

Update on the multilateral priorities

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S1 2024 environmental multilateral agenda

COP Bonn Convention on Migratory Species	11-17 February Samarkand
6th UN Environment Assembly	26 February-1 March Nairobi
Our Ocean Conference	15-17 April Athens
Plastics pollution INC-4	21-30 April Ottawa
UN Forest Forum	6-10 May New York
CBD Subsidiary bodies	13-18 May Nairobi
World Water Forum	18-24 May Bali
Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting	20-30 May Kochi
UNFCCC Subsidiary bodies	3-13 June Bonn
High Level Event UN Ocean Conference	7-8 June Costa Rica
OEWG Science-policy panel chemicals, waste and pollution	17-21 June Geneva

S2 2024 environmental multilateral agenda

HLPF Agenda 2030	8 – 17 July New York
UNGA Ministerial week	22 – 28 September New York
Summit of the Future	22-23 September New-York
MOP UNECE Water Convention	23–25 October Ljubljana
UNCBD COP16	21 October – 1 November (TBC) TBD
COP 13 Vienna Convention – MOP 36 Montreal Protocol Ozon	28 October – 1 November TBD
INC 5 Plastic Pollution	29 October – 1 November Busan
Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources	October - November
UNFCCC COP 29	November- December Baku
UNCCD COP 16	2-13 December Riyadh
Executive Body of the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution	December
Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents	TBD

Multilateral priorities during BE Presidency

- 1. 6th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)*
- 2. INC-4 on plastic pollution*
- 3. UN Convention to Combat Desertification*

Sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)

What is UNEA ?

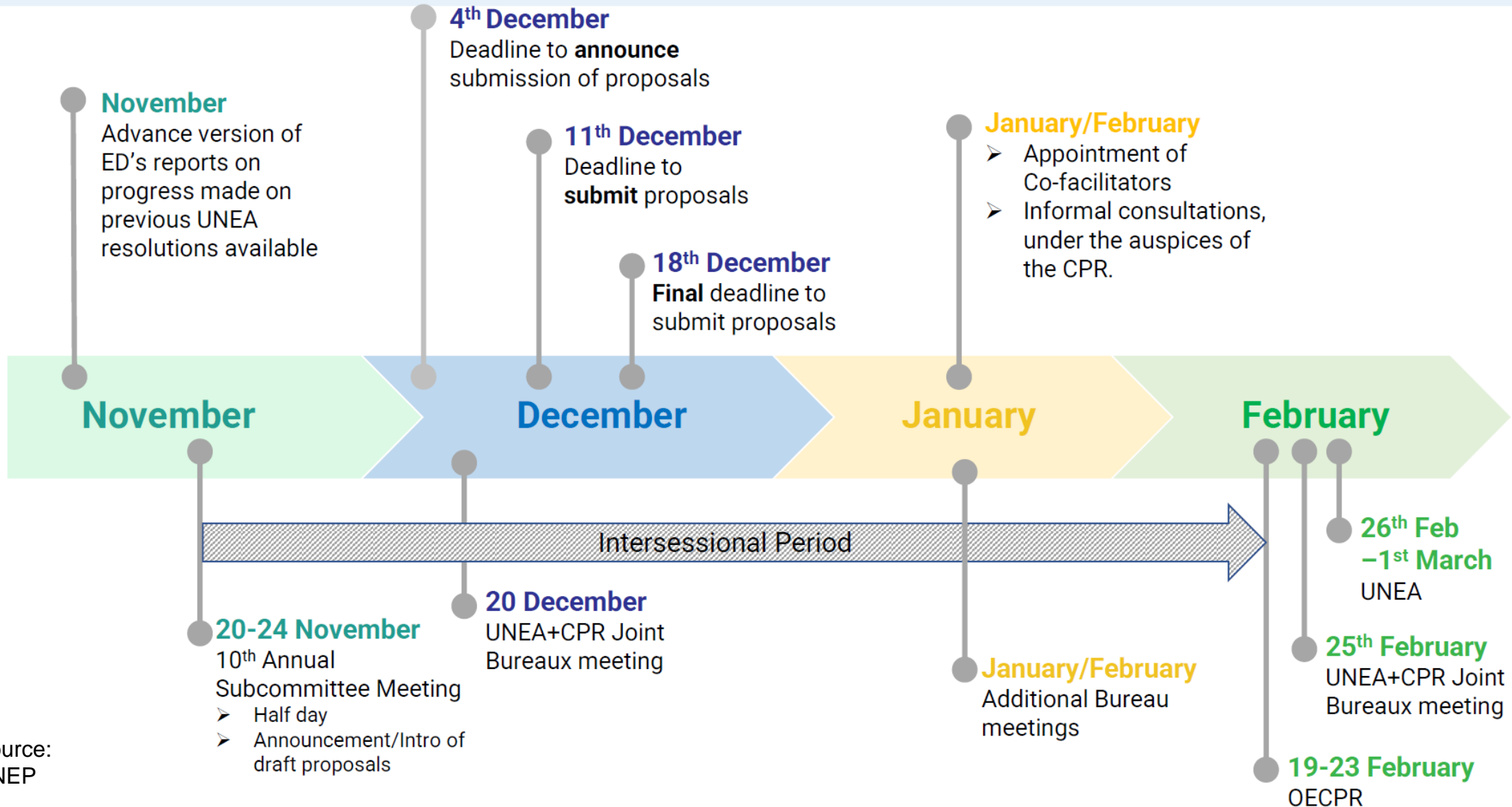
- World's **highest decision-making body** on the environment
- Meets every 2 years in Nairobi to set **priorities** for global environmental policies and develop international environmental law
- 2 important categories of tools: **resolutions** & ministerial declaration

UNEA-6 topic

“Effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution

UNEA-6 timeline

Preparatory process for draft resolutions/decisions



UNEA-6- EU draft resolutions

1. Enhancing **circular economy** (CE) and sustainable consumption and production (SCP)
2. Effective and inclusive solutions to strengthen **water** policies for sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution
3. Strengthening **ocean** and seas governance to tackle climate change, marine biodiversity loss and pollution

[For more info: Resolutions Portal \(unep.org\)](https://unep.org/resolutions-portal)

UNEA-6- Proposed clusters (19/12/2023)

Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3	Cluster 4	Cluster 5
<p>1-Global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides</p> <p>Submitter: Ethiopia Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>4-Effective and inclusive solutions to strengthen water policies for sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution</p> <p>Submitter: European Union Status: Submission of draft resolution pending, concept note submitted</p>	<p>10- Fostering national action to address environmental challenges through increased cooperation between UNEA, UNEP, and MEAs</p> <p>Submitters: Morocco and Malawi Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>15-Solar Radiation Modification (SRM)</p> <p>Submitter: Guinea, Monaco, Senegal and Switzerland. Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>1- Dates and provisional Agenda for UNEA-7 and OECPR-7 (inc decision on the timing of future UNEA sessions and related consequences for UNEP's future MTS and POW).</p> <p>Status: Draft decision submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>
<p>2- Sound management of chemicals and waste</p> <p>Submitter: Switzerland Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>5-Strengthening international efforts to halt land degradation, restore degraded lands and increase ecosystem and communities resilience to drought</p> <p>Submitter: Saudi Arabia Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>11- Enhancing the role and viability of regional environment ministerial forums and regional offices in achieving multilateral cooperation in tackling environmental challenges</p> <p>Submitter: Malawi Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>16-Stepping up efforts for enhancing the circular economy transition domestically, regionally and globally</p> <p>Submitter: European Union Status: Submission of draft resolution pending, concept note submitted</p>	<p>2 – Draft decision on Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions</p> <p>Status: Draft decision submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>
<p>3- Promoting regional cooperation to improve air quality globally</p> <p>Submitter: USA, Canada Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>6-Addressing complications caused by sargassum seaweed</p> <p>Submitter: Dominican Republic Status: Submission of draft resolution pending</p>	<p>12-Promoting synergistic approaches to address the interlinked global crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and support sustainable development</p> <p>Submitter: Japan, Fiji Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>17-Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals</p> <p>Submitters: Armenia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Gambia, Haiti, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Tchad Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>3- Draft resolution on Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility (GEF)</p> <p>Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>
	<p>7-Standards, norms and criteria for the implementation of nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development</p> <p>Submitter: Cameroon Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>13-Effective, Inclusive and Sustainable Multilateral Actions towards Climate Justice</p> <p>Submitter: Sri Lanka Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>18-Environmental assistance and recovery in areas affected by armed conflicts</p> <p>Submitter: Ukraine Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	

UNEA-6- Proposed clusters (19/12/2023)

Cluster 2	Cluster 3	Cluster 4
<p>8- Management of Cascades Systems Submitter: Sri Lanka Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>	<p>14-Strengthening ocean and seas governance to tackle climate change, marine biodiversity loss and pollution Submitter: European Union, Costa Rica Status: Submission of draft resolution and concept note pending</p>	<p>19- Sustainable Lifestyles Submitter: India Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>
<p>9-Combating sand and dust storms Submitter: Iran Status: Draft resolution submitted for presentation and Q&A scheduled for 11 and 13 January</p>		
<p><i>Cluster 2 combines draft resolutions relating to halting and reversing the loss of nature while restoring ecosystems.</i></p>	<p><i>Cluster 3 combines draft resolutions relating to international environmental governance.</i></p>	<p><i>Cluster 4 combines draft resolutions relating to addressing root causes of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss and pollution.</i></p>

Source: UNEP

UNEA-6 draft ministerial declaration

- 2nd draft available

Actions on climate change, biodiversity loss, energy transition, sustainability of minerals & metals, plastic pollution, air pollution, chemicals & waste, desertification & drought...

- Latest consultations on 7/12/2023
- Final draft expected in Jan. 2024

[For more info: Inputs to the Ministerial Declaration: UNEA-6 \(unep.org\)](https://unep.org)

UNEA-6- MEA & Leadership dialogues

Multilateral Environmental Agreements dialogues (28/02/2024)

1. Strengthening **science-policy interface** for effective implementation of environmental commitments
2. Strengthening **cooperation between UNEA, UNEP and MEAs** to enhance effective implementation at national level incl. through means of implementation

Leadership dialogues

29/02/2024: **Science, data & digital solutions**

01/03/2024: **Finance solutions**

01/03/2024: **Governance & advocacy solutions**

Side events: to be announced on 22/12/2023

[Main UNEA meetings & Leadership dialogues to be webcast: Home | UN Web TV](#)

[UNEA-6-Structure-17-July-2023.pdf \(unep.org\)](#)

BE delegation to UNEA Civil society



- Youth Environment Assembly (17-18/02/2024)
- Global Major Groups & Stakeholders Forum (24-25/02/2024)
- UN Science-Policy **Business** Forum on the Environment (27/02/2024)
(Resource efficiency; responsible mining; urban environment; sustainable fashion; NbS...)
- Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
(29/02/2024)

Willing to join the BE delegation to UNEA-6 ?

Please inform
wpiei.global@diplobel.fed.be
by **08/01/2024**

For more info: [Major Groups and Stakeholders \(unep.org\)](https://unep.org)

Preparation of the INC-4 on plastic pollution

The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC4, Ottawa, 21-30/04/24)



In the preparation, PRES BE aims to:

- Further develop EU positions
- Make progress on technical aspects (informal intersessional work)
- Find convergence and compromise with third countries

During INC-4, PRES BE aims to:

- Enter the textual negotiations
- Keep all options for an ambitious treaty on the table
- Defend EU positions and convince other parties to align with them
- Leave Ottawa with a text enabling negotiations to be finalized at INC-5
- Mandate intersessional work to inform the INC on technical aspects

BE and EU priorities for a future treaty

Setting clear and ambitious goals

- End plastic pollution to protect HH and the environment
- Global rules and specific targets throughout the entire life cycle of plastics
- Level playing field
- Mandatory implementation, common reporting and effective compliance system

Transition to a circular plastics economy

- Prevention, reduce, reuse, recycle
- Design and substances/polymers of concern, including microplastics
- Problematic and avoidable plastics
- Environmentally sound management of plastic waste
- Extended producer responsibility schemes (EPR)

Engaging existing/future knowledge

- Involve various stakeholders
- Scientific research
- Education and awareness-raising

Financial empowerment

- Public and private means
- Market-based instrument, EPR

UN Convention to Combat Desertification: EU as 'affected party'

- Ongoing proposal for the EU to declare itself as an 'affected Party' under UNCCD
- Member States' position to be discussed within WPIEI Desertification under Belgian Presidency
- Belgian consultations foreseen in Q1

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION**



**INCOMING BELGIAN PRESIDENCY
OF THE COUNCIL 
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION 2024**