



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

15 November 2005

NOTIFICATION BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 7–9 February 2006)

1. The ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will be held at the Dubai International Conference and Exhibition Centre, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 7 to 9 February 2006. The session of the Council/Forum will open at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 7 February 2006. The session of the Council/Forum is being convened in pursuance of decision 23/12 (Provisional agendas, dates and venues 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), 23/12 I (Ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum), adopted by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-third session on 25 February 2005.
2. The provisional agenda (UNEP/GCSS.IX/1), as adopted by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-third session, is being circulated with the present notification. The annotated provisional agenda (UNEP/GCSS.IX/1/Add.1), containing the Executive Director's suggestions concerning the organization of work of the Council/Forum and a proposed provisional timetable of meetings, and also the working and information documents for the Council/Forum, will be circulated six weeks in advance of the session.
3. The ministerial-level consultations during the session of the Council/Forum will focus on the following policy issues: first, energy and environment; second, chemicals management; and third, tourism and the environment, as agreed by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-third session in its decision 23/12 I.
4. The Council/Forum will also consider progress reports whose preparation was requested at the relevant previous sessions of the Governing Council in the following decisions: decision 23/1 (Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance); decision 23/1 I (Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building), paragraph 6; decision 23/1 II (Strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme), paragraph 9; decision 23/1 III (Universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum), paragraph 11; decision 23/1 IV (Strengthening the financing of the United Nations Environment Programme), paragraph 20; decision 23/2 (Updated water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme), paragraphs 7 and 8; 23/3 (Budget and the programme of work for the biennium 2006–2007), paragraph 12; decision 23/7 (Strengthening environmental emergency response and developing disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and early-warning systems in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster), paragraph 12; decision 23/9 (Chemicals management); decision 23/9 II (Strategic approach to international chemicals management), paragraph 12; decision 23/12 I and decision 22/18 (Civil society); decision 22/18 II (Long-term strategy on engagement and involvement of young people in environmental issues), paragraph 5; as well as the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, paragraphs 29 and 31.
5. It is recommended that the Council/Forum should conduct its work in plenary meetings and hold its discussions primarily through the ministerial consultations. The Council/Forum, if it so chooses, may establish sessional committees, including a Committee of the Whole, to address programmatic, administrative and budgetary matters.
6. The attention of Governments is drawn to associated meetings which will be held prior to the present session of the Council/Forum. These meetings are the International Conference on Chemicals Management and the seventh Global Civil Society Forum, which will be held from Saturday, 4 February to Monday, 6 February,

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and on Sunday and Monday, 5 and 6 February, respectively. The outcomes of these associated meetings are of relevance to the Council/Forum.

7. The attention of Governments is also drawn to informal consultations between regional groups preceding the session of the Council/Forum that will take place on Monday, 6 February, at 3 p.m. In addition, there will be a ceremonial opening of the session of the Council/Forum, to be conducted in conjunction with the third Zayed Prize award ceremony, and also the opening of the exhibition on environmentally sound technologies, on Monday, 6 February, at 7.30 p.m. Delegates are encouraged to attend these events, to be held on the eve of the session of the Council/Forum.

8. Following the election by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, on 3 November 2005, of the 29 members of the Governing Council, a list of the States which are members of the Governing Council in 2006 is provided in annex I to the present notification, while the geographical composition of the Bureau of the UNEP Governing Council is given in annex II. 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. Since the Council/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.

9. States which are members of the Governing Council are accordingly requested to submit to the Executive Director, by 13 December 2005, the names of their representatives, alternate representatives and advisers who will participate in the ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum. Eligible States not members of the Governing Council wishing to participate in the work of the session under rule 67 of the rules of procedure are also requested to communicate the names of their representatives to the Executive Director by the same day.

10. The documents for the session of the Council/Forum will become available on the UNEP internet website from 20 December 2005, and may be accessed by selecting "ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum" at the following address: <http://www.unep.org/GC/GCSS-IX>.

11. Registration of participants will take place from noon on Friday, 3 February, and will continue every day between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. until noon on Thursday, 9 February 2006. Information for participants regarding hotel accommodation, medical requirements, visa regulations, etc. will be provided, together with registration forms, no later than six weeks before the Council/Forum. This information will also be provided on the UNEP internet website.

12. All communications concerning the ninth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum should be addressed to:

Secretary for the Governing Council
Secretariat for Governing Bodies
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The above telephone/fax numbers will be changed to the following numbers at the beginning of 2006

Telephone: (254-20) 7623411/7623431
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Annex I

Members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for the period 2006–2009

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

Algeria **	Indonesia **
Angola **	Iran (Islamic Republic of) *
Antigua and Barbuda **	Israel *
Argentina **	Japan **
Australia **	Kazakhstan *
Austria **	Kenya **
Bahamas *	Kyrgyzstan *
Bangladesh *	Mexico *
Belgium **	Monaco *
Botswana **	Morocco *
Brazil *	Netherlands *
Bulgaria *	Pakistan **
Burkina Faso *	Poland *
Burundi **	Republic of Korea **
Cameroon *	Romania **
Canada **	Russian Federation **
Cape Verde *	Saudi Arabia *
Chile **	Senegal *
China **	Somalia *
Colombia *	South Africa **
Costa Rica *	Sweden *
Czech Republic **	Thailand **
Democratic Republic of the Congo **	Turkey *
France **	Tuvalu *
Germany **	Uganda **
Ghana *	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland *
Haiti **	United Republic of Tanzania *
Hungary *	United States of America **
India *	Uruguay **

* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2007.

** Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2009.

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

African group

Algeria **
Angola **
Botswana **
Burkina Faso *
Burundi **
Cameroon *
Cape Verde *
Democratic Republic of the Congo **
Ghana *
Kenya **
Morocco *
Senegal *
Somalia *
South Africa **
United Republic of Tanzania *
Uganda **

Latin American group

Antigua and Barbuda **
Argentina **
Bahamas *
Brazil *
Chile **
Colombia *
Costa Rica *
Haiti **
Mexico *
Uruguay **

Asian group

Bangladesh *
China **
India *
Indonesia **
Iran (Islamic Republic of) *
Japan **
Kazakhstan *
Kyrgyzstan *
Pakistan **
Republic of Korea **
Saudi Arabia *
Thailand **
Tuvalu *

Western European and others group

Australia **
Austria **
Belgium **
Canada **
France **
Germany **
Israel *
Monaco *
Netherlands *
Sweden *
Turkey *
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland *
United States of America **

Eastern European group

Bulgaria *

Czech Republic **

Hungary *

Poland *

Romania **

Russian Federation **

* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2007.

** Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2009.

Annex II

Geographical composition of the Bureau of the UNEP Governing Council, 1981–2005

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Regional group															
African group	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP
Asian group	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres
Eastern European group	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP	VP	Pres	VP	Rapp	VP
Latin American and Caribbean group	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp	Pres	VP	VP	VP	Rapp
Western European and others group	Rapp	VP	Pres	VP	VP	Rapp	VP	Pres	VP	VP	Rapp	VP	Pres	VP	VP

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