



# Overview of the multilateral priorities in the second half of 2023

Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation  
Climate & Environment Unit

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# Climate – COP28 (1)

## *COP 28*

***Dubai, 30 November-12 December 2023***

- Global Stocktake as overarching priority
- Global Stocktake = at the centre of the 5 yearly ambition cycle of the Paris Agreement
- Guidance for both enhancing present actions as for informing next round of NDCs
- A major course correction and guiding sectoral transitions (EU)

## ***UN SG Climate Ambition Summit***

***New York, 20 September 2023***

- Create political momentum for COP28 and the Global Stocktake
- 3 pillars of the 'acceleration agenda':
  - Next generation of NDC's
  - Strengthening credibility
  - Enhancing implementation and partnerships

# Climate – COP28 (2)

- **Mitigation work programme with focus on just energy transition**
- **Loss and damage**  
Decision on funding arrangements needs to be operationalized.
- **Framework on adaptation to strengthen implementation**
- **Finance**
  - challenges cannot be addressed merely by present public funding: better and more affordable access to international capital markets, reform IFIs and MDB, innovative financing
  - Preparing for new collective quantitative finance goal (NCQG) from 2025



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# Biodiversity

## **IPBES 10**

***Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services***

***Bonn, 28 augustus-2 September 2023)***

- Assessment report on invasive alien species
- Engagement with IPCC

## **COP 14**

***Bonn Convention on Migrating Species (CMS)***

***Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 23-28 October 2023***

- Protection of ranges and routes of migrating species (birds, fish, marine turtles, mammals,...)
- Assessment of risks (fisheries, pollution, infrastructure, diseases,...)
- Action plans for certain species

# Desertification

**CRIC21**

***Samarkand, Uzbekistan, October 2023***

**COP16 + CRIC22**

***Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, December 2024***

## **International Working Group on Drought II**

- Mandate: propose to CRIC21 and COP16 various options for a proactive (vs. reactive) management of drought at the global level
- Stakes: increase political attention & funding to drought without increasing the fragmentation of the global environmental governance
- Objectives: flesh out retained options (ie. new Protocol, COP Guidance to GEF & Global Mechanism) and propose an evaluation scheme
- EU Representatives: BE, DE, IT, ES, COM



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# Chemicals and Pollution (1)

*Fifth session of the International Conference for Chemicals Management (ICCM5)*

**Bonn, 25-29 September**

- Multistakeholder Initiative
- Strategic Approach International Chemicals Management (SAICM) for a sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle

*35th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*

**Nairobi 23-27 October**

- Objective of the Montreal Protocol is the phasing out of ozone depleting substances.
- The Kigali amendment aims at phasing down the consumption and production of hydrofluorocarbons that are potent greenhouse gases.
- Replenishment of Multilateral Fund to support developing countries with the implementation of the Protocol

# Chemicals and Pollution (2)

## *Fifth Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury*

**Geneva, 30 October – 3 November 2023**

- The Minamata Convention sets up an **international set of rules** for cooperation and measures to limit the use of mercury and mercury compounds in a number products and processes such as measuring instruments or medicine.
- Regulation of the informal sector of artisanal and small scale mining
- Combating the illegal trade in mercury

## *Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment*

**Nairobi 13-7 November 2023**

## *Ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention*

**11 December 2023**

## *Forty-third session of the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP)*

**Genève, 11-14 December 2023**



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# Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

9th Session of the Meeting of Parties to  
the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment  
in a Transboundary Context (*'Espoo Convention'*)

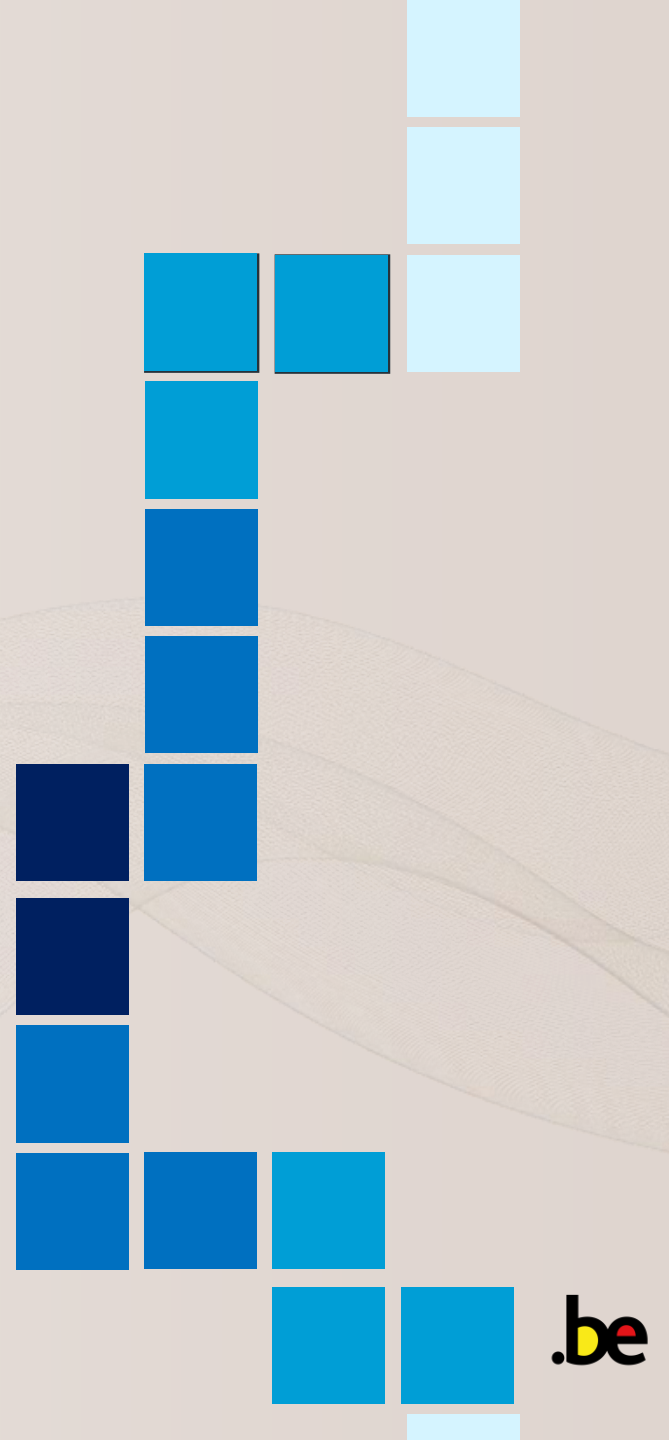
*Geneva, 12-15 December 2023*

- The Espoo Convention sets out the obligations of Parties to assess the environmental impact of certain activities at an early stage of planning.
- On the agenda among others a “revised draft guidance on assessing health impacts in strategic environmental assessment”.



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# Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development

*High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development*

*New-York, 10-19 July 2023*

- In-depth review Goals 6 on clean water and sanitation, 7 on affordable and clean energy, 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and 17 on partnerships for the Goals
- Presentation of Belgium's 2nd Voluntary National Review

*Sustainable Development Goals Summit*

*New York, 18-19 September 2023*

Thank you! Thank you!



