



### AFRICA ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK

Our Environment, Our Health

SUMMARY FOR POLICY MAKERS





A complete elaboration of the topics covered in this summary can be found in the Africa Environment Outlook 3 and report and in the fully referenced underlying research, analyses and reports.

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Author: Joseph Opio-Odongo (Sustainable Development Services)

With inputs from: Frank Turyatunga (UNEP), Charles Sebukeera, (UNEP), David Ombisi (UNEP), Mohamed Abdel-Monem (UNEP), Eugene Apindi Ochieng, Clever Mafuta (GRID-Arendal), Washington Ochola (RUFORUM), Alessandra Sgobbi (UNECA), and Monday S. Businge (University of Nairobi).

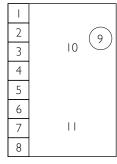
With strategic advice from Mounkaila Goumandakoye (UNEP), Peter Gilruth (UNEP), Monika MacDevette (UNEP), Desta Mebratu (UNEP).

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# AFRICA ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK 3

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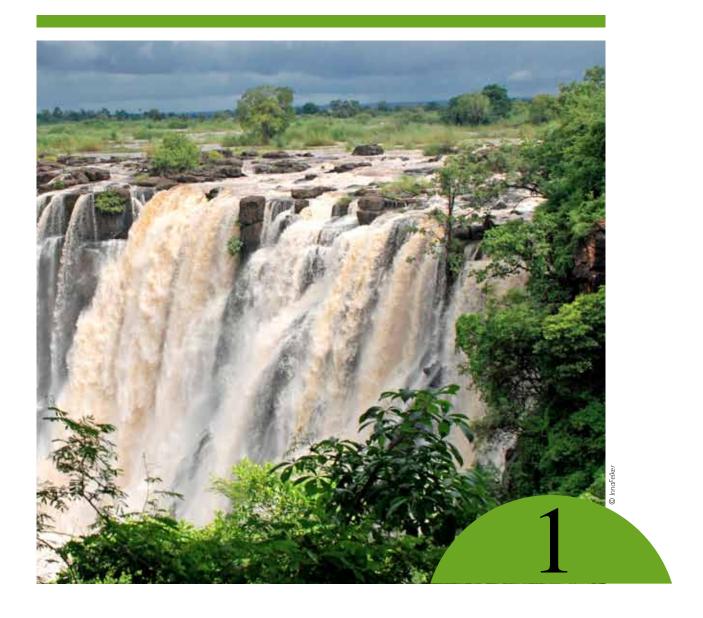


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### **Acronyms**

ALKIS	Acute Lower Respiratory Infections				
AEO	Africa Environment Outlook				
AMCEN	African Ministerial Conference on the Environment				
ARIs	Acute Respiratory Infections				
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry				
CBNRM	Community-Based Natural Resources Management				
CCs	Collaborating Centres				
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism				
CFSPH	Centre for Food Security and Public Health				
COPD	Chronic Obstruction Pulmonary Disease				
CWS	Conventional World Scenario				
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane				
DEWA	Division of Early Warning and Assessment (UNEP)				
<b>EWEs</b>	Extreme Weather Events				
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Fund				
GEO-5	Global Environment Outlook 5				
GMOs	Genetically Modified Organisms				
ICT	Information and Communication Technology				
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management				
IEC	Information, Education and Communication				
IICAB	Institute for International Cooperation in Animal Biologics				
IPCC	Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change				
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety				
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing				
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas				
MDG	Millennium Development Goal				
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements				
MEO	Mauritius Environment Outlook				
MICAO	Ministry for the Coordination of Environmental Affairs (Mozambique)				
MMAs	Marine Management Areas				
MPAs	Marine Protected Areas				
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action on Climate Change				
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls				
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services				
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants				
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Forest Conservation				
	Sustainable Management of Forests and Carbon Stock Enhancement				
ROA	Regional Office for Africa (UNEP)				
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management				
SIDS	Small Island Developing States				
SPM	Summary for Policy Makers				
SWS	Sustainable World Scenario				
TBNRM	Transboundary Natural Resources Management				
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme				
WIOMER	Western Indian Ocean Marine Eco-region				



## Purpose, assessment process and key messages

### **Purpose**

The Africa Environment Outlook (AEO) is a tool of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) for monitoring environmental management in Africa. It provides a framework for reporting at the national and subregional levels and seeks to enable AMCEN member countries to institute environmental management policies and programmes for the sustainable future of the continent. The AMCEN Secretariat partners with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), through its Regional Office for Africa (ROA) and the Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA), in producing periodic series of the report.

The current issue (AEO-3) focuses on the linkages between environment and health, largely because of the recognition that environmental factors contribute about 28 per cent of Africa's disease burden. This disease burden is dominated by diarrhoea, respiratory infections and malaria which collectively account for 60 per cent of the known environmental health impacts in Africa. Accordingly, the Ministers of Environment and of Health at their 2008 joint meeting in Libreville, Gabon selected the linkages as the principal focus of joint actions. This focus was reemphasized at their 2010 joint meeting in Luanda, Angola and selected by the technical committee as the theme for AEO-3. It is envisaged that this Summary for Policy Makers (SPM) as well as the AEO-3 main report will provide information for evidence-based decision making and spur AMCEN

member countries into strengthening their capacity for policy making and advocacy at the national, regional and global levels.

Two earlier reports have been produced under the AEO series and the issues discussed are summarized in Box I.

### Assessment process

Consistent with the AEO tradition, consultations were made with collaborating centres (CCs) that worked closely with stakeholders in the six subregions of Africa (Figure 1) to ensure that relevant priorities and concerns were captured during the AEO-3 assessment and reporting processes. Besides providing relevant data, information and resource

Figure I: Africa sub-regions



Box I:Themes of past AEO reports

AEO-I was launched in Kampala on 4th July 2002 under the theme Past, present and future

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