](#).
4. The Assembly's provisional agenda (UNEP/EA.3/1) is set out as annex to the present notification. The advance version of background report of the Executive Director for the theme of the session, the scenario note for the meeting and other relevant background information is being made available in the documents section of the [UN Environment Assembly website](#).
5. The High Level Segment of the session will take place on Thursday, 5 and Friday, 6 December 2017. It will include sessions for national statements as well as Leadership Dialogues. In accordance with decision 27/2 (paragraph 5 e), the High Level Segment will include a multi-stakeholder dialogue that will bring in diverse perspectives building on the theme.
6. The third Session of the UN Environment Assembly will feature a number of significant events. The attention of delegates is drawn to the [17th Global Major Groups and Stakeholder Forum](#), which will take place from Monday, 27 to Tuesday, 28 December 2017. Delegates may participate as observers. A Science Policy and Business Forum will take place on Sunday 3 December 2017. The [2017 Sustainable Innovation Expo](#) will take place from 4 to 6 December 2017. In addition, six side events and two media events will take place, providing opportunities for inspiring dialogue and motivating action.

7. Under rule 16 of the rules of procedure, an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required, shall represent each Member State of the Assembly. In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives should be submitted to the Executive Director prior to the first meeting of the session. Member States are invited to send a copy of the credentials, signed by either Head of State/Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs, by Wednesday, 15 November 2017, two weeks ahead to Mr. Stadler Trengove ([unep.sgb@unep.org](mailto:unep.sgb@unep.org)) and submit the original upon arrival. Member States representatives submitting original credentials concerning their participation should hand them in at the registration desk upon their arrival at the United Nations Office at Nairobi.
8. The United Nations Environment Assembly is open to the participation of representatives of specialized agencies, United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental organizations and regional economic integration organizations. Representatives of these organizations are urged to communicate to the Secretariat ([unep.sgb@unep.org](mailto:unep.sgb@unep.org)) their intention to participate as observers in the meeting in order to make the necessary arrangements.
9. On-line pre-registration for the third Open Ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly will be available on the dedicated [Environment Assembly website](#) from 30 August 2017.
10. All delegates and participants, including representatives from United Nations entities, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations must pre-register on-line, and upload a PDF copy of a letter of accreditation. The letter of accreditation should be on official letterhead and signed by a duly authorized representative and include the name(s) of the delegate(s) or representative(s). The hard copy of the letter of accreditation must be physically submitted at the on-site registration desk. On-site registration will open from 08:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs from 26 November 2017 to 06 December 2017 at the United Nations Complex, Nairobi.
11. In line with UN Environment Programme practice, the third Session of the UN Environment Assembly will be made paper-smart. To make the best use of this service, delegates are encouraged to bring appropriate mobile devices and consult the [Assembly website](#) to obtain more information.

Communications concerning the third session should be addressed to:

Jorge Laguna-Delis  
Secretary to the United Nations Environment Assembly  
United Nations Environment Programme  
P.O. Box 30552-00100  
Nairobi, Kenya  
E-mail: [unep.sgb@unep.org](mailto:unep.sgb@unep.org)





## Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Credentials of Representatives.
4. Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
5. Budget and Programme Performance, including implementation of the Assembly's resolutions.
6. Administrative and budgetary issues.
7. International environmental policy and governance issues.
8. Update on the Sixth Global Environment Outlook.
9. High-level segment: "Towards a Pollution-Free Planet."
10. Adoption of outcomes of the Session.
11. Election of Officers.
12. Date and provisional agenda for the Fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly.
13. Other matters.
14. Adoption of the report.
15. Closing of the session.



<https://papersmart.unon.org/resolution/uploads/unep-ea-3-1.pdf>

United Nations

UNEP/EA.3/1<sup>1\*</sup>

Distr.: General  
26 May 2017  
English only



**United Nations Environment  
Assembly of the United Nations  
Environment Programme**

United Nations Environment Assembly of the  
United Nations Environment Programme  
Third session  
Nairobi, 4-6 December 2017

### Provisional agenda

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<sup>1</sup> \* Present Provisional agenda as endorsed by the Bureau of the Committee of the Permanent Representatives and the Bureau of the UN Environment Assembly at their meeting of 22 May 2017.





UNITED NATIONS

EP

UNEP/EA.3/1/Add.1

UNEP/EA.3/1/Add.1



UNEP/EA.3/1/Add.1

Distr.: General  
15 September 2017  
Original: English

## United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

United Nations Environment Assembly of the  
United Nations Environment Programme

Third session

Nairobi, 4–6 December 2017

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

Organization of work

### Annotated provisional agenda

#### Item 1

##### Opening of the session

- The third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 4 December 2017, by Mr. Edgar Gutiérrez, President of the United Nations Environment Assembly, elected at its second session, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016.

#### Item 2

##### Organization of work

###### (a) Adoption of the agenda

- The President will draw the attention of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the provisional agenda (UNEP/EA.3/1) and propose its adoption.

###### (b) Organization of work

- In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the President shall then invite the United Nations Environment Assembly to allocate items among its plenary meetings and the meetings of any sessional committees, including a Committee of the Whole, and working parties that may be set up in accordance with rule 61.
- In the establishment of those committees and working parties, the United Nations Environment Assembly will take into account the proposed organization of work as outlined in the note of the Executive Director on the organization of the third session of the Assembly (UNEP/EA.3/INF/1). It will also take into account the compilation of draft resolutions prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the Environment Programme for consideration and adoption by the Assembly.

\* UNEP/EA.3/1.

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#### Item 3

##### Credentials of representatives

- In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly will report to the Assembly at its first plenary meeting on the credentials of representatives in attendance.

#### Item 4

##### Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

- The United Nations Environment Assembly is expected to consider at its first plenary meeting the report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The Chair of the Committee will present the report, which will include draft resolutions prepared by the third open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The Assembly is then expected to consider and adopt draft resolutions as recommended by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and refer outstanding items to the Committee of the Whole.

#### Item 5

##### Performance of the programme of work and budget, including implementation of the resolutions of the Environment Assembly

- Under this item, the United Nations Environment Assembly is expected to focus on the conclusions reached at the third open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives with regard to the updates submitted by the Executive Director of the Environment Programme, mandated by resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its second session. The Assembly may wish to allocate this item to the Committee of the Whole.

#### Item 6

##### Administrative and budgetary issues

- The United Nations Environment Assembly is expected to consider other relevant administrative and budgetary issues, based on a presentation given by the secretariat.

#### Item 7

##### International environmental policy and governance issues

- Under this item, the United Nations Environment Assembly will consider items and proposals pertaining to the theme of the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, "Towards a pollution-free planet". Other supplementary issues may also be discussed under this agenda item at the request of any authority entitled to propose items under paragraph 1 of rule 9 of the rules of procedure.

#### Item 8

##### Update on the Sixth Global Environment Outlook

- The United Nations Environment Assembly is expected to consider the progress report of the Executive Director on the sixth edition of the Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6) contained in document UNEP/EA.3/21. The Assembly may wish to allocate this item to the Committee of the Whole.

#### Item 9

##### High-level segment

- The high-level segment will convene on 5 and 6 December 2017 and will address the overarching theme "Towards a pollution-free planet". The segment is expected to consist of an opening plenary with statements by key dignitaries; national statements; leadership dialogues; a multi-stakeholder dialogue; a gala dinner; a wrap-up plenary session; and a closing plenary session. Discussions will be supported by the Background Report of the Executive Director on the theme of the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, "Towards a pollution-free planet" (UNEP/EA.3/INF/3). Further information on the modalities of this segment will be available in the note of the Executive Director on the organization of the third session of the Assembly (UNEP/EA.3/INF/1).

#### Item 10

##### Adoption of the outcomes of the session

- During the concluding plenary of the United Nations Environment Assembly in the afternoon of Wednesday, 6 December 2017, the President is expected to invite the chairs of the sessional committees and working parties to report on the outcomes of their respective work, including on the agreements reached on draft resolutions and the outcome document of the high-level segment. The Assembly may wish to consider and adopt those outcomes.

#### Item 11

##### Election of officers

- At its final plenary meeting and in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure, the United Nations Environment Assembly will elect a president, eight vice-presidents and a rapporteur from among its members. The President is expected to be nominated from among the Eastern European States and the Rapporteur from among the Asia-Pacific States. The eight Vice-Presidents will include two nominated officers drawn from the African States, one from the Asia-Pacific States, one from the Eastern European States, two from the Latin American and Caribbean States and two from the Western European and other States. It is expected that the election will be conducted by acclamation, based on the list of nominees received from each region by the President of the Assembly prior to the last meeting of the third session.

#### Item 12

##### Provisional agenda and date of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

- The United Nations Environment Assembly may wish to consider and agree on the date and provisional agenda of its fourth session as set out in document UNEP/EA.3/INF/7.

#### Item 13

##### Other matters

- The United Nations Environment Assembly may wish to consider any other matters related to its work.

#### Item 14

##### Adoption of the report

- The United Nations Environment Assembly may wish to consider and adopt the proceedings of the first two days of the third session with the understanding that the proceedings of the last day will be reflected in the final report to be cleared by the Rapporteur of the Assembly after its conclusion.

#### Item 15

##### Closure of the session

- The third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly is expected to conclude its work by 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 December 2017.



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[UN Organizations](#)

[Draft Declaration of the 2017 Assembly \\*](#)

[Report of the Executive Director on "Pollution-free planet" \\*](#)

*NOTE: Items with \* do not require login to access*

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## Pre-session documents

### Official Working Documents

Official working documents (UNEP/EA.3/x) are prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with previous Assembly's resolutions for consideration under each agenda item. The Secretariat prepares documents of the United Nation Environment Assembly pursuant to Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure. The Secretariat also prepares and presents draft resolutions as submitted by Member States in accordance with Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure.

EA.3/1: Provisional agenda

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EA.3/1Add.1: Annotated provisional agenda

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EA.3/2: Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives:

- Chair's summary
- Draft resolutions as submitted by Member States by the 140th meeting of the CPR)

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EA.3/3: Rules of Procedure of the UN Environment Assembly

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EA.3/4: Notification by the Executive Director

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EA.3/5: Progress Report on the contribution of the UN Environment to the implementation of the delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (EA.2/Res.5)

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EA.3/6: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on the role and functions of regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities (EA.2/Res.2)

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**UN Organizations**

**Draft Declaration of the 2017 Assembly \***

**Report of the Executive Director on "Pollution-free planet" \***

*NOTE: Items with \* do not require login to access*

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EA.3/7: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on investing in human capacity for sustainable development through environmental education and training (EA.2/Res.3)

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EA.3/8: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on the role, functions and modalities for UN Environment implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (EA.2/Res.4)

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EA.3/9: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on the support to the implementation of the Paris Agreement (EA.2.2/Res.6)

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EA.3/10: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on sound management of chemicals and waste (EA.2/Res.7)

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EA.3/11: Update of the Executive Director on the implementation of UN Environment Assembly resolution on sustainable consumption and production (EA.2/Res.8)

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EA.3/12: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on the prevention, reduction and reuse of food waste (EA.2/Res.9)

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EA.3/13: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on marine plastic litter and micro plastics (EA.2/Res.11) *This also includes the recommendations from the Assessment (UNEA/EA.3/INF/5).*

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EA.3/14: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on sustainable coral reefs management (EA.2/Res.12)

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EA.3/15: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products (EA.2/Res.14)

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EA.3/16: Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on the protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict (EA.2/Res.15).



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UN Organizations

Draft Declaration of the 2017  
Assembly \*

Report of the Executive Director  
on "Pollution-free planet" \*

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## In-session documents

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS					
UNEP/EA.3/L.2: Eliminating Exposure to Lead Paint					
عربي <a href="#">Word - Pdf</a>	中文版 <a href="#">Word - Pdf</a>	English <a href="#">Word - Pdf</a>	Français <a href="#">Word - Pdf</a>	Русский <a href="#">Word - Pdf</a>	Español <a href="#">Word - Pdf</a>
		Revised version <a href="#">Word - Pdf</a>			
UNEP/EA.3/L.3: Substantially improve air quality in cities to within healthy levels for human consumption					
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UNEP/EA.3/L.4: Calling for the synchronization of objectives and activities, especially the conduct of meetings of the Conferences of Parties (COP)/governing bodies, of multilateral environmental agreements and protocols for efficient implementation and monitoring of the agenda 2030 and for cost reduction and effective participation of UN Member States"					
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UNEP/EA.3/L.5: Pollution prevention and control in areas affected by terrorist operations and armed conflicts					
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UNEP/EA.3/L.6: Pollution Mitigation by Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors					
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UNEP/EA.3/L.7: Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development					
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UNEP/EA.3/L.8: Environment and Health					
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UNEP/EA.3/L.9: Clean Water for All, Leaving no one behind					



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## UPDATED CALENDARS

[Draft resolutions on water pollution: European Union and Member States input/ elements to be included in the merged water resolution](#)

[Roadmap for consultations on draft resolutions and draft decisions during the Inter-Sessional Period up to the Third Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives](#)

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## SUBMITTED DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

[Eliminating exposure to lead paint](#) (submitted by U.S.A) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Substantially improving air quality in cities to within healthy levels for human exposure](#) (submitted by Sudan) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Calling for the synchronization of objectives and activities, especially the conduct of meetings of the Conferences of Parties \(COP\)/governing bodies, of multilateral environmental agreements and protocols for efficient implementation and monitoring of the agenda 2030 and for cost reduction and effective participation of UN Member States"](#) (submitted by Philippines) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Pollution prevention and control in areas affected by terrorist operations and armed conflicts](#) (submitted by Iraq) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Pollution Mitigation by Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors](#) (submitted by Mexico) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#) (submitted by Mexico) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Environment and Health](#) (submitted by European Union and its Member States) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Clean Water for All, Leaving no One Behind](#) (submitted by Colombia and Costa Rica) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Enhancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme to promote the development and strengthening of water quality monitoring programmes and to encourage data sharing.](#) (submitted by United States of America) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Strengthening health and environmental action in Asia and the Pacific and supporting the initiatives of the Asia-Pacific regional forum on health and environment](#) (submitted by Philippines) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Air pollution](#) (submitted by Canada) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Investing in Innovative Environmental Solutions for Accelerating Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals](#) (submitted by the African Group) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

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[Managing Soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development](#) (submitted by the African Group) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Accelerating efforts to address water pollution and to protect and restore water-related ecosystems](#) (submitted by the African Group) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Preventing and Reducing Air Pollution](#) (submitted by the African Group) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Marine litter and micro-plastics](#) (submitted by Norway) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

## DRAFT DECISIONS

[Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly](#) (submitted by the Secretariat) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Extension of the Delivery Date for the sixth Global Environment Outlook](#) (submitted by the Secretariat) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

Organizational modalities of the United Nations Environment Assembly (to be submitted by the Secretariat) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

[Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions](#) (submitted by the Secretariat) | Scheduled for consultation on **31 October 2017**

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# Final Draft of the Ministerial Declaration of the 2017 UN Environment Assembly “Towards a Pollution-Free Planet” Released on 3 November 2017

## Ministerial Declaration of the 2017 UN Environment Assembly “Towards a Pollution-Free Planet”

### *Final draft<sup>1</sup>*

As the world’s ministers of the environment, we represent around seven billion men, women and children, rich and poor, young and old, from every nation, faith and culture on this beautiful, but fragile planet. We believe that every one of those people should be able to live in a clean environment. Our water, air and soil are our most precious natural resources. Any threat to them is a threat to our health, our society, our ecosystems, our economy, our security and our very survival. That threat is already upon us and is cutting short the lives of millions of people every year.

That is why we are gathered at this third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to work towards a pollution-free planet, with political, industrial, scientific and civil society leaders. It is also why we believe it is imperative that we alert people everywhere to the following.

1. Every day, 9 out of 10 of us breathe air that is unsafe and 20,000 people will die because of it. Nearly 2,000 children below the age of five will die from dirty water and poor hygiene. Women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected, whether it be from cooking with dirty fuel or walking further to find safe water. Countless millions suffer health problems because every year we dump up to 13 million tonnes of plastic in our oceans and 50 million tonnes of electronic waste on our land.
2. We cannot even measure the human impact of allowing thousands of chemicals to be used in everyday objects without proper testing, labelling or tracking. We believe that it is both inexcusable and preventable. Far too many communities either lack information about the chemicals and hazardous substances they use or are exposed to, or the capacity to manage them safely.
3. However, we also believe that the knowledge and technological solutions to reduce pollution already exist, though many stakeholders have yet to explore and implement the many opportunities available. We are encouraged by the numerous success stories of countries, cities and businesses addressing air, soil, freshwater and marine pollution issues. Recent examples include the adoption of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol and the entry into force of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.
4. As countries strive to deliver the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, we acknowledge the links between pollution, climate change, biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. Tackling pollution will contribute to national sustainable development by fighting poverty, improving health, creating decent jobs, improving life below water and on land, and reducing global warming.
5. We are concerned by the legacy of damage and pollution that armed conflict causes to the environment, often delaying recovery and threatening the health of people and ecosystems.
6. We are also concerned that unsustainable land management creates phenomena such as sand and dust storms, wildfires, and others which pose a great challenge to sustainable development.
7. We are convinced that determination, collaboration, knowledge generation and sharing, innovation and clean technology are transforming these challenges into opportunities to tackle pollution, but that we can do more.
8. Therefore, we are determined to scale up actions that prevent, mitigate and manage the pollution of air, land and soil, freshwater and oceans.
  - a. We will encourage the development, collation and use of reliable scientific data. This will include providing better multidisciplinary indicators; improving capacity for efficient gathering, verification and monitoring of data; and increasing transparency by making it easier to access such information more widely.
  - b. We will promote evidence-based decision making in the public and private sectors, effective standard setting by all stakeholders and greater participation by individuals from all walks of life.
  - c. We will target all forms of pollutants through environmental agreements and tailored action.
  - d. We will accelerate the implementation of existing multilateral agreements, conventions and regulations to

prevent, control and reduce pollution. Where the science is clear that such policies and actions should exist, but do not, we will develop them. Where the impact is not yet clear, we will increase research.

- e. We will foster economic productivity, innovation, job creation and environmentally sound technologies.
- f. We will stimulate sustainable consumption and production, by making it easier to rethink, reuse, recycle, recover and remake any products, materials and services.
- g. We will promote the adoption of policies and approaches for the sound management of chemicals and waste, including the use of integrated life cycle, value chains and sustainable chemistry.
- h. We will make the best use of policy links, trade, investment and innovation opportunities.
- i. We will work with local governments to encourage sustainable models of urban development.
- j. We will promote fiscal incentives to stimulate positive changes. This will include capturing the true cost of pollution, including its externalities, in financial decisions and redirecting investment from the short-term profits of polluting activities to the more sustainable profits of greener alternatives.
- k. We will strengthen and enforce more integrated policies, regulations and laws. We will achieve this by supporting institutions and building capacity; bolstering monitoring and accountability systems; and sharing best practices, standards, policy instruments and tools.
  - l. We will create and expand multi-stakeholder partnerships, under the auspices of the United Nations, between governments, the private sector, academia, civil society and individuals.
  - m. We will use South-South cooperation, regional dialogue and coordination across the United Nations to target pollution.
9. As ministers of environment, we recognize our role in delivering these commitments and promoting coordinated action. We will focus on preventive measures, taking account of each country’s responsibilities and capacities. We will also emphasise the need for greater cooperation, through such means as the exchange of experiences, resources and technologies, while taking into consideration the Rio Principles on Environment and Development.
10. However, responsibility for combatting pollution does not rest with national governments alone. We need support from the private sector, international organizations, civil society and individuals. Everyone has a responsibility as mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, partners, sisters and brothers, friends, employers, colleagues, neighbours and communities.
11. We cannot overstate the need for rapid, large-scale and co-ordinated action against pollution and applaud the [XXXXX]<sup>2</sup> pledges made in the Beat Pollution engagement campaign.
12. We support the actions and resolutions agreed by the Third Session of the UN Environment Assembly.
13. We acknowledge the magnitude of challenges and opportunities in the report by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, *Towards a Pollution-Free Planet*<sup>3</sup> and invite all stakeholders to use it.
14. Moving towards a pollution-free planet is a long-term endeavour. We request the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to engage stakeholders in proposing a common plan for implementation for our consideration.
15. We will advocate for this declaration, including at the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and we will follow up on its implementation at our next session in 2019.
16. This is our commitment to sounding the alarm on the health and wellbeing of our people, and to working towards a pollution-free planet.

<sup>1</sup> As issued on 2 November 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Number of pledges received by end of Assembly to be inserted

<sup>3</sup> UNEP/EA.3/25







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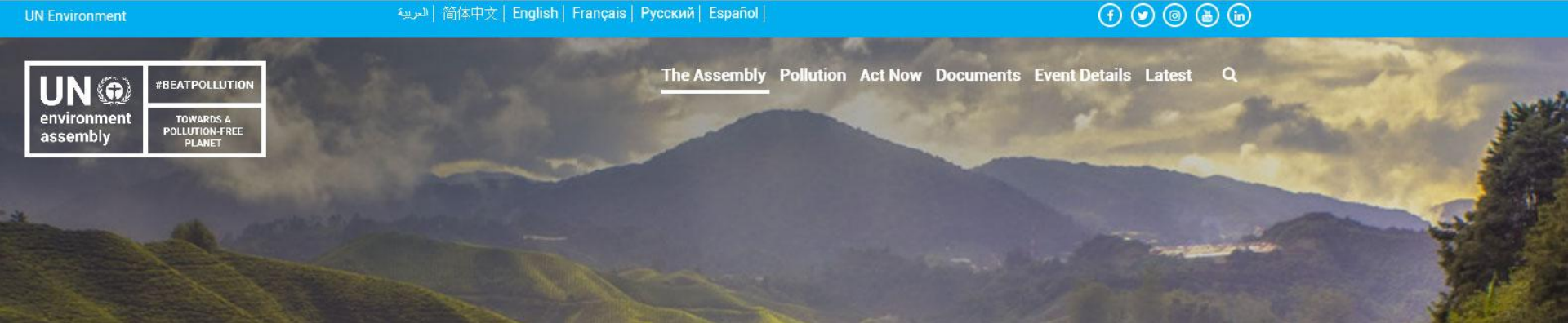
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Towards a Pollution-Free Planet

Background report



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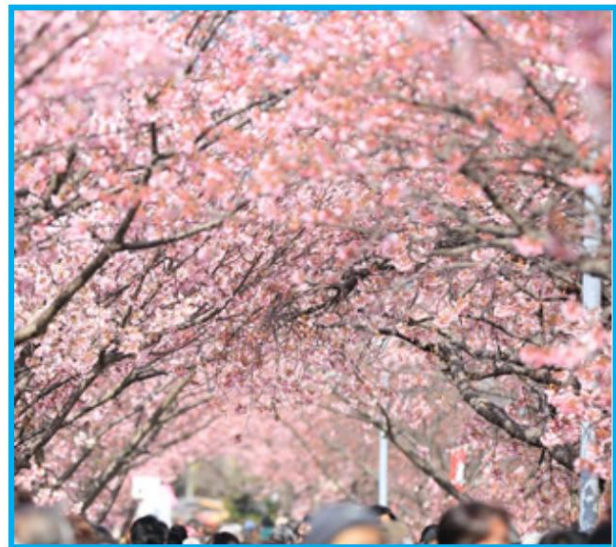
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