

Civil Society Engagement

**Orientation Session for New Members of the
Committee of the Permanent Representatives of UN
Environment**

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Why civil society engagement?

- ❖ Rule 70 of Rules of Procedure
- ❖ UN practice, “The Future We Want”, Governing Council Decision 27/2
- ❖ Stakeholder *expertise* enriches the inter-governmental decision making
- ❖ Adds transparency and legitimacy
- ❖ Gives an opportunity for those who might be effected by decisions

How?

- ❖ **Nine Major Groups *and Stakeholders***
- ❖ **Formal accreditation to UN Environment**
- ❖ **Participation in UN Environment Assembly and Committee of Permanent Representatives as observer with opportunity to provide oral and written statements**
- ❖ **Access to CPR portal**
- ❖ **Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum prior to the UN Environment Assembly**
- ❖ **Regional Consultations Meetings**
- ❖ **Major Groups Facilitating Committee**
- ❖ **UNEP Access to Information Policy**

Three levels of engagement



Agenda-setting

- Policy shaping
- Global political agenda setting
- UNEA agenda setting



Decision-making/shaping

- Policy deliberations leading to decision-making
- Transparency and access-to-information



Implementation

- Strategic partnerships for implementation of UNEP's policies
- Strategic partnerships for achieving sustainable development

Expert input and advice

Partnerships Unit

- ❖ Engages international organizations, UN agencies, the private sector and foundations in the work of the Environment Assembly in order to strengthen the visibility and authority of the Assembly.
- ❖ Liaises with UN Environment Divisions on engaging the private sector in UN Environment's work (e.g. through regional consultations with the private sector, private sector participation at UN Environment events)

Civil Society at meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

- ❖ Accredited organisations only, in all *public* meetings, including sub-committees
- ❖ Reserved seats for the nine Major Groups
- ❖ Interactive online participation
- ❖ Opportunity for written and oral comments
- ❖ Accredited organisations receive relevant documentation and have access to the CPR portal

Civil Society Unit in the Governance Affairs Office

- ❖ **Facilitates Engagement of Civil Society**
- ❖ **Administers Accreditation**
- ❖ **Civil Society Website**
- ❖ **Organisation of meetings, consultations, capacity building**
- ❖ **Stakeholder Engagement Handbook**
- ❖ **Assists Major Groups Facilitation Committee**
- ❖ **Organises Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum and Regional Meetings**

Resources

- ❖ Rules of Procedure: <https://goo.gl/TLSt1K>
- ❖ Stakeholder Engagement Handbook:
<https://goo.gl/kpX76A>
- ❖ “Perspectives” from Civil Society:
<https://goo.gl/bEIQQ1>
- ❖ Civil Society Website:
<http://web.unep.org/about/majorgroups/>
- ❖ Accreditation: <https://goo.gl/uNHd0Y>
- ❖ List of Accredited Organisations:
<https://goo.gl/ByQWR4>
- ❖ UNEP Access to Information Policy:
<https://goo.gl/jysx0o>

Thank you very much !



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