



Major Groups and Stakeholders' Forum on the Environment

Background

The Third Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of the Asia Pacific will take place from 24th to 25th of January 2019 in Singapore, with a one-day Major Group and Stakeholders' Forum on 23rd January 2019. The meeting is jointly organized by Singapore's Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) Asia and the Pacific Office. The meeting also serves as a platform for Member States and Major Groups and Stakeholders to contribute regional perspectives to the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) that will be held in March 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. It will carry the theme: "Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production." The proposed focus areas are:

- (a) Environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss;
- (b) Life-cycle approaches to resource efficiency, energy, chemicals and waste management;
- (c) Innovative sustainable business development at a time of rapid technological change.

The Major Group and Stakeholders' Forum is intended to provide a platform for major groups and stakeholders and social movements to organize their positions and strategic inputs, and ensure that voices of marginalized sectors and grassroots are included in the Third Forum of Ministers. The outcome of the Major Group and Stakeholders' Forum will present a collective Major Group and Stakeholders' input to the Forum of Ministers and a regional Major Group and Stakeholders' input to UNEA-4 in 2019.

The Major Group and Stakeholders' Forum will aim to:

1. Enable major groups and stakeholders and grassroots representatives to prepare their collective views and positions on the issues at UNEA-4 and on the agenda of the 3rd Forum of Ministers and to ensure equitable opportunities to present those during the official sessions;
2. Ensure that the voice and views of major groups and stakeholders and grassroots movement in the region on the various issues in the UNEA-4 theme will be adequately and fairly presented and reflected in the Asia-Pacific regional inputs to UNEA-4;
3. Provide opportunities for major groups and stakeholders and grassroots representatives from across the region to understand and deliberate on the issues in innovative solutions to environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production relevant to the specific situation and experiences in Asia-Pacific.

The format of the one-day Major Group and Stakeholders' Forum will also enable active participation and productive deliberation among the participants. Plenary sessions will involve interactive processes while illuminating issues on the agenda, and offer contributions based on on-the-ground experiences and lessons from across Asia-Pacific. Workshops/group discussions will also be organized to allow opportunities for participants to focus on specific topics that will contribute to achieving the objectives of the Major Group and Stakeholders' Forum. A collective Statement from Major Group and Stakeholders

summarizing the key inputs and positions of the participants on the agenda of the Third Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of the Asia Pacific will be adopted as main outcome document.

To apply please fill in [this application form](#). The deadline for application is no later than 30 October 2018 00:00 hrs (+07:00 UTC).

Note: The geographical coverage of the UN Environment Asia-Pacific office includes 41 Member States: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kiribati, Korea (Democratic People's Republic of), Korea (the Republic of), Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Viet Nam.