

Draft Decision X medium-term strategy for 2022–2025 and programme of work and budget for the biennium 2022–2023

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the proposed medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025¹ and the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2022–2023,

1. Approves the medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025¹, and the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2022–2023;
2. Approves appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 200 million United States dollars for the biennium for the purposes indicated in the following table:

Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021

(thousands of United States dollars)

A. Policymaking organs	4,000
B. Executive direction and management	8,000
C. Programme of work	164,000
Climate Action	24,000
Digital Transformations	14,000
Nature Action	24,000
Environmental governance	26,000
Chemicals and Pollution Action	24,000
Finance and Economic Transformations	26,000
Science Policy	26,000
D. Fund Programme Reserve	10,000
E. Programme Management Support	14,000
Total	200,000

3. Recognizes the importance of early, extensive and transparent consultations between the Executive Director, Member States and the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the preparation of the draft medium-term strategy, the strategic framework and the programme of work and budget.
4. Emphasizes the need to provide comprehensive information and full justification regarding proposed expenditures and contributions from all sources of funding, including staffing information, to the Committee of Permanent Representatives well in advance of its consideration of the programme of work and budget. Requests the Executive Director to continue to hold timely consultations on the preparation of all future programmes of work and budgets prior to their transmittal to other appropriate bodies, and continue to work expeditiously towards increasing transparency and accountability on costs and budgets to enable the Committee to provide guidance on implementation;
5. Stresses the need for the programme of work and budget to be based on results-based management;
6. Authorizes the Executive Director to reallocate resources between subprogramme budget lines up to a maximum of ten per cent of the subprogramme appropriations and to inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and in duly justified exceptional circumstances to reallocate in excess of ten per cent and up to 20 per cent of the appropriations from which resources are reallocated after prior consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;
7. Authorizes the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of Environment Fund allocations to subprogrammes, bringing them into line with possible variations in income compared to the approved level of appropriations, while taking into account expected incomes from other sources;
8. Authorizes the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments not exceeding 20 million United States dollars for Environment Fund activities, to implement the programme of work for the biennium 2022–2023;
9. Requests the Executive Director to continue to apply a prudent approach to the management of resources from all sources, including the Environment Fund, including through the careful management of contractual arrangements;

10. *Welcomes* the progress made in increasing allocations from the Environment Fund to activities and operations in the programme of work for the biennium 2020–2022.
11. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to monitor and manage the share of the Environment Fund devoted, respectively, to post costs and non-post costs, while clearly prioritizing the application of the resources of the Environment Fund to programme activities;
12. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to improve the achievement of programme objectives and the efficient and transparent use of resources to that end, subject to United Nations processes of oversight, review and independent evaluation;
13. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to report to Member States through the meeting of the annual subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and to the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its sessions, on evaluation findings and the progress made in respect of the performance of each subprogramme and its expected accomplishments and on the execution of the budget of the Environment Fund, including voluntary contributions, expenditures and reallocations of appropriations or adjustments of allocations;
14. *Welcomes* the efforts made to support inclusive, equitable and sustainable digital transformation as a mean to accelerate and amplify Member States ability to achieve the environmental sustainable development goals by 2030, in alignment with the United Nations Secretary General’s Roadmap for Digital Cooperation¹;
15. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that trust funds and earmarked contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme are used to fund activities that are in line with the programme of work, apart from those funds administered by the United Nations Environment Programme on behalf of other intergovernmental bodies;
16. Encouraged by its universal membership, *urges* Member States and others in a position to do so to increase voluntary contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme, notably the Environment Fund, and also requests the Executive Director, in accordance with the partnership policy rules and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, to mobilize increased voluntary funding to the Programme from all Member States and others in a position to do so as well as to continue to broaden the contributor base;
17. *Notes* the positive effect of the voluntary indicative scale of contributions to broaden the base of contributions to, and to enhance predictability in the voluntary financing of, the Environment Fund, and *requests* the Executive Director to continue adapting the voluntary indicative scale of contributions, inter alia, in accordance with Governing Council decision SS.VII/1 and any relevant subsequent decisions;
18. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Executive Director, in close consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to design a resource mobilization strategy that improves the adequacy and predictability of resources. And *Encourages* the Executive Director, in close consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to implement the strategy with the priority to broaden the contributor base from Member States as well as other partners;
19. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit for consideration and approval by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its sixth session, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a prioritized, results-oriented and streamlined programme of work for the period 2024–2025.

¹ The Age of Digital Interdependence, Report of UN Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, 2019, <https://www.un.org/en/pdfs/DigitalCooperation-report-for%20web.pdf>