



UN Environment Stakeholder Engagement Policy: An Update

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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

The Future We Want

Paragraph 88h: “Ensure the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and exploring new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society.

GC 27/2

- (a) Developing by 2014 a process for stakeholder accreditation and participation that builds on the existing rules of procedure and takes into account inclusive modalities of the Commission on Sustainable Development and other relevant United Nations bodies;
- (b) Establishing by 2014 mechanisms and rules for stakeholders' expert input and advice;
- (c) Enhancing by 2014 working methods and processes for informed discussions and contributions by all relevant stakeholders towards the intergovernmental decision-making process.



Current Situation

UNEA 1 and 2 were not able to reach a consensus on a new Stakeholder Engagement Policy

Stakeholder Engagement Policy not on the Agenda of UNEA 3 and 4

New mechanisms were applied within existing rules and regulations and in coordination with CPR Bureau

Changes applied with UN Environment largely reflect the spirit of “The Future We Want”



A New Approach

- (a) MGS may participate in all public meetings of the CPR.
- (b) MGS provide written and oral input to all deliberations of the UNEA and its subsidiary organs
- (c) Access to information relevant to the work of the Governing Bodies, equivalent to governments
- (d) Organizations working in the environment **and/or sustainable development** and that meet the other accreditation criteria will be granted accreditation.
- (e) The granting of consultative status to a non-governmental organization by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is considered as evidence of having an international scope of work
- (g) Organizations from a country that does not require formal registration in order to make an organization a legal entity within that country are not required to provide a certificate of formal registration in order to obtain accreditation.
- (h) Science-Policy Forum
- (g) Increased contributions of the Environment Fund to the budget of the Civil Society Unit.



Challenges

- Changes that were applied are not reflected in a new formal policy (but in the Stakeholder Engagement Handbook)
- While UN Environment has increased its contribution to the Civil Society Unit, member states - while largely positive towards engagement of Major Groups - did not provide additional funding
- Many of the existing opportunities are not utilised by Major Groups
- Strengthening of the role of the private sector in UN Environment
- Shrinking spaces for Major Groups worldwide



Resources

Update on Stakeholder Engagement to CPR and UNEA Bureaus:
<https://goo.gl/6Lh2L1>

Resources for Major Groups: <https://goo.gl/E85DAS>

Accreditation: <https://goo.gl/nUrT8H>

Stakeholder Engagement Handbook: <https://goo.gl/cg3mtS>

Thank you

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<https://www.unenvironment.org/civil-society-engagement>