



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
6 December 2018

Original: English

---

**Ad hoc open-ended working group  
established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277  
First substantive session  
Nairobi, 14–18 January 2019**

## **Provisional agenda and annotations thereto for the first substantive session of the ad hoc open-ended working group established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277**

1. The ad hoc open-ended working group established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277 decides on the following provisional agenda and annotations thereto for its first substantive session:

### **Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work.
3. Financing of the activities of the ad hoc open-ended working group.
4. General statements.
5. Consideration of the report of the Secretary-General.
6. Provisional agenda and dates for the second substantive session.
7. Other matters.
8. Closure of the first substantive session.

### **Annotations**

#### **1. Opening of the session**

2. The opening and conduct of the first substantive session will be presided over by the two co-chairs of the ad hoc open-ended working group, who were appointed by the President of the General Assembly: the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations, Amal Mudallali, and the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations, Francisco Duarte Lopes. A high-ranking official of the United Nations Environment Programme will make a statement at the opening of the session.

**2. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work**

3. The provisional agenda for the first substantive session of the ad hoc open-ended working group has been prepared in conformity with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 72/277. The organizational session of the ad hoc open-ended working group decided upon the agenda for the first substantive session, while the immediately preceding substantive session will decide on the agenda for each following substantive session. The respective substantive sessions of the working group will decide upon their own programme of work.

**3. Financing of the activities of the ad hoc open-ended working group**

4. The ad hoc open-ended working group may wish to discuss matters relating to the financing of its activities.

**4. General statements**

5. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277, the ad hoc open-ended working group is open to participation by all States Members of the United Nations and all members of the specialized agencies.

6. Participants will have an opportunity to deliver statements of a general nature concerning the agenda items under consideration at each substantive session in accordance with its programme of work.

**5. Consideration of the report of the Secretary-General**

7. By paragraph 1 of its resolution 72/277, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its seventy-third session, in 2018, a technical and evidence-based report that identified and assessed possible gaps in international environmental law and environment-related instruments with a view to strengthening their implementation.

8. By paragraph 2 of the same resolution, the General Assembly decided to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group to consider the report of the Secretary-General. In that resolution, it decided that the first substantive session of the working group would be held at least one month after the submission of the report.

9. The secretariat will introduce the report of the Secretary-General before its consideration by the working group.

**6. Provisional agenda and dates for the second substantive session**

10. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277, the ad hoc open-ended working group is to consider the report of the Secretary-General and discuss possible options for addressing possible gaps in international environmental law and environment-related instruments, as appropriate, and, if deemed necessary, the scope, parameters and feasibility of an international instrument, with a view to making recommendations, which may include the convening of an intergovernmental conference to adopt an international instrument, to the Assembly during the first half of 2019.

11. At the conclusion of its session, the ad hoc open-ended working group will consider and adopt the draft agenda, in line with resolution 72/277, and the dates of the following substantive session.

**7. Other matters**

12. The working group may wish to discuss any other matters related to its work in accordance with its programme of work.

**8. Closure of the first substantive session**

13. The substantive session will be closed once the ad hoc open-ended working group has concluded its work.
-