



# United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署  
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE  
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Our Reference: BAM/TO/fwm

15 November 2002

## NOTIFICATION BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

(Nairobi, 3-7 February 2003)

1. The twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 3 to 7 February 2003, in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Council and in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 53/242 (Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements) of 28 July 1999. The session/forum will open at 10 a.m. on Monday, 3 February 2003, and will be preceded by an informal consultation among regional groups on Sunday, 2 February 2003, at the United Nations Office at Nairobi.
2. The provisional agenda (UNEP/GC.22/1) as adopted by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-first session is being circulated with the present notification.
3. Governments may wish to bear in mind that, in accordance with a decision taken by the Council at its twenty-first session, the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum will be of five days' duration. It is proposed that the session/forum conduct its work in plenary meetings in the form of ministerial consultations devoted to discussions on emerging policy issues at the ministerial or equivalent level and in a sessional Committee of the Whole, where programmatic, administrative and budgetary matters will be addressed.

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4. In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 53/242, the Governing Council, constitutes the annual ministerial-level global environmental forum, in which participants gather to review important and emerging policy issues in the field of the environment. Consequently, the first, second and third Global Ministerial Environment Forum meetings were held in the context of the sixth special session, the twenty-first regular session and the seventh special session of the Governing Council in Malmö, Sweden, Nairobi, Kenya, and Cartagena, Colombia, in 2000, 2001, and 2002, respectively. In view of this, the Executive Director recommends that the plenary of the Council meet in the form of ministerial-level consultations, beginning on Wednesday, 5 February through the morning of Friday, 7 February 2003.

5. In order to set the scene for policy dialogue on the important and emerging policy issue of poverty alleviation, the environment and sustainable development in a globalized world, the Executive Director will make mention of the regional dimension of the work of UNEP resulting from the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

6. The meetings of the plenary in the form of ministerial consultations will address the regional dimension of the work of UNEP resulting from the World Summit, taking note of the cross-cutting issues of trade and environment; benefit-sharing of genetic resources; promoting sustainable production and consumption; and financing for sustainable development and capacity-building.

7. A panel discussion in the form of a working dinner for ministers and heads of delegation is proposed for the evening of Wednesday, 5 February, to consider the linkages between poverty and the environment.

8. The session/forum will also consider and approve the programme and budget of UNEP for the biennium 2004-2005, in the context of Council decision 21/31 (The Environment Fund budgets: Proposed biennial programme and support budget for 2002-2003) of 9 February 2001. It is desirable, during the first four days when the work programme and budget are being considered, that delegations comprise technical advisers in environmental matters and financial specialists for the budget discussions.

9. The attention of Governments is drawn to the UNEP Global Youth Retreat which will be held in Nairobi from 29 January 2003 to 7 February 2003. In addition, the Civil Society Forum will be held on Saturday, 1 February 2003 at the United Nations Office at Nairobi. The informal consultation among regional groups preceding the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global

Ministerial Environment Forum will take place on Sunday, 2 February 2003, at 3 p.m. This consultation will facilitate the work of the session/forum by identifying the principal issues to be deliberated upon, and recommendations for the organization of work, including the composition of the Bureau (see annex I).

10. A list of the member States of the Governing Council during the period 2002-2005 is provided in annex II to this Notification. Under rule 16 of the rules of procedure, an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as the delegations may require, shall represent each member of the Council.

11. Member States of the Governing Council are accordingly requested to submit to the Executive Director by 13 December 2002 the names of their representatives, alternate representatives and advisers who will participate in the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum. Eligible States not members of the Governing Council wishing to participate in the work under rule 67 of the rules of procedure are also requested to communicate the names of their representatives to the Executive Director by 13 December 2002.

12. Following past practice, the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum will have before it two types of documents: documents in the series UNEP/GC.22/..., (working documents in the six United Nations languages) which will be confined to subjects requiring substantive review and/or action by the Council, and documents in the series UNEP/GC.22/INF/... (information documents in English only), which will provide Governments with relevant supplemental information. The Executive Director has significantly reduced the number of documents for the session/forum. Most of the working documents will highlight the essential elements on which the Council is requested to deliberate and decide. This will greatly reduce the overall volume of documentation produced, in keeping with the expressed wishes of Governments.

13. The Executive Director wishes to inform Governments that there are a few documents which will not comply with the six-week rule for the distribution of documents for the session/forum due to the scope of the information contained therein and the need to reflect relevant resolutions of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, which will be adopted late in the year. These documents are the following:

(a) Environmental situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories: Report of the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.22/2/Add.6);

(b) 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 2004-2005: Note by the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.22/6/Add.1);

(c) Issues arising from the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly: Note by the secretariat (UNEP/GC.22/INF/7).

14. The documents for the Council at its twenty-second session/Global Ministerial Environment Forum will be available on the UNEP Internet web site from 16 December 2002, and can be accessed by selecting **Twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum** at the following address:

[http://www.unep.org/gc\\_22<sup>nd</sup>](http://www.unep.org/gc_22<sup>nd</sup>).

15. Since the session/forum is expected to discuss matters that have been considered by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP and in view of the role of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as a subsidiary organ of the Governing Council, Governments may wish to consider including their Permanent Representatives in their delegations.

16. Registration of participants will take place from 1 p.m. on Thursday, 30 January 2003. Information for participants regarding hotel accommodation, medical requirements, visa regulations, etc., will be provided, together with registration forms, six weeks before the session/forum. This information will also be provided on the UNEP Internet web site.

17. All communications concerning the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum should be addressed to:

The Secretary for Governing Council  
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Annex I

GEOGRAPHICAL COMPOSITION OF THE BUREAU OF THE  
UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL, 1981-2003

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	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003
REGIONAL GROUP														
African Group	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres
Asian Group	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP
Eastern European Group	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp
Latin America and the Caribbean Group	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP
Western European and Others Group	Rapp	VP	Pres	VP	VP	Rapp	VP	Pres	VP	VP	Rapp	VP	Pres	VP

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Note:           Pres -     President  
                  VP -     Vice-President  
                  Rapp -    Rapport

## Annex II

### MEMBER STATES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE CURRENT PERIOD (2002 - 2005)

#### A. Breakdown by alphabetical order (indicating terms of office)

Antigua and Barbuda **	Marshall Islands *
Argentina **	Mexico *
Bahamas *	Myanmar **
Belgium **	Namibia **
Benin *	Netherlands *
Brazil *	New Zealand *
Burkina Faso *	Nicaragua **
Canada **	Nigeria **
Chad **	Pakistan *
China **	Poland *
Colombia *	Republic of Korea **
Congo **	Republic of Moldova *
Cuba **	Romania **
Czech Republic **	Russian Federation **
Denmark *	Samoa *
Egypt *	Saudi Arabia *
Equatorial Guinea *	Senegal *
France **	Slovakia *
Gambia *	Sudan **
Germany **	Suriname *
Greece **	Syrian Arab Republic **
India *	Switzerland **
Indonesia **	Thailand *
Iran (Islamic Republic of) *	Turkey *
Italy *	Uganda *
Japan **	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland *
Kenya **	United States of America **
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Uruguay **
	Zambia **
	Zimbabwe **

\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2003.

\*\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2005.

MEMBER STATES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT  
PROGRAMME FOR THE CURRENT PERIOD 2002 - 2005

B. Breakdown by geographical groups (indicating terms of office)

AFRICAN GROUP

Benin \*  
Burkina Faso \*  
Chad \*\*  
Congo \*\*  
Egypt \*  
Equatorial Guinea \*  
Gambia \*  
Kenya \*\*  
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya  
Namibia \*\*  
Nigeria \*\*  
Senegal \*  
Sudan \*\*  
Uganda \*  
Zambia \*\*  
Zimbabwe \*\*

LATIN AMERICAN GROUP

Antigua and Barbuda \*\*  
Argentina \*\*  
Bahamas \*  
Brazil \*  
Colombia \*  
Cuba \*\*  
Mexico \*  
Nicaragua \*\*  
Suriname \*  
Uruguay \*\*

ASIAN GROUP

China \*\*  
India \*  
Indonesia \*\*  
Iran (Islamic Republic of) \*  
Japan \*\*  
Marshall Islands \*  
Myanmar \*\*  
Pakistan \*  
Republic of Korea \*\*  
Samoa \*  
Saudi Arabia \*  
Syrian Arab Republic \*\*  
Thailand \*

WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP

Belgium \*\*  
Canada \*\*  
Denmark\*  
France \*\*  
Germany \*\*  
Greece \*\*  
Italy \*  
Netherlands \*  
New Zealand \*  
Switzerland \*\*  
Turkey \*  
United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland \*  
United States of America \*\*

## EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP

Czech Republic \*\*

Poland \*

Republic of Moldova \*

Romania \*\*

Russian Federation \*\*

Slovakia \*

\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2003.

\*\* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2005.

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