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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 11 Environment

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* A/59/50.



Overall orientation

11.1 In the 2006-2007 biennium, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will continue to pursue a focused approach in the implementation of its role as “the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda that promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and that serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment” (Nairobi Declaration, 1997).

11.2 The mandate for the programme derives from General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, which established the Governing Council of UNEP, the Environment Secretariat and the Environment Fund. The Governing Council, in its decision 19/1 of 7 February 1997, redefined and clarified the role and mandate of UNEP in the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of UNEP. By its resolution S/19-2 of 28 June 1997, the Assembly endorsed the new mandate of UNEP. The Assembly elaborated further on the mandate of the Programme in its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999.

11.3 In line with its functional institutional structure and results-oriented approach to programme implementation, the broader international policy environment will be of particular relevance. In this regard, the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the World Trade Organization, which gave renewed attention to trade and environment issues, the third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which acknowledged the inextricable link between environment, development and poverty, as well as the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held at Monterrey, Mexico, provide reference points, while the goals identified in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and other outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including on international environmental governance, provide a clear and targeted road map for implementation of the programme.

11.4 The Malmö Ministerial Declaration, in which the international community stated that the root causes of global environmental degradation are embedded in social and economic problems, such as pervasive poverty, unsustainable production and consumption patterns and inequity in distribution of wealth, and the debt burden, continues to provide the broader context within which the environmental perspective must be grounded.

11.5 The programme is based on strong interlinkages between the seven subprogrammes, namely, environmental assessment and early warning; policy development and law; policy implementation; technology, industry and economics; regional cooperation and representation; environmental conventions, and communication and public information. These strong interlinkages will be reflected in the close cooperation between the respective seven divisions, as well as with the Division of Global Environment Facility Coordination.

11.6 Environmental assessment and early warning will continue to underpin UNEP efforts and keep under review the state of the global environment and ensure that emerging environmental issues are brought to the attention of Governments. In this regard, further efforts to strengthen the scientific basis of UNEP and the credibility of environmental data by supporting the development of improved data systems and the development of scientific capacity at the national and regional levels will be essential to develop authoritative environmental assessments and provide early warning for appropriate consideration by Governments.

11.7 The translation of scientific information and data into broad policy-based decisions requires a strong policy development component which builds on the consensus on the international environmental governance achieved at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The emphasis will be on ensuring that UNEP supports the inclusion of environmental considerations in the broader intergovernmental policy processes, facilitates the development of coordinated approaches to environmental priorities within the United Nations system, i.e., through the Environmental Management Group, and develops innovative approaches to the broader involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of intergovernmentally approved priorities.

11.8 A major thrust of the science-based initiatives and policy development work of UNEP will be to support implementation at the national level of intergovernmentally agreed environmental policies, particularly through greater and more coordinated efforts to develop the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

11.9 UNEP will further enhance the ability of countries and stakeholders to integrate environmental considerations in their decision-making structures and develop policies, strategies and practices that are environmentally sound, building on an integrated and partnership approach to sustainable development. This will include efforts to develop more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, more efficient use of natural resources and strategic approach to management of chemicals and contribute to developing mutually supportive environment, trade and development strategies.

11.10 Increased policy dialogue and cooperation at the regional and subregional levels will support the integration of global environmental policy concerns with emerging priorities and issues at these levels. The work of UNEP with the regional and subregional ministerial forums provides a crucial link between its policy and programme development and the actual concerns in the regions. In the delivery of UNEP programmes, therefore, greater attention is being paid to addressing the concerns and emerging priorities of regions and subregions, especially those in the developing world, in particular Africa.

11.11 Emphasis will be given to developing more integrated and interlinked approaches to the implementation of international legal agreements that are fundamental to the achievement of environmentally sound development, as mandated by the Governing Council. In this work, special attention will be given to complementarity between the poverty-alleviating objectives of the multilateral environmental agreements and their interlinkages with the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992.

11.12 An essential ingredient of success in ensuring the implementation of environmental policy is to further increase the general understanding of critical environmental issues at all levels. In this regard, in the development of partnerships with major groups, further efforts will be made to ensure that environmental issues are adequately covered by the international media, and that access to environmental information and encouragement of greater public participation in environmental management are met through environmental awareness-raising campaigns.

11.13 As an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility, UNEP will continue promoting Facility-eligible activities in accordance with its mandate, as

well as agreed strategic priorities for the third phase of the Facility (2002-2006). UNEP will continue assisting all eligible countries to develop and implement projects falling within the six Facility focal areas and strive to enhance the capacity of the most vulnerable countries to implement their commitments under the Global Environment Facility-related conventions, and in this regard, special attention will be devoted to the African countries through the UNEP/Global Environment Facility New Partnership for Africa's Development initiative, least developed countries and small island developing States.

11.14 The 2006-2007 programme represents a forward-looking programme of action for UNEP based on the lessons learned in the last 30 years and the clearly articulated needs of member States, and takes as its departure point the international consensus embodied in the recent international conferences and the necessity of a results-oriented approach. This approach embodies the understanding that environmental problems must be addressed in their social and economic context. While it is recognized that there is a need for further policy development and guidance, there is consensus that the future emphasis of the work of UNEP must be focused on implementation, taking into account the gender perspective.

Subprogramme 1

Environmental assessment and early warning

Objective of the Organization: To ensure that environmental problems and emerging issues of wide international significance receive appropriate, and earliest possible consideration by decision makers at the national and international levels.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|--|---|
| (a) Enhanced awareness of and cooperation on environmental problems and emerging issues among Governments and the public, to better support sustainability and human security | (a) (i) Increased number of references to environmental assessments in intergovernmental forums and the media and visits to reports available on the Internet (ii) Increased number of Governments and scientists involved in environmental assessment processes |
| (b) Development of self-sustaining data and information systems to improve accessibility to credible and comparable data and use of indicators for better understanding and decision-making regarding environmental issues | (b) (i) Increased number of users accessing data and monitoring networks (ii) Increased number of downloads of core sets of data and indicators used by UNEP |
| (c) Increased participation or involvement in environmental assessment and reporting in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to better achieve the targets of the World Summit on Sustainable Development | (c) Increased number of institutions from developing countries and countries with economies in transition (i) able to collect, process and analyse data, and (ii) involved in environmental assessment processes |

Strategy

11.15 The Division of Early Warning and Assessment is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

(a) To strengthen the scientific basis for decision-making by undertaking timely, policy-relevant and scientifically credible environmental assessments;

(b) To enable Governments to develop improved environmental data and information systems for early warning and decision-making by supporting monitoring and data collection systems and developing indicators for assessments and reporting;

(c) To support environmental governance for sustainable development by strengthening cooperation with and building the capacity of national, subregional, regional and international institutions for assessment, monitoring, data management and reporting;

(d) To promote the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP.

Subprogramme 2 Policy development and law

Objective of the Organization: To enhance, within the framework of the existing UNEP mandate, the capacity of Member States and the international community to develop and improve policy and legal frameworks to address new and continuing environmental challenges in the context of sustainable development.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|--|---|
| (a) Further development of environmental law, including the integration of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and its implementation through effective participation of legal stakeholders | (a) Increased evidence of integration of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in legal regimes through the participation of legal stakeholders in the development and implementation of environmental law |
| (b) Enhanced capacity of policy makers to respond to environmental challenges and internationally agreed development goals through the development of new and revised policy instruments, taking into account socio-economic concerns; and incorporating such policies at the national level into development strategies | (b) Increased number of national policies and development strategies that incorporate the environmental dimension |
| (c) Improved engagement of major groups in the development and implementation of environmental policy and law | (c) Increased number of major groups that participate effectively at the regional and global levels in policy development of UNEP |

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| <p>(d) Enhanced understanding by all partners of the need to incorporate the environmental dimension in efforts to meet internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation</p> | <p>(d) Increased inclusion of environmental objectives in outcomes (e.g., resolutions, decisions, policy strategies, guidelines) of United Nations intergovernmental and inter-agency bodies and improved implementation thereof</p> |
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Strategy

11.16 The Division of Policy Development and Law is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be to empower, in collaboration with Governments and other partners and through inter-agency cooperation, a broad cross section of legal stakeholders, policy makers and major groups to participate effectively in the development, analysis, implementation, compliance with and enforcement of environmental laws and policies on sustainable development by:

- (a) Providing opportunities for interaction, options for consideration, required information, training and other facilities;
- (b) Promoting the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP;
- (c) Strengthening national institutions (including legal frameworks) and the capacity of practitioners, e.g., judges, lawyers and major groups.

**Subprogramme 3
Policy implementation**

Objective of the Organization: To enhance implementation of environmental policies, legislation and management practices and to mitigate the environmental impact of emergencies and post-conflict situations on sustainable development.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|--|---|
| <p>(a) Strengthened capacity of Governments, and national, subregional and regional institutions, networks and coordinating mechanisms in the implementation of environmental policies, legislation and management practices, including the gender perspective</p> | <p>(a) (i) Increased number of countries, institutions and other stakeholders supported in the implementation of environmental policies and legislation</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of partnerships, collaborating mechanisms and networks engaged in implementing environmental management measures at the regional and subregional levels</p> <p>(iii) Increased number of environmental education and training programmes offered through national education systems and institutions of learning</p> |

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| <p>(b) Improved participation, coordination and capacity at the international and national levels for the integrated management of water resources and protection of the marine environment</p> | <p>(b) (i) Increased number of action plans, partnerships, networks and coordinating mechanisms for integrated water resources management</p> <p>(ii) Number of national policies, global and regional guidelines and implementation strategies developed to implement the Global Programme of Action at national and local levels</p> |
| <p>(c) Enhanced capacity at the international, regional, subregional and national levels to prevent, reduce the risk of, prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies: and to conduct post-disaster/conflict assessments and clean-up</p> | <p>(c) (i) Number of activities conducted by UNEP, carried out with inter-agency collaboration, as appropriate, to assist countries, subregions and regions to prevent, reduce the risk of, prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies caused by natural disasters and human-induced incidents</p> <p>(ii) Number of environmental post-conflict assessments conducted</p> <p>(iii) Number of follow-up activities to implement post-conflict assessment conclusions</p> |
| <p>(d) Strengthened capacity of international, regional and national institutions to analyse the biodiversity status</p> | <p>(d) Increased number of biodiversity collaborating centres and partnerships with major stakeholders established by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre</p> |
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Strategy

11.17 The Division of Environmental Policy Implementation is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

- (a) To promote a UNEP-wide integrated approach to the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP;
- (i) By assisting and supporting, in cooperation with national Governments, implementation of environmental policies and enforcement of and compliance with multilateral environmental agreements;
- (ii) Through environmental education programmes/initiatives which are aimed at transforming conservation visions and aspirations for poverty reduction;
- (b) To enhance capacities of Governments and other stakeholders to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;

(c) To address capacity and institutional development needs at the international, regional, subregional and national levels to prevent, reduce the risk of, prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies caused by natural disasters, human-induced accidents and conflicts;

(d) To integrate environmental considerations into post-conflict reconstruction by conducting environmental assessments and identifying strategic issues for environmental assistance, including environmental risk reduction, rehabilitation and capacity-building;

(e) To continue the development of the information and other services provided by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, in partnership with collaborating centres, especially in developing countries, and in cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity and other agencies;

(f) To promote the participation of national Governments and other stakeholders in special projects and partnerships to address specific needs for environmental management and sustainable development.

Subprogramme 4 Technology, industry and economics

Objective of the Organization: To encourage and support the public sector, business and industry in the development and implementation of policies, strategies and practices that are environmentally sound, based on the integrated and partnership approach of sustainable development.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|---|---|
| (a) Enhanced ability of public and private sector decision makers and organizations to access, adopt and use environmentally sound technologies and to make informed choices about water management and energy production and use | (a) (i) Increased number of local and national authorities implementing integrated water management plans, and adopting environmentally sound technologies and practices (ii) Increased investment in renewable sources of energy and energy-efficient technologies in all regions, as evidenced by the value of programmes, projects and networks initiated with UNEP support |
| (b) Increased understanding and implementation by public and private sector decision makers and organizations of environmentally sound management practices and tools, including cleaner production, sustainable consumption and prevention of and responses to environmental threats and emergencies | (b) (i) Increased number of local, national and regional authorities having introduced sustainable production and consumption policies and programmes (ii) Increased number of industry and professional associations having introduced sustainable production and consumption policies and programmes |

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- (c) Progress made by countries and the international community towards ensuring that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment
- (d) Enhanced capacity of public and private sector decision makers and organizations to integrate the environmental dimension of sustainable development into their economic, trade and finance policies and practices, including corporate environmental and social management
- (c) (i) A strategic approach to international chemicals management adopted by Governments and widely accepted in the international community
- (ii) Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in force and widely adhered to
- (iii) Increased number of projects in countries to reduce risks from chemicals and wastes
- (d) (i) Increased number of public and private sector organizations adhering to the principles of the United Nations Global Compact initiative and sectoral partnership initiatives with UNEP in support of the goals of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
- (ii) Increased number of public and private sector organizations publishing environmental sustainability reports on their performance following the Global Reporting Initiatives guidelines
- (iii) Number of country projects introduced, in progress or completed that increased the capacity of national, regional and subregional institutions to develop and implement macroeconomic policies that integrate environmental considerations into trade, finance and development policies
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Strategy

11.18 The Division of Technology, Industry and Economics is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

- (a) To raise the awareness and strengthen the capacity of decision makers to develop and implement policies, strategies and practices that promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, make efficient use of natural resources, ensure the sound management of chemicals and contribute to making economic, trade and environment policies mutually supportive;
- (b) To promote the access of the public sector, business and industry to knowledge, technology and economic tools in support of sustainable development, and to support the provision of appropriate assessments and tools for improved management of knowledge in this regard;
- (c) To support the development of appropriate information, communication, management and training tools, through partnerships with other international

organizations, public authorities, business and industry, and non-governmental organizations to build capacity through training trainers and enabling small entrepreneurs, consumers and other civil society actors to make informed choices;

(d) To promote the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP.

Subprogramme 5

Regional cooperation and representation

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen regional cooperation and capacity of countries and institutions in the regions to address environmental issues of crucial regional and global importance.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|--|--|
| (a) Strengthened policy dialogue and cooperation among and between countries and institutions in the regions in addressing environmental issues of common concern and priority | (a) Increased number of new partnerships and agreements among countries and between Governments and other players in the field of environment under implementation |
| (b) Increased capacities of countries and regional bodies in the legal, policy and institutional areas to address environmental priority issues | (b) Increased number of regional and subregional environmental action plans and strategies adopted and under implementation, with support from UNEP |
| (c) Increased support for international cooperation on the environmental dimension of sustainable development | (c) Increased number of programmes and projects in developing countries and countries with economies in transition related to the environmental dimension of sustainable development supported and funded by Governments and other sources |

Strategy

11.19 The Division of Regional Cooperation is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

(a) To work with, support and strengthen regional and subregional frameworks for cooperation, provide policy advice and technical support to Governments, and strengthen its outreach and collaboration with the private sector, major groups and civil society organizations;

(b) To participate in and support regional and subregional ministerial forums organized by the regional offices of UNEP to ensure synergy and consistency of UNEP policy and programme development and implementation with the actual concerns in the regions as expressed by Governments and civil society organizations;

(c) To provide policy advice, capacity-building and technical support in collaboration with UNDP to Governments to strengthen national action for the protection and enhancement of the environment;

(d) To strengthen outreach and collaboration with the private sector, major groups and civil society organizations to create a greater consistency and a strengthened commitment for environmental action at the national, subregional and regional levels;

(e) To promote the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process that enhances delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP.

Subprogramme 6

Environmental conventions

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen implementation of and compliance with multilateral environmental agreements and to promote and enhance interlinkages and synergies between them and with UNEP, taking into account the autonomous decision-making authority of the Conferences of Parties.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|---|--|
| (a) In consultation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements, enhanced collaboration among multilateral environmental agreement secretariats supported by UNEP | (a) Increased number of collaborative activities among multilateral environmental agreements implemented with UNEP support |
| (b) Strong partnerships among global, regional and national stakeholders for the strengthening of linkages and synergies, including harmonization of reporting | (b) Increased number of arrangements reached between multilateral environmental agreements, UNEP and national authorities which promote linkages and synergies |
| (c) UNEP programmes take account of socio-economic driving factors in implementation of multilateral environmental agreements | (c) Increased number of joint programmes with the multilateral environmental agreements which address the links between poverty and the environment |
| (d) Strengthened capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in intergovernmental negotiations through implementation by UNEP of joint programmes with multilateral environmental agreements | (d) Increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition participating effectively at multilateral environmental agreement meetings and multilateral environmental agreement-related meetings supported by UNEP |
| (e) In consultation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements, enhanced synergies between regional seas programmes and other regional environmental agreements and UNEP, multilateral environmental agreements and intergovernmental organizations in developing and implementing joint programmes and activities | (e) Increased number of regional seas programmes and other regional environmental agreements benefiting from cooperation with UNEP headquarters, multilateral environmental agreements and intergovernmental organizations |

Strategy

11.20 The Division of Environmental Conventions is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

(a) To promote the ratification and support the implementation and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements, giving priority to those administered by UNEP and taking into account the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(b) In cooperation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements, to work to enhance coordination of environmental conventions at the global, regional and national levels;

(c) In consultation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements enhance collaboration with multilateral environmental agreements on environment and poverty alleviation towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

(d) To enhance support for participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements;

(e) To increase the use of regional seas conventions and action plans and other regional environmental agreements as a platform for coordinated regional implementation of multilateral environmental agreements as well as mandates of intergovernmental organizations and other global and regional initiatives;

(f) To promote the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP.

Subprogramme 7 Communication and public information

Objective of the Organization: To increase support for the efforts and work that UNEP and its partners are undertaking to address critical environmental issues.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

(a) Better understanding of and engagement in environmental management by media, Governments, non-governmental organizations, professional bodies, major groups and the public at large

Indicators of achievement

- (a) (i) Increased amount of international, regional, national and local media coverage, keeping the international, regional, national and local spotlight on the environment related to the activities of UNEP
- (ii) Increased web visibility of and user satisfaction with UNEP home page, unep.org, measured via visits/hits statistics and user surveys

(b) Increased support for environmental management

(b) Increased number of voluntary initiatives that promote environmental management, by youth and sports organizations, private sector, professional associations, civil society groups, non-governmental organizations and Governments

Strategy

11.21 The Division of Communications and Public Information is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

(a) To make effective use of media as an agent of change of public perception and action through close and intensive collaboration with mass media to provide increased and more accurate media coverage of environmental topics focusing on causes, effects and solutions;

(b) To foster good internal/external communications by developing alliances and partnerships with major groups, including youth and children, sporting organizations, professional associations, environmental groups, non-governmental organizations, and the media to influence and integrate environmental concerns in their lifestyle and professional work;

(c) To facilitate access to information on environmental issues of global and regional concern and the work of UNEP and its partners through production and dissemination, including through the Internet, of targeted information materials, publications, audio-visual products;

(d) To encourage and influence public participation in environmental management by organizing and/or facilitating environmental awareness-raising campaigns and events and ensuring wider participation of the public, special groups, the private sector, Governments and non-governmental organizations in such events;

(e) To promote the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

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| 2997 (XXVII) | Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation |
| 47/190 | Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development |
| S-19/2 | Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 |
| 53/242 | Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements |
| 55/2 | United Nations Millennium Declaration |

- 55/198 Enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 6)
- 57/2 United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development
- 57/144 Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
- 57/251 Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session
- 57/261 Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 6)
- 58/88 Effects of atomic radiation
- 58/209 Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-second session
- 58/211 International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006 (subprogrammes 3, 5 and 7)
- 58/213 Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
- 58/215 Natural disasters and vulnerability (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 5)
- 58/216 Sustainable development in mountain regions (subprogrammes 2, 3, 5 and 6)
- 58/217 International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
- 58/218 Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
- 58/219 United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
- 58/228 Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
- 58/233 New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
- 58/240 Oceans and the Law of the Sea (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 6)
- 58/243 Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Governing Council decisions

- SS.VI/1 Malmö Ministerial Declaration
- SS.VII/1 International environmental governance (subprogrammes 2 and 5)
- SS.VII/4 Compliance with and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 6)
- 19/1 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and the Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme

- 20/12 Implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system
- 20/17 Views of the Governing Council on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements
- 20/25 Freshwater (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 4)
- 20/28 Promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 6)
- 20/33 Stable, adequate and predictable funding for the United Nations Environment Programme
- 21/18 Implementation of the Malmö Ministerial Declaration
- 21/20 Governance of the United Nations Environment Programme and implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/242
- 21/21 International environmental governance
- 21/23 Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law for the First Decade of the Twenty-first Century (Montevideo Programme III) (subprogrammes 2 and 3)
- 21/24 Policy and advisory services in key areas of institution-building (subprogrammes 2, 3, 4 and 6)
- 22/3 Climate and atmosphere
I: Adaptation to climate change (subprogrammes 2 and 6)
- 22/4 Chemicals
III: Lead (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
- 22/5 Enhancing the role of the United Nations Environment Programme on forest-related issues (subprogrammes 1, 2 and 6)
- 22/9 Support to Africa (subprogrammes 1-6)
- 22/10 Poverty and the environment in Africa (subprogrammes 2 and 5)
- 22/12 Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (subprogrammes 2, 3, and 5)
- 22/13 Small island developing States (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 6)
- 22/15 International Year of Deserts and Desertification (subprogrammes 2, 3, 5 and 7)

Subprogramme 1
Environmental assessment and early warning

Governing Council decisions

- 20/1 Global Environment Outlook
- 22/1 I: Strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme
II: Global assessment of the state of the marine environment

Subprogramme 2
Policy development and law

General Assembly resolution

58/158 International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Governing Council decisions

SS.VII/5 Enhancing civil society engagement in the work of the United Nations Environment Programme

22/2 Water
I: Water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme

22/16 Environment and cultural diversity

22/17 Governance and law
I: Follow-up to General Assembly resolution 57/251 on the report of the seventh special session of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum
II: Implementation of the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law for the First Decade of the Twenty-first Century (Montevideo Programme III)

Subprogramme 3
Policy implementation

Governing Council decisions

21/27 Compliance with and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements

22/1 Early warning assessment and monitoring
III: United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring System
IV: Post conflict environmental assessment
V: Environmental situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories

22/2 Water
II: The Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities

22/8 Further improvement of environmental emergency prevention, preparedness, assessment, response and mitigation

Subprogramme 4
Technology, industry and economics

General Assembly resolutions

58/197 International trade and development

- 58/210 Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005

Governing Council decisions

- 21/14 Trade and environment
- 22/4 Chemicals
I: Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
II: Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
IV: Strategic approach to international chemicals management
V: Mercury programme
- 22/6 Promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns
- 22/7 Engaging business and industry

Subprogramme 5

Regional cooperation and representation

General Assembly resolutions

- 57/34 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
- 57/38 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

Governing Council decisions

- 20/39 Functioning of the regional offices and proposed measures for the strengthening of regionalization and decentralization
- 22/14 Role of the United Nations Environment Programme in strengthening regional activities and cooperation in the Economic Cooperation Organization subregion
- 22/21 Regional implementation of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme

Subprogramme 6

Environmental conventions

General Assembly resolutions

- 58/212 Convention on Biological Diversity
- 58/242 Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Governing Council decisions

- 20/18 Environmental conventions
- 21/1 Land degradation: support for the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
- 21/8 Biosafety
- 21/9 Atmosphere
- 21/29 Establishment of a regional seas programme for the Central-East Pacific region
- 22/2 Water
III: Regional Seas Programmes
IV: Coral reefs
V: Marine safety and protection of the marine environment from accidental pollution
- 22/3 Climate and atmosphere
II: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- 22/11 Sustainable development of the Arctic

Subprogramme 7

Communication and public information

Governing Council decisions

- 22/18 Civil society
II: Long-term strategy on engagement and involvement of young people in environment issues
III: Long-term strategy for sport and the environment
-