



**Governing Council
of the United Nations
Environment Programme**

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**Twenty-third session of the Governing Council/
Global Ministerial Environment Forum**

Nairobi, 21–25 February 2005

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Annotated provisional agenda and organization of work

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* UNEP/GC.23/1.

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Item 1. Opening of the session

1. The twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 21 February 2005, by the current President of the Council/Forum or, in his absence, by one of the other officers of the Council/Forum at its twenty-second session.

Item 2. Organization of the session

(a) Election of officers

2. The Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum elects its officers at the beginning of each regular session, in accordance with rule 18 of its rules of procedure. An explanation of the geographical composition of the Bureau from 1981 to 2005 was distributed together with the notification of the twenty-third session on 8 December 2004.
3. In keeping with a decision taken by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-second session, the twenty-third session will be held over five days, from 21 to 25 February 2005. Informal consultations in regional groups will be held on Sunday, 20 February 2005, the day before the opening of the session.
4. The provisional agenda for the session (UNEP/GC.23/1), as approved by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-second session, was distributed together with the notification of the session. The provisional timetable of meetings of the session, as recommended by the Executive Director of UNEP, is contained in the annex to the present document.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

5. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, at its plenary meeting on the morning of Monday, 21 February, elect its officers and adopt the agenda and organization of work for the session. The Executive Director also recommends that the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at the opening plenary meeting establish sessional committees, including a committee of the whole. During this meeting, the Executive Director will present his policy statement, as contained in document UNEP/GC.23/2.
6. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999, the Governing Council constitutes an annual ministerial-level global environmental forum to review important and emerging policy issues in the field of the environment. In view of this mandate, the Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum meet in the form of ministerial-level consultations, beginning on the afternoon of Monday, 21 February, with meetings continuing through the morning of Wednesday, 23 February 2005.
7. The Executive Director recommends that the Council/Forum meeting in plenary consider the following items of the provisional agenda for the session (UNEP/GC.23/1): 5 (Outcomes of intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum); 6 (Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development: contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development); 7 (International environmental governance: implementation of decisions of the seventh special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum and the World Summit on Sustainable Development on the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Ministers or Their Representatives on International Environmental Governance); and 9 (Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters).
8. In order to set the scene for policy dialogue on important and emerging policy issues, the Executive Director recommends that the ministerial-level discussions focus on the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration as they relate to gender and environment, as well as policy issues related to water, sanitation and human settlements, under agenda items 5 and 6. In addition, the Executive Director recommends that international environmental governance also form part of the ministerial discussions in the plenary under item 7.
9. The Executive Director recommends that these issues be taken up during the ministerial-level consultations as follows: on the afternoon of Monday, 21 February, eradication of extreme poverty and hunger (goal no. 1 of the Millennium Declaration) within the context of environment and poverty; on the morning of Tuesday, 22 February, ensuring environmental sustainability and policy issues related to water, sanitation and human settlements (goal no. 7 of the Millennium Declaration); on the afternoon of Tuesday, 22 February, promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women within the context of

gender and the environment (goal no. 3 of the Millennium Declaration), bearing in mind section K (women and the environment) of the Beijing Platform for Action and the upcoming Beijing + 10 review. A background paper will be provided to facilitate the ministerial-level discussions (UNEP/GC.23/10).

10. In addition, the Executive Director recommends that items 3 (Credentials of representatives); 11 (Other matters); 12 (Adoption of the report); and 13 (Closure of the session) be considered during the plenary meeting on the afternoon of Friday, 25 February 2005.

11. The Committee of the Whole will elect its own officers in accordance with rule 61 of the rules of procedure, with the exception of its Chair. In the past, the Council/Forum has designated one of the vice-presidents of the Council/Forum as the Chair of the Committee of the Whole. The Council/Forum may, therefore, wish to consider designating one of the three vice-presidents of the session to serve as Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

12. The Executive Director recommends that the Committee of the Whole address the following items of the provisional agenda: 4 (Assessment, monitoring and early warning: state of the environment); 8 (Cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system on environmental matters); 9 (Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters; and 10 (Provisional agenda, date and place of: (a) the ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum; (b) the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum). It is envisaged that the Committee of the Whole will conclude its work at its afternoon meeting on Thursday, 24 February 2005, with the adoption of its report.

| Documentation | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UNEP/GC.23/1 | Provisional agenda |
| UNEP/GC.23/1/Add.1 | Annotated provisional agenda |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/1 | State of preparedness of documents for the twenty-third session |
| UNEP/GC.23/2 | Policy statement of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/10 | Background paper for the ministerial-level consultations: Implementation of the internationally agreed development goals of the Millennium Declaration: Discussion paper presented by the Executive Director |

13. Deliveries of general national statements are not envisaged at the meetings of the plenary. However, these statements will be delivered in a specially designated room with video recording facilities so that the statements can be broadcast over the Internet.

Item 3. Credentials of representatives

14. In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives at the twenty-third session of the Council will be examined by the Bureau, which will report thereon to the Council/Forum. It should be noted that, under rule 16, each member of the Council is to be represented by one accredited representative, who may be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers.

Item 4. Assessment, monitoring and early warning: state of the environment

15. The report of the Executive Director on the state of the environment and contribution of UNEP to addressing substantive environmental challenges (UNEP/GC.23/3) addresses key aspects of the activities undertaken by UNEP while keeping under review the world environmental situation, including those activities with respect to which reports were called for by decisions 22/1 I B, on early warning and assessment and SS.VIII/1 II, on strengthening the scientific base of UNEP. In addition, documents UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.1, UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.2, UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.3, UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.4, UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5, UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.6 and UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.6/Rev.1, as well as UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.7, respectively, detail each of the following subject areas:

- (a) Chemicals management, as called for by decisions 22/4 IV and 22/4 V;
- (b) Post-conflict environmental assessments and responses to environmental emergencies, as called for by decisions 22/1 IV and 22/1 V;
- (c) Environmental law, as called for by decisions 22/17 II A, 22/17 II B, and 22/17 II D;
- (d) Multilateral environmental agreements, including the activities of UNEP in culture and the environment, as called for by decisions SS.VII/4, 22/3 II, 22/16 and SS.VIII/1 V;
- (e) Water policy and strategy of UNEP, as called for by decisions 22/2 I, 22/2 II, 22/2 IV;
- (f) Outcome of the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, as called for by decision SS.VIII/2;
- (g) Activities in the regions, as called for by decisions 22/9, 22/10 and 22/14.

16. Additional information in support of the consideration by the Council/Forum of this item is provided in various information documents. The Council/Forum will also have before it draft decisions prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP, as contained in document UNEP/GC.23/L.1. These draft decisions are submitted in keeping with the mandate of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as stipulated by decision 19/32 of 4 April 1997.

| Documentation | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UNEP/GC.23/3 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.1 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Chemicals management: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.2 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Responses to environmental emergencies: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.3 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Implementation of the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law for the First Decade of the Twenty-first Century (Montevideo Programme III): Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.4 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Multilateral environmental agreements: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.6 and Rev.1 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Outcome of the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Small Island Developing States and the role of the United Nations Environment Programme: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.7 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Meeting |

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| | substantive environmental challenges in the African, Asian and Pacific, European, Latin American and Caribbean, North American, and West Asian regions: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/2 | <i>GEO Yearbook 2004/5</i> : Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/5 | Status of the implementation of Governing Council decisions adopted at its twenty-second session and its eighth special session: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/8 | Changes to the status of ratification of/accession to conventions and protocols in the field of the environment: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/10 | Implementation of the Montevideo Programme III for the period 2000–2005: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/11 | The 3R concept and waste prevention: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/15 | Environmental statistics: Status and challenges: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/17 | Outcomes of the Global Hilltops-2-Oceans Partnership Conference: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/18 | Strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/19 | Views submitted by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations on the progress made on a mercury programme: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/20 | Implementing Governing Council decision 22/1 IV on post-conflict environmental assessment: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/21 | Environment and Security: A Gglobal agenda for UNEP: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/23 | Environment and cultural diversity: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/25 | Key policy issues for the environmental aspects of water: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/26 | Progress report on regional seas conventions and action plans and the activities of UNEP related to marine safety and protection of the marine environment from accidental pollution: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/29 | Tsunami Early-warning system in the Indian Ocean: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/30 | Environment in the Occupied Palestinian Territories: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/L.1 | Draft decisions submitted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme |

Item 5. Outcomes of intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum

17. The report of the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/4) provides an overview of the outcomes of intergovernmental meetings held at the global and regional levels in 2004 that are of relevance to UNEP and its Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum.

18. The reports of the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.6 and Rev.1) provide information on the outcome of the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Small Island Developing States pursuant to decision SS.VIII/2. In addition, the background paper for the ministerial-level consultations (UNEP/GC.23/10) discusses the implementation of goals 1, 3 and 7 contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as follow-up to section K (women and the environment) of the Beijing Platform for Action and the upcoming Beijing + 10 review in the context of gender and the environment.

19. The note by the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/INF/3) highlights relevant resolutions of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session as these relate to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum. The Council/Forum may wish to take note of the issues emanating from the General Assembly.

| Documentation | |
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| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.6 and Rev.1 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Outcome of the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the role of the United Nations Environment Programme: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/4 | Outcomes of intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/10 | Background paper for the ministerial-level consultations: Discussion paper presented by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/3 | Issues arising from the resolutions of the General Assembly at its fifth–ninth session that are of specific relevance to the work of the United Nations Environment Programme: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/5 | Status of the implementation of decisions adopted by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-second session and its eighth special session: Note by the Executive Director |

Item 6. Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development: contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

20. The report of the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/5) provides an overview of UNEP activities undertaken in response to the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the contribution of UNEP to the forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Relevant reports of the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/3 and Adds.1 –7, UNEP/GC.23/10) provide detailed information on UNEP activities in specific subject areas.

21. Relevant information notes of the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/INF/2, UNEP/GC.23/INF/5, UNEP/GC.23/INF/8, UNEP/GC.23/INF/10, UNEP/GC.23/INF/11, UNEP/GC.23/INF/14, UNEP/GC.23/INF/15, UNEP/GC.23/INF/16 and Adds 1–6,

UNEP/GC.23/INF/17, UNEP/GC.23/INF/18, UNEP/GC.23/INF/19, UNEP/GC.23/INF/20, UNEP/GC.23/INF/23, UNEP/GC.23/INF/25, UNEP/GC.23/INF/26, UNEP/GC.23/INF/27 and UNEP/GC.23/INF/28) also provide information on this item.

| Documentation | |
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| UNEP/GC.23/3 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.1 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Chemicals management: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.2 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Responses to environmental emergencies: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.3 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Implementation of the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law for the First Decade of the Twenty-first Century (Montevideo Programme III): Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.4 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Multilateral environmental agreements: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.6 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Outcome of the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the sustainable development of the Small Island Developing States and the role of the United Nations Environment Programme: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.6/Rev.1 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Outcome of the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the sustainable development of the Small Island Developing States and the role of the United Nations Environment Programme: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.7 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges: Addressing substantive environmental challenges in the African, Asian and Pacific, European, Latin American and Caribbean, North American and West Asian regions: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/5 | Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development: Report of |

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| | the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/10 | Background paper for the ministerial-level consultations: Discussion paper presented by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/2 | <i>GEO Yearbook 2004–5</i> : Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/5 | Status of the implementation of decisions adopted by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-second session and its eighth special session: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/10 | Implementation of the Montevideo Programme III for the period 2000-2005: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/11 | The 3R concept and waste prevention: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/14 | Implementation of the long-term strategy on the engagement and involvement of young people in environmental issues: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/15 | Environmental statistics: Status and challenges: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/16 | Global civil society statement to the sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/16/Add.1 | African regional civil society statement to the sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/16/Add.2 | Asian and the Pacific regional civil society statements to the sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/16/Add.3 | European regional civil society statement to the sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/16/Add.4 | Latin American and the Caribbean regional civil society statement to the sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/16/Add.5 | North American regional civil society statement to the sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/16/Add.6 | West Asian regional civil society statement to the sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/17 | Outcomes of the Global Hilltops-2-Oceans Partnership Conference: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/18 | Strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme: Note by the Executive Director |

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| UNEP/GC.23/INF/19 | Views submitted by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations on the progress made on a mercury programme: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/20 | Implementing Governing Council decision 22/1 IV on post-conflict environmental assessment: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/23 | Environment and cultural diversity: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/25 | Key policy issues for the environmental aspects of water: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/26 | Progress report on regional seas conventions and action plans and the activities of UNEP related to marine safety and protection of the marine environment from accidental pollution: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/27 | Statement by the TUNZA Youth Advisory Council to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-third session: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/28 | Implementation of the long-term strategy on sport and the environment: Note by the Executive Director |

Item 7. International environmental governance: implementation of decisions of the seventh special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum and the World Summit on Sustainable Development on the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Ministers or Their Representatives on International Environmental Governance

22. The report of the Executive Director on international environmental governance (UNEP/GC.23/6) provides information on follow-up activities of UNEP to Governing Council decisions SS.VII/1 of 15 February 2002 and SS.VIII/1 of 31 March 2004, as well as decisions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development on issues of relevance to international environmental governance. Document UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 sets out the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, as adopted by the third session of the Open-ended High-level Intergovernmental Working Group on an Intergovernmental Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 2 to 4 December 2004.

23. A note by the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/INF/12) provides information on UNEP financing, as called for by decision SS.VIII/1 IV.

| Documentation | |
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| UNEP/GC.23/6 | International environmental governance: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 | International environmental governance: Report of the Executive Director: Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/8 | Changes to the status of ratification of/accession to conventions and protocols in the field of the environment: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/12 | Strengthening of the financing of the United Nations Environment Programme: Note by the Executive Director |

Item 8. Cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system on environmental matters

24. Document UNEP/GC.23/7 contains the report of the Executive Director concerning cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system on environmental matters, with a special focus on the work of the Environmental Management Group. Document UNEP/GC.23/6 on international environmental governance provides additional information on the activities of the Environmental Management Group.

25. Notes by the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.23/INF/13 and UNEP/GC.23/INF/22) also provide information on UNEP activities undertaken in cooperation and coordination with other United Nations agencies.

| Documentation | |
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| UNEP/GC.23/6 | International environmental governance: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/7 | Cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system on environmental matters: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/13 | Memorandums of understanding concerning cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and other organizations of the United Nations system: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/22 | Cooperation between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme: Joint progress report of the Executive Directors of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme |

Item 9. Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters

26. The report of the Executive Director containing the proposed biennial programme and support budget for 2006-2007 is provided in document UNEP/GC.23/8. The comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed budget are provided in document UNEP/GC.22/8/Add.1.

27. Document UNEP/GC.23/INF/9 provides a synopsis of UNEP activities undertaken in the regions, as called for by decision SS.VIII/3 of 31 March 2004 on regional annexes. Documents UNEP/GC.23/INF/6, UNEP/GC.23/INF/7 and UNEP/GC.23/INF/24 also provide information relevant to the Council/Forum's consideration of the proposed biennial programme and support budget for 2006-2007.

28. The report of the Executive Director on administrative and other budgetary matters (UNEP/GC.23/9) discusses additional matters of relevance to this agenda item.

| Documentation | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UNEP/GC.23/8 | The Environment Fund budgets: Proposed biennial programme and support budget for 2006-2007: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/8/Add.1 | Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed biennial programme and support budget of the United Nations Environment Programme for 2006-2007: Note by the Executive Director |

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| UNEP/GC.23/9 | Administrative and other budgetary matters: Report of the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/6 | Status of the Environment Fund and other sources of funding of the United Nations Environment Programme, fourth quarter 2004: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/7 | Report of the Board of Auditors on the audit of the accounts of the fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium ended 31 December 2003: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/9 | Synopses of activities in the regions: Note by the Executive Director |
| UNEP/GC.23/INF/24 | Activities of the United Nations Environment Programme as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility: Note by the Executive Director |

Item 10. Provisional agenda, date and place of: (a) The ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum; and (b) The twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum

29. In keeping with paragraph 1 (g) of Governing Council decision 20/17 on the establishment of the Global Ministerial Environment Forum and paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 53/242 on environment and human settlements, the Executive Director recommends, in accordance with rules 5 and 9 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Council, a provisional agenda, date and venue for the convening of the ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum and the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum. The Council/Forum may wish to consider and decide on these matters.

Item 11. Other matters

30. The Council/Forum may wish to consider any other matters raised by its members and observers.

Item 12. Adoption of the report

31. The Council/Forum may wish to consider and adopt its report.

Item 13. Closure of the session/forum

32. It is expected that the Council/Forum will conclude its work by 6 p.m. on Friday, 25 February 2005.

Annex

Provisional timetable of meetings of the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum

Monday, 21 February 2005

| Plenary 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Conference room 2 |
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| <p>Item 1: Opening of the session</p> <p>--- short break ---</p> <p>Item 2: Organization of the session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Election of officers; (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session. |

| Ministerial consultations 3 p.m.-7 p.m. Combined conference rooms 3 and 4 | Committee of the Whole 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Conference room 1 |
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| <p>Item 5: Outcomes of intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum</p> <p>Item 6: Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development: contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development</p> <p>Focus: Implementation of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration: Goal no.1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, as it relates to environment and poverty</p> <p>Inputs of civil society: Presentation on the reports of the Sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the TUNZA Global Youth Retreat</p> <p>Organizational and introductory statements by the secretariat in support of the policy dialogue</p> | <p>Item 4: Assessment, monitoring and early warning: state of the environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation on the state of the environment <p>Item 8: Cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system on environmental matters</p> <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> <p>Organization of the work of the Committee</p> <p>Election of the Rapporteur</p> |

Tuesday, 22 February 2005

| Ministerial consultations 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Combined conference rooms 3 and 4 | Committee of the Whole 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Conference room 1 |
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| <p>Item 5: Outcomes of intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum</p> <p>Item 6: Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development: contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development</p> <p>Focus: Implementation of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration: Goal no. 7: Ensure environmental sustainability, as it relates to water, sanitation and human settlements</p> | <p>Item 4: Assessment, monitoring and early warning: state of the environment</p> <p>Item 8: Cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system on environmental matters</p> <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> |

| Ministerial consultations 3 p.m.-7 p.m. Combined conference rooms 3 and 4 | Committee of the Whole 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Conference Room 1 |
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| <p>Item 5: Outcomes of intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum</p> <p>Item 6: Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development: contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development</p> <p>Focus: Implementation of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration: Goal no. 3: Promote gender equality and empower women, as it relates to gender and environment</p> | <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> |

Wednesday, 23 February 2005

| Ministerial consultations 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Combined conference rooms 3 and 4 | Committee of the Whole 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Conference room 1 |
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| <p>Item 5: Outcomes of intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum</p> <p>Item 6: Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development: contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development</p> <p>Focus: Chair's Summary of the outcome of the policy discussions on implementation of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration (Goals 1, 3 & 7) in relation to the environment, poverty alleviation, gender and the policy issues of water, sanitation and human settlements</p> | <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> |

| Plenary 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Conference room 2 | Committee of the Whole 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Conference room 1 |
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| <p>Item 7: International environmental governance: implementation of decisions of the seventh special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum and the World Summit on Sustainable Development on the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Ministers and Their Representatives on International Environmental Governance</p> <p>Focus: Strengthening the scientific base of UNEP, the intergovernmental strategic plan for technology support and capacity-building and universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of UNEP</p> | <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> |

Thursday, 24 February 2005

| Plenary 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Conference room 2 | Committee of the Whole 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Conference room 1 |
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| <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> <p>Focus: Programme of work and budget (2006–2007), with emphasis on assessment, monitoring and early warning: state of the environment</p> | <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> |

| Plenary 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Conference room 2 | Committee of the Whole 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Conference room 1 |
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| <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> <p>Focus: Programme of work and budget (2006–2007), with emphasis on water and chemicals (linked with biodiversity)</p> | <p>Item 9: Programme, the Environment Fund and administrative and other budgetary matters</p> <p>Item 10: Provisional agenda, date and place of: (a) the ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum; (b) the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum</p> <p>Draft decisions</p> <p>Adoption of the report and conclusion of the work of the Committee</p> |

Friday, 25 February 2005

Plenary
10 a.m.-1 p.m. Conference room 2

Report of the President on the outcome of the ministerial consultations, including recommendations for UNEP and the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Adoption of relevant international environmental governance decisions

Adoption of the report of the Committee of the Whole, along with any relevant decisions prepared by a drafting or negotiating group or a group of friends of the Chair (if required)

Plenary
3 p.m.-6 p.m. Conference room 2

Item 3: Credentials of representatives

Item 11: Other matters

Item 12: Adoption of the report

Item 13: Closure of the session

Saturday, 26 February 2005

Field excursion

[Theme, time and venue to be decided]