



# General Assembly

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## **Sustainable development: report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme**

### **Report of the Second Committee\***

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#### **I. Introduction**

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see [A/69/468](#), para. 2). Action on sub-item (g) was taken at the 30th and 36th meetings, on 5 November and 3 December 2014. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records ([A/C.2/69/SR.30](#) and 36).

#### **II. Consideration of draft resolutions [A/C.2/69/L.7](#) and [A/C.2/69/L.57](#)**

2. At the 30th meeting, on 5 November, the representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme" ([A/C.2/69/L.7](#)), which read:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Reaffirming the mandate contained in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997, the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000 and the Nusa Dua Declaration of 26 February 2010,*

\* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 10 parts, under the symbol [A/69/468](#) and Add.1-9.



*“Reaffirming also its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,*

*“Recalling its resolutions 67/213 of 21 December 2012 and 68/215 of 20 December 2013,*

*“Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and its principles,*

*“Taking into account Agenda 21 and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),*

*“Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals at its sixty-fifth session,*

*“Recalling also its resolution 68/309 of 10 September 2014, in which it welcomed the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and decided that the proposal of the Open Working Group should be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda,*

*“Recalling further the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,*

*“Committed to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,*

*“Committed also to enhancing the voice of the United Nations Environment Programme and its ability to fulfil its coordination mandate within the United Nations system by strengthening its engagement in key United Nations coordination bodies and empowering it to lead efforts to formulate United Nations system-wide strategies on the environment,*

*“Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entitled ‘The future we want’, in which the General Assembly was invited to adopt, at its sixty-seventh session, a resolution strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme in the manner outlined in paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h), of the outcome document,*

*“Reiterating the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII) underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget,*

“*Reaffirming* the commitment to ensure the full integration of the environmental dimension, especially throughout the sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development,

“1. *Welcomes* the holding of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014, and takes note of the report on the session and the resolutions contained therein;

“2. *Takes note* of the ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

“3. *Encourages* the United Nations Environment Programme to participate in the summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, including its interactive dialogues and preparatory process, in accordance with the modalities for participation to be established pursuant to the request made in its resolution 68/6 of 9 October 2013, and to continue supporting the preparation for and the lead-up to the summit through relevant initiatives and activities;

“4. *Reiterates* that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard calls for the continued and focused implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, adopted by the Programme;

“5. *Takes note* of the approval by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 2016-2017, taking into account relevant decisions adopted during its first session;

“6. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to present options to guarantee the full participation of all Member States in the United Nations Environment Assembly, in particular developing countries, taking into account its universal character;

“7. *Recalls* the decision contained in paragraph 88 (b) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, that the United Nations Environment Programme have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary contributions to fulfil the mandate of the Programme;

“8. *Urges* donors, and other stakeholders in a position to do so, to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund, and welcomes the increased support received in this regard;

“9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled ‘Sustainable development’, the sub-item entitled ‘Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme’.”

3. At its 36th meeting, on 3 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme" ([A/C.2/69/L.57](#)), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Tishka Francis (Bahamas), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.7](#).
4. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair, the Committee agreed to waive the relevant provisions of rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and proceeded to take action on the draft resolution (see [A/C.2/69/SR.36](#)).
5. Also at its 36th meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.57](#) had no programme budget implications.
6. At the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution, the representative of Barbados, orally corrected the draft resolution (see [A/C.2/69/SR.36](#)).
7. Also at its 36th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.57](#), as orally corrected (see para. 9).
8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.57](#), as orally corrected, draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.7](#) was withdrawn by its sponsors.

### III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

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

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the mandate contained in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997,<sup>1</sup> the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000<sup>2</sup> and the Nusa Dua Declaration of 26 February 2010,<sup>3</sup>

*Reaffirming also* its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

*Recalling* its resolutions 67/213 of 21 December 2012 and 68/215 of 20 December 2013,

*Reaffirming* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development<sup>4</sup> and its principles,

*Taking into account* Agenda 21<sup>5</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>6</sup>

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>7</sup> and noting the follow-up on paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h), of the outcome document, including through General Assembly resolution 67/213,

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/52/25)*, annex, decision 19/1, annex.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/55/25)*, annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/65/25)*, annex I, decision SS.XI/9.

<sup>4</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>6</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>8</sup> and the outcome document of the special event of the General Assembly to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>9</sup>

*Recalling further* its resolution 68/309 of 10 September 2014, in which it welcomed the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals<sup>10</sup> and decided that the proposal of the Open Working Group contained in the report shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will also be considered, in the intergovernmental negotiation process at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly,

*Recalling* the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,<sup>11</sup>

*Committed* to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

*Committed also* to enhancing the voice of the United Nations Environment Programme and its ability to fulfil its coordination mandate within the United Nations system by strengthening its engagement in key United Nations coordination bodies and empowering it to lead efforts to formulate United Nations system-wide strategies on the environment,

*Reiterating* the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII) underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget,

*Reaffirming* the commitment, as contained in the ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014, to, inter alia, ensure the full integration of the environmental dimension, especially throughout the sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014, and takes note of the report on the session and the resolutions and decisions contained therein;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

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<sup>8</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>9</sup> Resolution 68/6.

<sup>10</sup> [A/68/970](#).

<sup>11</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, document [UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1](#) and Corr.1, annex.

3. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Environment Programme will participate, as appropriate, in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and its summit;

4. *Reiterates* that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard calls for the continued and focused implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,<sup>11</sup> adopted by the Programme;

5. *Also reiterates* the continuing need for the United Nations Environment Programme to conduct up-to-date, comprehensive, scientifically based and policy-relevant global environmental assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels;

6. *Notes* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide options to secure the participation of developing countries in the United Nations Environment Assembly;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 88 (b) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, and also recalls its resolution 68/248 of 27 December 2013;

8. *Also recalls* the decision contained in paragraph 88 (h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288;

9. *Urges* all Member States and other stakeholders in a position to do so to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund, notes the need for continued efforts to broaden the donor base and mobilize resources from all sources, including stakeholders, and welcomes the increased support received in this regard;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme".