

Decisions adopted by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its first universal session

Advance copy

Decision No.	Title
27/1	New rules of procedure of the Governing Council
27/2	Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
27/3	International water quality guidelines for ecosystems
27/4	Intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services
27/5	Coordination across the United Nations system including the Environment Management Group
27/6	Oceans
27/7	Work by the United Nations Environment Programme on sustainable consumption and production
27/8	Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
27/9	Advancing justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability
27/10	Climate technology centre and network
27/11	State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to meeting substantive environmental challenges
27/12	Chemicals and waste management
27/13	Proposed medium-term strategy for 2014-2017 biennial programme of work and budget for 2014-2015
27/14	Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions
27/15	Provisional agenda, date and venue of the next session of the governing body of the United Nations Environment Programme

Decision 27/1: New rules of procedure of the Governing Council

The Governing Council,

Adopts its rules of procedure set out below.

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

I. SESSIONS

Regular sessions

Rule 1

The Governing Council shall normally hold one regular session every two years.

Date of opening of regular sessions

Rule 2

Each regular session of the Governing Council shall be held, subject to the provisions of rule 3, at a date fixed by the Governing Council at its previous session in such a way as to enable the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to consider the report of the Governing Council in the same year.

Rule 3

Five members of the Governing Council or the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme may request an alteration of the date of a regular session. In either case, the Executive Director shall forthwith communicate the request to the other members of the Governing Council, together with appropriate observations, including financial implications, if any. If within twenty-one days of the inquiry a majority of the members of the Governing Council explicitly concurs in the request, the Executive Director shall convene the Governing Council accordingly.

Place of regular sessions

Rule 4

Regular sessions shall be held at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme, unless otherwise decided by the Governing Council at a previous session.

Special sessions

Rule 5

1. Special sessions shall be held pursuant to a decision taken by the Governing Council at a regular session, or at the request of:

- (a) A majority of the members of the Governing Council;

- (b) The General Assembly;
 - (c) The Economic and Social Council.
2. Special sessions may also be requested by:
- (a) Five states Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, whether or not they are members of the Governing Council;
 - (b) The President of the Governing Council with the concurrence of the other members of the Bureau of the Governing Council and in consultation with the Executive Director.

In such cases, the Executive Director shall immediately inform all members of the Governing Council of the request, as well as of the approximate costs and relevant administrative considerations, and shall inquire whether they concur in it. If within twenty-one days of the inquiry a majority of the members of the Governing Council explicitly concurs in the request, the Executive Director shall convene a special session of the Governing Council.

Date of opening of special sessions

Rule 6

Special sessions of the Governing Council shall normally be convened within forty-two days of the receipt by the Executive Director of a request for such a session, at a date and place fixed by the President of the Governing Council in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, taking into account such observations as may have been made in the request for a special session.

Notification of date of opening

Rule 7

The Executive Director shall communicate the date of the first meeting of each session to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Chairpersons of subsidiary organs of the Governing Council, as appropriate, the President of the General Assembly when the Assembly is in session, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the appropriate United Nations bodies, the inter-governmental organizations referred to in the rule 68 below and the international non-governmental organizations referred to in rule 69 below. Such notification shall be sent:

- (a) In the case of a regular session, at least forty-two days in advance;
- (b) In the case of a special session, at least fourteen days in advance of the date fixed in accordance with rule 6 above.

Adjournment of session

Rule 8

The Governing Council may decide at any session to adjourn temporarily and resume its meetings at a later date.

II. AGENDA

Drawing up of the provisional agenda for a regular session

Rule 9

1. The Executive Director shall submit to the Governing Council at each regular session the provisional agenda for the following regular session. The provisional agenda shall include all items proposed by:

- (a) The Governing Council;

- (b) A State Member of the United Nations or member of a specialized agency or of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
- (c) The General Assembly;
- (d) The Economic and Social Council;
- (e) The Executive Director.

2. Items proposed under (b) above shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents which shall be submitted to the Executive Director at least forty-nine days prior to the opening of the session.

3. In drawing up the provisional agenda, the Executive Director shall take account of suggestions made by the Environment co-ordination Board a specialized agency, the International Atomic Energy Agency, an appropriate United Nations body, or an intergovernmental organization referred to in rule 68 below. The Executive Director shall also consider suggestions from the international non-governmental organizations referred to in rule 69 below.

Communication of the provisional agenda

Rule 10

After the Governing Council has considered the provisional agenda for the following session, the provisional agenda, incorporating any amendments made by the Governing Council, shall be communicated by the Executive Director to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Chairpersons of subsidiary organs of the Governing Council as appropriate, the President of the General Assembly when the Assembly is in session, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the appropriate United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the intergovernmental organizations referred to in rule 68 below and the international non-governmental organizations referred to in rule 69 below.

Supplementary items

Rule 11

The inclusion of supplementary items in the provisional agenda considered by the Governing Council may be proposed by any authority entitled to propose items under paragraph 1 of rule 9. The request for inclusion of a supplementary item shall be supported by a statement from the authority proposing it, except in the case of the General Assembly, regarding the urgency of the consideration of the item. The Executive Director shall communicate to the Governing Council any requests for the inclusion of supplementary items received before the commencement of the regular session, together with such observations as he may wish to make.

Adoption of the agenda

Rule 12

1. At the beginning of each regular session, subject to the provisions of rule 15 and after the election of officers when required under rule 18, the Governing Council shall adopt its agenda for the session on the basis of the provisional agenda and any supplementary items proposed in accordance with rule 11.

2. A State Member of the United Nations or member of a specialized agency or the International Atomic Energy Agency which has requested the inclusion of an item in the agenda under rule 9 or 11 above shall be entitled to be heard by the Governing Council on the inclusion of the item in the agenda for the session.

3. The Governing Council shall normally include in its agenda for the session only items for which adequate documentation has been circulated to members at least forty-two days before the beginning of the regular session of the Governing Council.

Allocation of items

Rule 13

The Governing Council may allocate items among the plenary meetings of the Governing Council and sessional committees and working parties, if any, set up in accordance with rule 60, and may refer items without preliminary debate in the Governing Council to:

- (a) One or more of its subsidiary organs, if any, set up in accordance with rule 62, for examination and report at a subsequent session of the Governing Council;
- (b) The Executive Director, for study and report at a subsequent session of the Governing Council; or
- (c) The proposer of the item, for further information or documentation.

Provisional agenda for a special session

Rule 14

The provisional agenda for a special session shall consist only of those items proposed for consideration in the request for the holding of the session. It shall be transmitted to the authorities mentioned in rule 10 at the same time as the notice convening the Governing Council.

Revision of the agenda

Rule 15

During a regular session, the Governing Council may revise the agenda for the session by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only items which the Governing Council considers to be urgent and important shall be added to its agenda during the session.

III. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 16

Each member of the Governing Council shall be represented by an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Rule 17

1. The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Executive Director before the first meeting which the representatives are to attend.
2. The Bureau of the Governing Council shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Governing Council. This rule shall not, however, prevent a member from changing its representative, alternate representatives, or advisers subsequently, subject to proper submission and examination of credentials, where needed.

IV. OFFICERSElections

Rule 18

1. At the commencement of the first meeting of its regular session, the Governing Council shall elect a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur from among its members. These officers shall constitute the Bureau of the Governing Council. The Bureau shall assist the President in the general conduct of business of the Governing Council. The Chairpersons of such sessional committees or working parties as may be established under rule 60 below shall be invited to participate in meetings of the Bureau.

2 In electing its officers, the Governing Council shall have due regard to the principle of equitable geographical representation.

3. The Offices of President and Rapporteur of the Governing Council shall normally be subject to rotation among the five groups of states referred to in section 1, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII).

Terms of office

Rule 19

The President, the Vice Presidents and the Rapporteur shall hold office until their successors are elected. Subject to the provisions of rule 18, they shall be eligible for re-election. None of them may hold office after the expiration of the term of office of the member of which he is a representative.

Acting President

Rule 20

If the President cannot preside at a meeting or any part thereof, the President shall appoint a Vice-President to take his place.

Replacement of the President

Rule 21

If the President ceases to be a representative of a member of the Governing Council or is unable to perform President's functions, or if the State of which he is a representative ceases to be a member of the Governing Council, the Bureau shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents as Acting President.

Powers of the Acting President

Rule 22

A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.

Voting rights of the President

Rule 23

In the case of a member of the Governing Council, which is for the time being represented by the President, an alternate representative shall, at the discretion of the President, be permitted to participate in the proceedings and to vote in the Governing Council. In such a case the President shall not exercise the right to vote.

V. SECRETARIAT

Duties of the Executive Director

Rule 24

The Executive Director shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Governing Council and of its subsidiary organs, if any. The Executive Director may designate any officer of the secretariat to act as the representative of the Executive Director.

Rule 25

The Executive Director shall direct the staff required by the Governing Council and any subsidiary organs which may be established by it.

Rule 26

The Executive Director shall be responsible for performing those functions in relation to the Governing Council which the Executive Director is required to undertake by General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII).

Rule 27

The Executive Director, or the Executive Director's representative, may, subject to rule 32, make oral as well as written statements to the Governing Council and its subsidiary organs, if any, concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 28

The Executive Director shall be responsible for all the necessary arrangements for meetings of the Governing Council and of its subsidiary organs, including the preparation and distribution of documents at least forty-two days in advance of the sessions of the Governing Council and its subsidiary organs, if any.

Duties of the Secretariat

Rule 29

The secretariat shall interpret speeches made at meetings; shall receive, translate and circulate the documents of the Governing Council and its subsidiary organs; shall publish and circulate the resolutions, reports and relevant documentation of the Governing Council. It shall have the custody of the documents in the archives of the Governing Council and generally perform all other work which the Governing Council may require.

Estimates of expenditures

Rule 30

1. Before any proposal which involves expenditure from United Nations funds, including the resources of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme established by General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), is approved by the Governing Council or by any of its subsidiary organs, the Executive Director shall circulate to all members of the Governing Council or of the subsidiary organ concerned, as early as possible, a report from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in terms of Financial Regulations 2.10 and 2.11, on the estimated costs involved as well as on administrative and budgetary implications with reference to existing authorizations and appropriations in accordance with the provisions of section II, paragraph 3, and section III of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII).
2. The Governing Council shall take into account the estimates referred to in paragraph 1 before adopting any proposal involving expenditure from United Nations funds including the resources of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme. If the proposal is adopted, the Governing Council shall indicate, whenever appropriate, the priority or degree of urgency which it attaches to the projects and, as the case may be, which current projects may be deferred, modified, or eliminated to ensure that the work of the United Nations Environment Programme will be carried on most effectively.
3. The Executive Director shall submit to the Governing Council in each odd-numbered year, for the following biennium, the estimates of expenditure of the United Nations Environment Programme borne by the regular budget of the United Nations. He shall also submit to the Governing Council estimates of expenditures borne by the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, in

accordance with the General Procedures formulated by the Governing Council under section III, paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), and the Financial Rules of the said Fund.

VI. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Quorum

Rule 31

The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one-third of the members of the Governing Council are present. The presence of a majority of the members of the Governing Council shall be required for any decision to be taken.

Powers of the President

Rule 32

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon the President elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Governing Council, shall direct the discussion, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have control of the proceedings of the Governing Council and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. The President may propose to the Governing Council the limitation of time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of times each representative may speak on any question, the closure of the list of speakers or the closure of the debate. The President may also propose the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting or of the debate on the question under discussion.

Rule 33

The President, in the exercise of his functions, remains under the authority of the Governing Council.

Speeches

Rule 34

No person may address the Governing Council without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Subject to rules 35 and 36, the president shall call upon speakers in the order of which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if remarks of the speaker are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Precedence

Rule 35

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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