
Fourth session
(Nairobi, 11–15 March 2019)

General Assembly
Official Records
Seventy-fourth Session
Supplement No. 25

Fourth session
(Nairobi, 11–15 March 2019)
Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.
### Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Opening of the session (agenda item 1)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Organization of work (agenda item 2)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Attendance</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Election of officers (agenda item 12)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Credentials of representatives (agenda item 3)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 2)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Adoption of the agenda</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Organization of work</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. High-level segment (agenda item 9)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Work of the Committee of the Whole</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (agenda item 4)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Matters requiring the special attention of the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. International environmental policy and governance issues (agenda item 5)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues (agenda item 6)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Stakeholder engagement (agenda item 7)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. Contributions to meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (agenda item 8)</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII. Provisional agenda and date of the fifth session of the Environment Assembly (agenda item 10)</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX. Adoption of the outcomes of the session (agenda item 11)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X. Other matters (agenda item 13)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI. Adoption of the report (agenda item 14)</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII. Closure of the session (agenda item 15)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Annexes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annex</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Outcomes adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Decisions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter I

Opening of the session (agenda item 1)

1. The fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme was held at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi from 11 to 15 March 2019.

2. The session was opened at 10.35 a.m. on Monday, 11 March 2019, by Mr. Siim Kiisler, President of the Environment Assembly.

3. At the invitation of the President, the United Nations Environment Assembly observed a minute of silence in memory of all those, including delegates, interpreters and United Nations staff members, who had lost their lives in an airplane crash while travelling from Addis Ababa to Nairobi the previous day.

4. Opening statements were delivered by Mr. Kiisler; Ms. Joyce Msuya, acting Executive Director of UNEP; Ms. Maimunah Mohamed Sharif, acting Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi and Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); and Mr. Keriako Tobiko, Minister of Environment, Kenya.¹

¹ A fuller account of the discussions of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourth session, including summaries of the opening and general statements and of the Assembly’s deliberations on the substantive issues before it, is contained in the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.4/2).
Chapter II
Organization of work (agenda item 2)

A. Attendance

5. The following 173 member States were represented at the session: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

6. The following non-member States were represented: Holy See, Niue, State of Palestine.


9. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: Africa Institute; African Development Bank; African Union; Arab Organization for Agricultural Development; Asian Development Bank; Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Centre for Biodiversity; Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission; BirdLife International; Centre for International Environmental Law; Centre for International Forestry Research; East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; East African Community; Economic Community of West African States; European Commission; European Investment Bank; European Union; Group on Earth Observations; International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development; International Centre for Research in Agroforestry; International Chamber of Commerce; International Committee of the Red Cross; International Network for Bamboo and Rattan; International Union for Conservation of Nature; Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; League of Arab States; New Partnership for Africa’s Development; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development; Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme; Southern African Development Community; South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme; Union for the Mediterranean.

10. In addition, a number of non-governmental and civil society organizations were represented as observers. The full list of participants in the fourth session of the Environment Assembly is available in document UNEP/EA.4/INF/21.
B. Election of officers (agenda item 12)

11. At its 7th plenary meeting, in accordance with rule 18 of its rules of procedure, the Environment Assembly elected by acclamation the following officers to serve at its fifth session:

President: Mr. Ola Elvestuen (Norway)

Vice-Presidents:
- Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez Echandi (Costa Rica)
- Mr. Winston Lackin (Suriname)
- Mr. Goran Trivan (Serbia)
- Ms. Brune Poirson (France)
- Mr. Mohammed Bin Daina (Bahrain)
- Ms. Laksmi Dhewanthi (Indonesia)
- Mr. Ado Lohmus (Estonia)
- Mr. Batio Bassière (Burkina Faso)

Rapporteur: Ms. Nomvula Mokonyane (South Africa)

C. Credentials of representatives (agenda item 3)

12. At the 7th plenary meeting of the Environment Assembly, on the afternoon of Friday, 15 March 2019, the Chair of the Credentials Committee, Mr. Felix Wertli (Switzerland), reported that the Bureau had received and examined the credentials of member States submitted in accordance with rules 16 and 17 of the rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly. As of 14 March 2019, 96 member States had submitted formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Executive Director of UNEP. Since then, formal credentials had been received from one further member State. A total of 75 member States had communicated information on the appointment of their representative to the Environment Assembly by means of a cable or telefax from the Head of State or Government or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, a letter or note verbale from the mission concerned, or another form of communication. A total of 22 member States had not communicated any information regarding their representatives to the Executive Director. Since the Bureau’s adoption of its report on credentials, four member States had submitted credentials informally. The Bureau recommended that the Assembly accept the credentials of the member States.

13. The Environment Assembly took note of the report of the Bureau on credentials.

D. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 2)

1. Adoption of the agenda

14. The Environment Assembly adopted the following agenda for the session, on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/EA.4/1/Rev.1).

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
5. International environmental policy and governance issues.
6. Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues.
7. Stakeholder engagement.
8. Contributions to meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.
9. High-level segment.
10. Provisional agenda and date of the fifth session of the Environment Assembly.
11. Adoption of the outcomes of the session.
12. Election of officers.
13. Other matters.
14. Adoption of the report.
15. Closure of the session.

2. Organization of work

15. In accordance with rule 60 of its rules of procedure, at its 1st plenary meeting the Environment Assembly agreed to establish a committee of the whole for the consideration of various items of its agenda. The Assembly also agreed, in accordance with the recommendations of the Bureau, that the Committee of the Whole would be chaired by Mr. Fernando Coimbra (Brazil), that Mr. I.B. Putera Parthama (Indonesia) would serve as rapporteur and that it would consider items 5, international environmental policy and governance issues, and 10, provisional agenda and date of the fifth session of the Environment Assembly.

16. The Assembly further agreed that three leadership dialogues would be held, the first, on environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss, on Thursday, 14 March, followed by a multi-stakeholder dialogue with civil society leaders on spearheading innovative solutions for sustainable consumption, and the second and third, on the themes of life cycle approaches to resource efficiency, energy, chemicals and waste management, and innovative business development at a time of rapid technological change, on Friday, 15 March.

E. High-level segment (agenda item 9)

17. The 2nd to 6th plenary meetings took the form of a high-level segment under item 9 of the agenda. The high-level segment consisted of a formal opening with statements by key high-level speakers, ministerial plenary meetings featuring national statements on the overarching theme of “Innovative solutions to environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production”, three leadership dialogues, a multi-stakeholder dialogue, a wrap-up session and a closing plenary session.

18. The high-level segment was opened at 12.20 p.m. on 14 March 2019 with a performance by the United Nations choir. Following the performance, opening statements were delivered by key high-level speakers. Thereafter, representatives of the regional groups of member States made general statements, which were followed by national statements by ministers and other high-level representatives.
19. A leadership dialogue on “Environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss” was held on 14 March 2019, followed by a multi-stakeholder dialogue on spearheading innovative solutions for sustainable consumption.

20. A further two leadership dialogues were held on Friday, 15 March, on the themes of “Life cycle approaches to resource efficiency, energy, and chemicals and waste management” and “Innovative business development in a time of rapid technological change”.

21. Further details on the high-level segment are provided in section IX of the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.4/2).

F. Work of the Committee of the Whole

22. The Committee of the Whole held six meetings to consider the agenda items assigned to it, concluding its work on the evening of Wednesday, 13 March 2019. At the 7th plenary meeting of the Environment Assembly, the Chair of the Committee reported on the outcome of the work of the Committee.

23. The report on the work of the Committee is set out in annex III to the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.4/2).

G. Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (agenda item 4)

24. Ms. Francisca Ashietey-Odunton, Permanent Representative of Ghana and Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, presented the outcomes of the fourth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, held from 4 to 8 March 2019, immediately preceding the Environment Assembly session. The Open-ended Committee had endorsed the draft ministerial declaration for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session, without prejudice to the rights of member States to propose adjustments and improvements at the high-level segment of the Assembly. The Open-ended Committee had, under items 5 to 7 of its agenda, considered and taken note of all the official reports of the Executive Director to the Environment Assembly, as well as several information documents. It had also considered a record number of draft resolutions and decisions submitted by member States.
Chapter III

Matters requiring the special attention of the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council

25. In its resolution 71/231 of 21 December 2016, the General Assembly of the United Nations recognized the commitment of the Environment Assembly to contributing to the effective implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in an integrated manner. The high-level political forum on sustainable development continues to offer a unique opportunity and an appropriate institutional framework to ensure such integration as well as follow-up of the collective decisions taken by the world’s ministers for the environment at sessions of the Environment Assembly. Member States are invited to consider actions to that end.

26. In its resolution 73/260 of 22 December 2018, the General Assembly reiterated the ministerial declaration entitled “Towards a pollution-free planet” (UNEP/EA.3/HLS.1) adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its third session, and reaffirmed that addressing pollution was a crucial element for implementing the 2030 Agenda and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. As a follow-up, at its fourth session, the Environment Assembly adopted resolution 4/21 entitled “Implementation plan ‘Towards a pollution-free planet’” as the vehicle for the effective implementation of the objectives of the declaration, relevant Environment Assembly resolutions, as well as voluntary commitments. In that regard, the Economic and Social Council may wish to call upon relevant United Nations bodies and partners to contribute to the delivery of the implementation plan, and to encourage Member States to take coordinated action to reduce pollution globally and regionally in line with the 2030 Agenda and the implementation plan adopted by the Environment Assembly in its resolution 4/21.

27. Furthermore, at its fourth session, the Environment Assembly adopted a ministerial declaration entitled “Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production” (UNEP/EA.4/HLS.1) as the main outcome of its high-level segment. In the declaration, the Environment Assembly decided to take several actions relevant to the agendas of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including:

(a) To undertake measures to invest in integrated, innovative and coherent approaches in policy development and implementation, to spearhead poverty eradication efforts through sustainable environment and natural resources management;

(b) To ambitiously scale up efforts to overcome common environmental, including health-related, challenges in a balanced and integrated manner through the identification and development of innovative solutions by fostering sustainable and efficient resource management;

(c) To advance sustainable consumption and production patterns, including, but not only, through circular economy and other sustainable economic models and the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;

(d) To undertake action to restore and protect marine and coastal ecosystems, noting that the UNEP Marine and Coastal Strategy can contribute to collective efforts in that area;
(e) To work towards comparable international environmental data and to support UNEP in developing a global environmental data strategy by 2025 in cooperation with other relevant United Nations bodies;

(f) To promote the use of data analysis models to develop environment foresight reports, support evidence-based decision-making, and improve national and local preparedness and responses to mitigate environmental degradation and risks from disasters and conflicts in line with the 2030 Agenda;

(g) To address the damage to ecosystems caused by the unsustainable use and disposal of plastic products, including by significantly reducing the manufacture and use of single-use plastic products by 2030;

(h) To invest in environmental research, education and awareness-raising in the framework of sustainable development, with a strong focus on women and youth, and to promote wider use of innovative approaches, such as inclusive citizen science.

28. The present report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, presents an excellent opportunity to further integrate the outcomes of the Environment Assembly into the work and discussions of the two bodies. The General Assembly is expected to consider the report of the fourth session of the Environment Assembly at its seventy-fourth session. In that context, Member States may wish:

(a) To take note of the report, and of the ministerial declaration and resolutions adopted by the Environment Assembly at its fourth session;

(b) To invite the United Nations Statistical Commission and Commission on Science and Technology for Development and other relevant United Nations entities to support the Executive Director of UNEP in the development of a global environmental data strategy, as referred to in the ministerial declaration of the Environment Assembly at its fourth session;

(c) To call upon Member States and all relevant United Nations bodies and partners to contribute to the delivery of the implementation plan “Towards a pollution-free planet” as set out in resolution 4/21;

(d) To provide guidance and inputs to the Executive Director of UNEP for the preparation, in consultation with Member States, of the commemoration of the establishment of UNEP by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, making use of contributions from relevant stakeholders, as requested in decision 4/2 on the provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, set out in annex II to the present report;

(e) To take note of the request by the Environment Assembly to the Executive Director of UNEP to include in the reporting to the Committee of Permanent Representatives information on how UNEP has implemented the provisions in General Assembly resolutions 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and to undertake an assessment of internal policies, guidelines and regulations that need to be adjusted in order to implement the provisions of those resolutions, in accordance with decision 4/1 on the programme of work and budget for 2020–2021, set out in annex II to the present report;

(f) To welcome the request by the Environment Assembly to the Executive Director to ensure that all the activities of UNEP at the country level are aligned with and included in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, where applicable, as the most important instrument for planning and implementation of
United Nations development activities at the country level, in accordance with decision 4/1;

(g) To follow up on the request of the General Assembly to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in its resolution 73/260 entitled “Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme”, to make proposals, as appropriate, concerning the sustainability, predictability, and stability of the funding of the UNEP governing body, in line with the note by the secretariat on funding implications of the policymaking organs in the context of the programme of work and budget 2020–2021 (UNEP/EA.4/INF/10) and in accordance with decision 4/1;

(h) To commend the participation of the President of the Economic and Social Council in the fourth session of the Environment Assembly, in line with the spirit of integration and universality of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
Chapter IV

International environmental policy and governance issues
(agenda item 5)

29. Agenda item 5, and the draft resolutions and decisions related to it, was considered by the Committee of the Whole. At the 7th plenary meeting of the Environment Assembly, the Chair of the Committee reported on the outcome of the work of the Committee. The report on the work of the Committee is set out in annex III to the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.4/2).
Chapter V

Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues (agenda item 6)

30. Agenda item 6, and the draft resolutions and decisions related to it, were considered by the Committee of the Whole. At the 7th plenary meeting of the Environment Assembly, the Chair of the Committee reported on the outcome of the work of the Committee. The report on the work of the Committee is set out in annex III to the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.4/2).

31. The Assembly took note of the report of the Committee of the Whole.
Chapter VI

Stakeholder engagement (agenda item 7)

32. Ms. Khawla Al-Muhannadi, representative of the major groups and stakeholders, provided an overview of the outcomes of the eighteenth Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, held in Nairobi on 7 and 8 March 2019.
Chapter VII
Contributions to meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (agenda item 8)

33. At its 7th plenary meeting, the Chair recalled that, at its fourth meeting, the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives had requested the Executive Director to revise the document entitled “Contributions of the UN Environment Assembly to the 2019 high-level political forum on sustainable development: responses to the questions raised by the President of the Economic and Social Council” (UNEP/EA.4/INF/15), on the basis of written input submitted by member States.

34. The Environment Assembly agreed that the secretariat would finalize the draft document and submit it to the Economic and Social Council by the stipulated deadline, and that the Committee of Permanent Representatives would subsequently consider it at its next meeting on behalf of the Assembly, in accordance with Environment Assembly resolution 3/3.
Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda and date of the fifth session of the Environment Assembly (agenda item 10)

35. Agenda item 10 and the draft decision related to it were considered by the Committee of the Whole. The report on the work of the Committee of the Whole is set out in annex III to the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.4/2).

36. At its 7th plenary meeting, the Environment Assembly adopted decision 4/2 on the provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as amended.
Chapter IX

Adoption of the outcomes of the session (agenda item 11)

37. At its 7th plenary meeting, the Environment Assembly adopted the ministerial declaration entitled “Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production” (UNEP/E.A.4/HLS.1).

38. Also at its 7th plenary meeting, the Environment Assembly adopted by consensus the following resolutions and decisions. The individual resolutions are available in documents UNEP/E.A.4/Res.1–UNEP/E.A.4/Res.23. They are also available on the website of the Environment Assembly (http://web.unep.org/environmentassembly) together with decisions 4/1, 4/2 and 4/3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2</td>
<td>Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/3</td>
<td>Sustainable mobility</td>
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<td>4/4</td>
<td>Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Sustainable infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/6</td>
<td>Marine plastic litter and microplastics</td>
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<td>4/7</td>
<td>Environmentally sound management of waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>Sound management of chemicals and waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/9</td>
<td>Addressing single-use plastic products pollution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/10</td>
<td>Innovations on biodiversity and land degradation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/11</td>
<td>Protection of the marine environment from land-based activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12</td>
<td>Sustainable management for global health of mangroves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/13</td>
<td>Sustainable coral reefs management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14</td>
<td>Sustainable nitrogen management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/15</td>
<td>Innovations in rangelands and pastoralism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/16</td>
<td>Conservation and sustainable management of peatlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/17</td>
<td>Promoting gender equality and the human rights and empowerment of women and girls in environmental governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/18</td>
<td>Poverty-environment nexus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/19</td>
<td>Mineral resource governance</td>
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<td>4/21</td>
<td>Implementation plan “Towards a pollution-free planet”</td>
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### Resolution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<td>4/22</td>
<td>Implementation and follow-up of United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions</td>
</tr>
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### Decision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Programme of work and budget for 2020–2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2</td>
<td>Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/3</td>
<td>Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

39. A summary of statements delivered by representatives with regard to the outcomes of the session is set out in section XI of the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.4/2).
Chapter X

Other matters (agenda item 13)

Commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal

40. At the 1st plenary meeting of the Environment Assembly, the President, noting that 2019 marked the thirtieth anniversary of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, drew attention to the achievements of the Convention.
Chapter XI

Adoption of the report (agenda item 14)

41. At its 7th plenary meeting, the Environment Assembly adopted the proceedings on the basis of the draft proceedings (UNEP/EA.4/L.31 and UNEP/EA.4/L.31/Add.1), on the understanding that they would be completed and finalized by the Rapporteur, working in conjunction with the secretariat.
Chapter XII

Closure of the session (agenda item 15)

42. Following a presentation and water ceremony by a group of children; a video message from the President of the United Nations General Assembly, Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa; and brief closing remarks by the President, the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly was declared closed at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 15 March 2019.
# Annex I

## Outcomes adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production (UNEP/EA.4/Res.1)</td>
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<td>Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste (UNEP/EA.4/Res.2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/3</td>
<td>Sustainable mobility (UNEP/EA.4/Res.3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices (UNEP/EA.4/Res.4)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Sustainable infrastructure (UNEP/EA.4/Res.5)</td>
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<td>4/6</td>
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<td>4/7</td>
<td>Environmentally sound management of waste (UNEP/EA.4/Res.7)</td>
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<td>4/8</td>
<td>Sound management of chemicals and waste (UNEP/EA.4/Res.8)</td>
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<td>4/9</td>
<td>Addressing single-use plastic products pollution (UNEP/EA.4/Res.9)</td>
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<td>4/10</td>
<td>Innovations on biodiversity and land degradation (UNEP/EA.4/Res.10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/11</td>
<td>Protection of the marine environment from land-based activities (UNEP/EA.4/Res.11)</td>
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<td>4/12</td>
<td>Sustainable management for global health of mangroves (UNEP/EA.4/Res.12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/13</td>
<td>Sustainable coral reefs management (UNEP/EA.4/Res.13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/14</td>
<td>Sustainable nitrogen management (UNEP/EA.4/Res.14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/15</td>
<td>Innovations in rangelands and pastoralism (UNEP/EA.4/Res.15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/16</td>
<td>Conservation and sustainable management of peatlands (UNEP/EA.4/Res.16)</td>
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<td>4/17</td>
<td>Promoting gender equality and the human rights and empowerment of women and girls in environmental governance (UNEP/EA.4/Res.17)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/18</td>
<td>Poverty-environment nexus (UNEP/EA.4/Res.18)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4/19</td>
<td>Mineral resource governance (UNEP/EA.4/Res.19)</td>
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1 The resolutions and ministerial declaration adopted by the Environment Assembly at its fourth session are issued as stand-alone documents under the respective symbols specified above. The decisions adopted by the Environment Assembly at its fourth session are set out in annex II to the proceedings (UNEP/EA.4/2) and in annex II to the present report.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/21</td>
<td>Implementation plan “Towards a pollution-free planet” (UNEP/EA.4/Res.21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/22</td>
<td>Implementation and follow-up of United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions (UNEP/EA.4/Res.22)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Declaration**

Ministerial declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session: “Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production” (UNEP/EA.4/HLS.1)
Annex II

Decisions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session

Decision 4/1. Programme of work and budget for 2020–2021

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021,

1. Approves the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021;

2. Also approves appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 200 million United States dollars, of which a maximum of 122 million dollars is allocated to defraying post costs for the biennium for the purposes indicated in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021 (Thousands of United States dollars)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Policymaking organs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Executive direction and management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Programme of work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Climate change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Resilience to disasters and conflicts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Healthy and productive ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Environmental governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Chemicals, waste and air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Resource efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Environment under review</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Fund programme reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Programme support</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3. Stresses the importance of early, extensive and transparent consultations between the Executive Director, member States and the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the preparation of the programme of work and budget, including initiatives of a significant, substantive and strategic nature that could require substantive resources affecting existing priority programmes or the outreach of the United Nations Environment Programme, and the need for timely scheduling of meetings and the provision of information to allow the full participation of all member States throughout the consultation process, and in that regard welcomes the progress made to date;

4. Recalls paragraph 13 of Governing Council decision 19/32, and requests the Executive Director to ensure that the secretariat provides the documentation and information related to the programme of work and budget to member States and the Committee of Permanent Representatives at least four weeks in advance of its annual subcommittee meeting and other meetings at which it is to be considered;

5. Emphasizes the need for comprehensive information and full justification regarding proposed expenditures and contributions from all sources of funding,
including staffing information, to be provided to the Committee of Permanent Representatives well in advance of its consideration of the programme of work and budget, and requests the Executive Director to continue to hold timely consultations on the preparation of all future programmes of work and budgets prior to their transmittal to other appropriate bodies, and continue to work expeditiously towards increasing transparency and accountability on costs and budgets to enable the Committee to provide guidance on implementation;

6. Stresses the need for the programme of work and budget to be based on results-based management;

7. Authorizes the Executive Director to reallocate resources between subprogramme budget lines up to a maximum of ten per cent of the subprogramme appropriations and to inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and in duly justified exceptional circumstances to reallocate in excess of 10 per cent and up to 20 per cent of the appropriations from which resources are reallocated after prior consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

8. Also authorizes the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of Environment Fund allocations to subprogrammes, bringing them into line with possible variations in income compared to the approved level of appropriations, while taking into account expected incomes from other sources;

9. Further authorizes the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments not exceeding 20 million United States dollars for Environment Fund activities, to implement the programme of work for the biennium 2020–2021;

10. Decides that overall staffing of the executive office may not exceed 30 posts in the biennium 2020–2021, unless otherwise authorized by the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

11. Requests the Executive Director to continue to apply a prudent approach to the management of resources from all sources, including the Environment Fund, including through the careful management of contractual arrangements;

12. Also requests the Executive Director to continue to monitor and manage the share of the Environment Fund devoted, respectively, to post costs and non-post costs, while clearly prioritizing the application of the resources of the Environment Fund to programme activities;

13. Further requests the Executive Director to improve the achievement of programme objectives and the efficient and transparent use of resources to that end, subject to United Nations processes of oversight, review and independent evaluation;

14. Requests the Executive Director to continue to report to member States through the meeting of the annual subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its biennial sessions, on evaluation findings and the progress made in respect of the performance of each subprogramme and its expected accomplishments and on the execution of the budget of the Environment Fund, including voluntary contributions, expenditures and reallocations of appropriations or adjustments of allocations;

15. Also requests the Executive Director to continue to report to member States through the quarterly reports of the Executive Director to the Committee of Permanent Representatives in a streamlined manner through the merging of progress reporting on administrative and budgetary matters with programme performance reporting;
16. *Further requests* the Executive Director, in that regard, to include in the reporting to the Committee of Permanent Representatives information on how the United Nations Environment Programme has implemented the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

17. *Requests* the Executive Director to undertake an assessment of internal policies, guidelines and regulations that need to be adjusted in order to implement the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 and 72/279, to present a plan with timelines for their implementation to the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its 146th meeting, to present an update for consideration at the annual subcommittee meeting and to reflect the findings of the assessment in the implementation of the approved medium-term strategy and programme of work as well as in the design of future planning documents;

18. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue to organize, in a timely and predictable manner, regular briefings to the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the programme and budget performance of each subprogramme, to enable the Committee to adequately perform its monitoring task;

19. *Further requests* the Executive Director to ensure that the delivery of the programme of work supports and brings together regional and national programmes and activities in the medium-term strategy and the biennial programme of work and takes into account regional priorities and regional frameworks, where they exist, and requests the Executive Director to include information on regional programmes and activities in the progress report on the implementation of the programme of work;

20. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue implementing the programme of work and budget at the regional and subregional levels, including by supporting regional ministerial conferences and forums for which the United Nations Environment Programme serves as secretariat;

21. *Also requests* the Executive Director to ensure that all the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme at the country level are aligned with and included in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, where applicable, as the most important instrument for planning and implementation of United Nations development activities in each country, and are reported on to the respective United Nations Resident Coordinator and the Committee of Permanent Representatives on a regular basis;

22. *Further requests* the Executive Director to ensure that all earmarked contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme are used to fund activities that contribute to the effective implementation of the programme of work, apart from those funds administered by the United Nations Environment Programme on behalf of other intergovernmental bodies;

23. *Urges* member States and others in a position to do so to increase voluntary contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme, notably the Environment Fund, taking into account the universal membership of the Environment Assembly;

24. *Notes* the positive effect of the voluntary indicative scale of contributions in broadening the base of contributions to and enhancing the predictability of the voluntary financing of the Environment Fund and requests the Executive Director to continue adapting the voluntary indicative scale of contributions, inter alia, in
25. *Encourages* the Executive Director, in close consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to further improve the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy and requests the Executive Director, in accordance with the partnership policy rules and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, to mobilize increased voluntary funding to the Programme from all member States and others in a position to do so, and to continue to broaden the contributor base;

26. *Requests* the Executive Director to develop robust and transparent due diligence procedures prior to accepting funds from sources other than member States and to keep the Committee of Permanent Representatives informed about the procedures and their application;

27. *Welcomes* the indication in the programme of work and budget of core activities for the subprogrammes and requests the Executive Director to provide adequate priority to those activities when implementing the programme of work;

28. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that South-South, South-North and triangular cooperation initiatives are effectively implemented in the spirit of accountability and transparency;

29. *Expresses concern* that some projects, partnerships and new initiatives, including those affecting the Programme’s nomenclature, which potentially negatively affect its reputation and distract from its core mandates as contained in the programme of work, were undertaken and launched without prior consultation with member States;

30. *Requests* the Executive Director, in the spirit of transparency and inclusivity and in a proactive manner, to fully utilize the existing governance structures and processes in order to address the concerns raised in paragraph 29 of the present decision;

31. *Also requests* the Executive Director, further to the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 72/266 of 24 December 2017, on shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations, to revise the strategic planning cycles and format, in close consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives and in accordance with resolution 72/266, which includes the development of an annual budget and performance document;

32. *Further requests* the Executive Director to submit for consideration and approval by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and building on lessons learned from previous bienniums, a results-oriented and streamlined medium-term strategy and programme of work that is in line with General Assembly resolution 72/266;

33. *Takes note of* the information contained in the report on funding implications of the policymaking organs in the context of the programme of work and budget 2020–2021, and further notes the funding gap for the provision of conference services, information technology and communication services, security and medical services at sessions of the Environment Assembly since its first session and welcomes the request of the General Assembly to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in its resolution 73/260 entitled “Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme”, to make proposals, as appropriate,
Decision 4/2. Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly,


Taking into account Governing Council decisions 27/1 and 27/2 of 22 February 2013, as well as United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/2 of 27 June 2014 and 2/22 of 27 May 2016 and decision 3/2 of 6 December 2017,

Recognizing the importance of the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled “The future we want”, welcoming progress made, including the establishment of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and stressing the importance of continued action,

Emphasizing that improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the existing governing bodies of the United Nations Environment Programme plays an important role in delivering on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Deeply concerned about the lack of progress in several areas in the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Reiterating the commitment made in Environment Assembly resolution 3/11 on the implementation of paragraph 88 (a)–(h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

1. Decides to hold the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its headquarters in Nairobi from 22 to 26 February 2021, in accordance with paragraph 3 of its decision 3/2 of 6 December 2017;

2. Decides also that, in accordance with paragraph 10 of Governing Council decision 27/2 of 22 February 2013 and paragraph 2 of its resolution 2/22 of 27 May 2016, the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives will take place from 15 to 19 February 2021, without prejudice to decisions on further meetings of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, and requests the Committee of Permanent Representatives to discuss, in consultation with the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and decide on the format and agenda of the meeting;
3. Approves the provisional agenda for the fifth session as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
5. International environmental policy and governance issues.
6. Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues.
7. Stakeholder engagement.
8. Contributions to the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
9. High-level segment.
10. Provisional agenda, date and venue of the sixth session of the Environment Assembly.
11. Adoption of the resolutions, decisions and outcome document of the session.
12. Election of officers.
13. Other matters.
14. Adoption of the report.
15. Closure of the session.

4. Requests the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in consultation with the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, to contribute to the preparation of the annotations to the provisional agenda set out in paragraph 3 above;

5. Requests the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to define a theme for the Environment Assembly no later than 31 December 2019;

6. Strongly encourages member States to submit draft resolutions for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session preferably at least eight weeks in advance of the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, taking into account the theme of the fifth session of the Environment Assembly and the limited time and resources available for the negotiation of the resolutions during the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and the fifth session of the Environment Assembly, without prejudice to the rules of procedure, in particular rule 44;

7. Requests the Executive Director to submit draft decisions for consideration by the Environment Assembly at its fifth session at least eight weeks in advance of the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives;

8. Also requests the Executive Director to prepare, in consultation with member States, the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, making use of contributions from relevant stakeholders;
Process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives

9. Requests the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in close consultation with the President of the Environment Assembly, to present to the Committee of Permanent Representatives for its deliberation and decision at the sixth annual subcommittee meeting a consolidated proposal outlining a consensual process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the United Nations Environment Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, with a view to providing concrete proposals for the improvement of their efficiency and effectiveness, for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session;

10. Decides that the scope of the consideration during the review process will be:
   (a) The preparation, working arrangements, and scheduling of sessions of the Environment Assembly and the objectives, preparation, working arrangements and the scheduling of meetings of its subsidiary body, namely the meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and the regular and annual meetings of the subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives;
   (b) The respective roles and responsibilities of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly and of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, including those related to interactions with their respective constituencies;
   (c) Criteria, modalities and timing for presenting and negotiating draft resolutions and decisions;
   (d) Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme of work and budget and of the resolutions of the Environment Assembly;

11. Requests the Executive Director to conduct a mapping exercise and provide an input paper on the topics specified in paragraph 10 of the present decision at least three weeks ahead of the sixth annual subcommittee meeting;

12. Decides that the review process will be open, inclusive and transparent and provide the opportunity for the submission of written input by member States and stakeholders throughout the duration of the process, and also decides that it will be co-chaired by two members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, one from a developing country and one from a developed country;

13. Requests the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to hold a stock-taking meeting, not exceeding two days in duration, under the framework of the seventh annual subcommittee meeting, with the goal of considering the endorsement of the progress achieved at that time;

14. Requests the Executive Director to submit an action plan for the implementation of subparagraphs (a)–(h) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be submitted for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session, and invites the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi to contribute to the development of the plan in respect of the implementation of subparagraph (g) concerning the headquarters functions of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi.
Decision 4/3. Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions,3

Recalling the request made in its decision 3/3 to the Executive Director, in consultation with the relevant parties and/or donors, as appropriate and in accordance with the terms of the respective agreement/fund, to decide on reassigning the balances in inactive trust funds when the activities for which they have been established have ended, with a view to supporting the implementation of appropriate subprogrammes of the agreed programme of work before the end of 2019,

1. Notes with appreciation the progress made in the implementation of decision 3/3 through the closure of the inactive trust funds and the reassignment of the balances to the relevant activities;

2. Notes that, in line with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, agreements for which the United Nations Environment Programme carries out the functions of the secretariat must be based on the principle of cost recovery when it comes to administrative costs;

I

Trust funds in support of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme

3. Notes and approves the establishment of the following trust funds:

(a) CBL – Trust fund for the “Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency Fund” of the Global Environment Facility;

(b) GPS – Trust fund in support of the Secretariat functions and the organization of meetings and consultations for the Global Pact for the Environment;

(c) GPP – Trust fund for assisting the delegates from the developing countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in attending the sessions of the ad hoc open-ended working group for the Global Pact for the Environment;

4. Approves the extension of the following trust funds subject to the Executive Director’s receiving requests to do so from the appropriate authorities:

(a) AFB – Technical cooperation trust fund for United Nations Environment Programme activities as a multilateral implementing entity of the Adaptation Fund Board, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(b) AML – General trust fund for the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(c) CLL – Trust fund to support the activities of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(d) CML – Trust fund to support implementation of a special programme on chemicals and waste, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

3 UNEP/EA.4/INF/5.
(e) IAL – Technical cooperation trust fund for the Ireland Aid Multilateral Environment Fund for Africa (financed by the Government of Ireland), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(f) IEL – Technical cooperation trust fund for priority projects to improve the environment in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (financed by the Government of the Republic of Korea), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(g) MCL – General trust fund in support of activities on mercury and other metals, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(h) MDL – Technical cooperation trust fund for UNEP implementation of the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(i) REL – Technical cooperation trust fund for the promotion of renewable energy in the Mediterranean region (financed by the Government of Italy), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(j) SML – General trust fund for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management Quick Start Programme, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(k) WPL – General trust fund to provide support the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme Office and to promote its activities, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

II

Trust funds in support of regional seas programmes, conventions, protocols and special funds

5. Approves the extension of the following trust funds, upon receiving a request to do so from the appropriate authorities:

A. Trust funds administered by the coordinating unit for the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Sustainable Development of the Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean

   (a) CAL – Support of the Mediterranean Action Plan (financed by the Government of Greece), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

   (b) MEL – Trust fund for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

   (c) QML – Support of the Mediterranean Action Plan, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(a) BCL – Trust fund for the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(b) BDL – Trust fund to assist developing countries and other countries in need of technical assistance in the implementation of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(c) ROL – General trust fund for the operational budget of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(d) RVL – Special trust fund for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(e) SCL – General trust fund for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(f) SVL – Special trust fund for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

C. Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region

(a) QAC – Support of the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2020;

(b) WAL – Trust fund for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the Atlantic coast of the West, Central and Southern African region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2020;

D. Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

(a) CAR – Trust fund for the core budget of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and related protocols, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2020;
(b) CAP – Trust fund for the core budget of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and related protocols, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2020;

E. Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

(a) AVL – General trust fund for voluntary contributions in respect of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(b) AWL – General trust fund for the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(c) BTL – General trust fund for the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022;

(d) QFL – General trust fund for voluntary contributions in respect of the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022;

(e) SMU – Trust fund to support the activities of the secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

F. Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region

(a) EAL – Regional seas trust fund for the Eastern African region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022;

(b) QAW – Support of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022;

G. Trust funds administered by the regional coordinating unit for the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region

(a) QNL – Support of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2023;

(b) PNL – General trust fund for the protection, management and development of the coastal and marine environment and the resources of the Northwest Pacific region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2023;
H. Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Seas

(a) ESL – Regional trust fund for the implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of East Asian Seas, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022;

(b) QEL – Support of the Eastern Asia Seas Action Plan, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022;

I. Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

(a) BBL – Trust fund for the core programme budget for the Nagoya Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(b) BGL – General trust fund for the core programme budget for the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

(c) BYL – General trust fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2021;

J. Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

(a) CTL – Trust fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022;

(b) QTL – Support of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2022.