

Voluntary Commitments for a pollution-free planet

Guidance Note

BACKGROUND

The UN Environment Assembly, the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment, will gather in Nairobi, Kenya, from 4-6 December 2017 under the overarching theme of pollution. On this occasion, UN Environment invites stakeholders to make voluntary commitments towards a pollution-free planet. These commitments are initiatives undertaken voluntarily by Governments, intergovernmental organisations, international financial institutions, multilateral agreements, businesses, private sector entities and associations, civil society organisations, academia and research institutions, foundations, philanthropic entities and other stakeholders to tackle pollution in all its forms.

Commitments help build momentum and mobilise concerned stakeholders to take an active part in transformative change towards a pollution-free planet. Commitments may inform relevant UN Environment Assembly resolutions and support the Ministerial declaration.

Commitments can also be a way to better understand priorities and needs for the future in terms of shaping and focusing on strengthening programmes and defining action plans.

HOW?

The [Environment Assembly website](#) provides a platform for stakeholders to register their voluntary commitments. Voluntary commitments:

- Relate to any or all of the following pollution areas: air, water, land, coastal and marine, and cross-cutting chemicals and waste.
- Consist of concrete targets or actions to avoid, reduce, mitigate, measure, monitor, report, and/or manage pollution
- Include implementation period and timeframe
- Encourage wide participation by stakeholders
- Are new

Stakeholders may use the form to record their commitment. This form is available in all UN languages.

Stakeholders may also download the word version and complete this offline. Should you opt to do so, please send your completed form to voluntarycommitments@unep.org.

ANALYSIS

UN Environment endeavors to make the analysis of actionable commitments by 30 September and 30 November 2017. These will be shared at the UN Environment Assembly. The analysis will be done according to the following six criteria:

- (1) links to Sustainable Development Goals and target(s) and international agreements,

- (2) types of policy measures,
- (3) geographical scope,
- (4) type of actions/enablers,
- (5) stakeholder interventions and participation,
- (6) resources required and mobilized.

The analysis will include commitments made under other international processes and conferences on areas of pollution such as those made under the Oceans Conference on marine litter, micro plastics, etc.

Voluntary commitments may also be directly announced during the UN Environment Assembly.

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