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Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*

**Nomination and selection of the members of the  
Multidisciplinary Expert Panel**

## **Regional structure and composition of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel**

### **Note by the secretariat**

The annex to the present note has been prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme. It offers a basis for an exchange of views on the regional structure and composition of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, taking into consideration the discussions on that subject at the second session of the plenary meeting to determine the modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, held in Panama City from 16 to 21 April 2012. In addition, the information contained therein is available for further online review until 28 February 2013. It has been reproduced as received, without formal editing.

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\* IPBES/1/1.



## Annex

# Regional structure and composition of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel

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## I. Introduction

1. The second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held in Panama City from 16 to 21 April 2012 established a Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) to carry out the scientific and technical functions listed in Appendix 1 to the Resolution establishing the Platform.<sup>1</sup>

2. In establishing the MEP, the Consenting Governments agreed an interim arrangement for the membership of the Panel *“until the final regional structure and expert composition of the Panel is determined by the Plenary”*. The interim membership allows for five participants from each of the five United Nations regions. In addition the chairs of the scientific advisory bodies of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) relating to biodiversity and ecosystem services and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will be observers. Discussion during the meeting

<sup>1</sup> Annex I to UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9 Report of the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services

in Panama City indicated that consideration might be given towards the future regional construct of the MEP being more biogeographically-oriented than the current UN regions, particularly in light of the possible role of MEP members in the delivery of the work plan, including its regional elements.

3. In adopting the report of the meeting which established IPBES, representatives also approved the intersessional work to prepare for the first session of the Platform's Plenary.<sup>2</sup> Specifically in Paragraph 6 of Annex 2 *"An intersessional process, with broad participation from the scientific and policy expert community and other knowledge holders from both developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, would undertake through online and workshop arrangements to deliberate further on how the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel would be structured"*.

4. This information document is intended to provide a basis for a further exchange of views followed by discussion at the first session of the platform's plenary as to a way forward for the composition of the MEP.

## II. Issues for consideration in determining the final regional structure for the MEP

5. MEP regional representation has only been substantively discussed during the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for IPBES held in Panama City, 16-21 April 2012, and no agreement was reached other than the interim arrangement referred to above. However, many delegates highlighted during the discussions that approaches that more closely aligned with the distribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services (i.e. a more biogeographical approach) might be useful for the future regional structure of the MEP.

6. It is anticipated from previous discussions that the IPBES work programme will include regional, and in some cases sub-regional activities, and that MEP members from the relevant regions or sub-regions might be substantially involved in overseeing the scoping and implementation of assessments relevant to their regions and sub-regions, as well as overseeing related capacity building, knowledge generation and policy support activities. Consideration might therefore be given to how the MEP regional structure might align with the most likely regions and sub-regions for assessments and other regional activities.

7. The distribution of biodiversity, whether of genes, species or ecosystems does not respect political boundaries, and, for example, high proportions of species in continental regions span many countries and even regions in the case of migratory species. Similarly the geographic scope of ecosystem functions and the services they provide may cross political boundaries, with, for example, forests in one country being a significant factor in ensuring healthy water supply and wetlands in a neighbouring country and functioning in regional climate regulation.

8. However, at the same time there is no agreed 'geography' of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as the classifications and systems that have been defined and used by a wide range of scientists and other experts, and in various policy processes, are based on different interpretations and serve different purposes. Section 4.2 of the Current State and Trends volume of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment provides a useful introduction to the issues and provides examples of a number of the ecosystem classifications still in use.<sup>3</sup> In addition the Ramsar Convention has provided guidance on the application of biogeographic regionalization schemes in designating Ramsar sites which also lists a number of key sources.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Annex II to UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9 Report of the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services

<sup>3</sup> See <http://www.maweb.org/en/Condition.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> See Annex to Ramsar Convention COP Resolution X.20

9. Most existing global assessments which are relevant to biodiversity and ecosystem services have used regions that are intended to be meaningful in the context of the assessment, although the actual regions they have used vary from one assessment to another depending on the nature of the assessment and the issue(s) being addressed. These regions are essentially used for one or more of the following purposes:<sup>5</sup>

- a) Regional presentation of information: For presentation of information region by region, or in regional volumes, whether as a synthesis or analysis, potentially also including data and information compiled from national submissions; or
- b) Aggregation by region: For production of a global synthesis based on aggregating findings from regional assessments, where the region is a fundamental building block in delivering the global assessment.

10. The authorising environment for an assessment can be a critical issue in achieving policy impacts,<sup>6</sup> with those mandated by governments or intergovernmental processes being potentially more likely to influence policy development and decision making. Therefore in designing and adopting any regional structure, account might be taken of regions or sub-regions where there is already an existing intergovernmental body and/or process that might provide additional mandates for assessments and take up their findings (a similar consideration might also be given to regions where existing institutional arrangements might also support the delivery of assessments). Examples include:

- a) Regions with authorising environments: Africa, with its African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and the African Union, has good authorising environments, and may therefore be better maintained as a whole rather than split within the MEP structure insofar as this is consistent with other considerations.
- b) Subregions with authorising environments: Subregions such as the European Union or the Association of South East Asian Nations have strong authorising environments, and it may well be appropriate to ensure that such subregions fall within a single region wherever possible and consistent with other considerations. However for some subregional authorising environments (such as the Arctic Council or some of the regional seas conventions) this may be more difficult.

11. In determining a regional structure there are two other sets of issues that may need to be considered, even if they are ultimately not addressed in the MEP regional structure itself but through other means.

12. Firstly there are likely to be two areas that are not adequately covered in any regional structure that is essentially designed to take account of national boundaries, even if that design takes some account of the distribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services. These are:

- a) Polar Regions: Because of the nature of the Antarctic region and its political circumstances, all experts on the region are necessarily based in another region, and the Arctic region encompasses the northern most sub-regions from Europe, North America and Asia. Unless explicit steps are taken, Polar Regions may have no effective representation on the MEP through the existing nomination and selection processes for MEP members. At the same time the Antarctic already has its own set of Governance and advisory arrangements in the Antarctic Treaty System, including the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research which provides independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty

<sup>5</sup> IPBES/1/INF/8 *Critical review of assessments*

<sup>6</sup> IPBES/1/INF/8 *Critical review of assessments*

System, and the Arctic Council might provide an analogous existing entity with which to engage on Arctic issues, including through the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna and other working groups.

- b) Marine regions and assessments: It is extremely challenging to devise a single regional classification that adequately covers both terrestrial and marine regions. As is clear from the Assessment of Assessments carried out in preparation for the marine Regular Process/World Ocean Assessment,<sup>7</sup> there is no commonly agreed regional division of the world's oceans, with several existing for different purposes. Meanwhile, the Busan outcome clearly states that the Platform should collaborate with existing initiatives,<sup>8</sup> and the first report from the Regular Process – the World Ocean Assessment – is likely to address aspects of marine biodiversity and ecosystem services.<sup>9</sup>

13. In relation to these areas, and analogous to the agreement for the Chair of the IPCC and MEA scientific subsidiary bodies to have observer status to the MEP, consideration might be given to the option of including additional MEP observers, for example of appropriately qualified individual to ensure links to the Antarctic Treaty System and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, and to the relevant work of the Arctic Council, and to ensure appropriate links to the marine Regular Process and World Ocean Assessment.

14. Secondly, however regions are defined there will inevitably be countries which have a substantive interest in IPBES-related activities within another region, and this may also need to be accounted for in some manner. In particular with countries on regional boundaries or crossing biogeographic boundaries, and countries with states, territories and/or dependencies lying in other regions.

15. A final consideration will be on how updated regions might be represented on the MEP, for example through either equal representation from each region (analogous to the current arrangement with 5 members from each UN region), or through adjusted representation, for example dependent on the number of countries lying within each region (see section VI for further discussion on this issue).

### III. Regional approaches used in global assessment processes

16. Most existing global assessments relevant to biodiversity and ecosystem services either include regional syntheses or analyses (often based on compiled national inputs), or produce a global synthesis based on aggregating findings from regional assessments.<sup>10</sup>

17. Within the assessments managed by FAO, for example, which include the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and the Global Forest Resources Assessment, regional groupings are used in presenting the assessment outcomes, although the regions and sub-regions used differ, and the assignments of countries to regions vary from one to another. In the case of the genetic resource assessments in particular, the assignment of countries to regions is intended to reflect the factors that influence biodiversity. The regions and subregions, and allocation of countries to them for these three assessments can be found in Annexes 1-3.

<sup>7</sup> See [www.unga-regular-process.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=20](http://www.unga-regular-process.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=20)

<sup>8</sup> Paragraph 7(a) of the Annex to UNEP/IPBES/3/3 *Report of the third ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services*

<sup>9</sup> See [www.un.org/Depts/los/global\\_reporting/global\\_reporting.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/global_reporting/global_reporting.htm)

<sup>10</sup> IPBES/1/INF/8 *Critical review of assessments*

18. The International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) was planned in such a manner that the global assessment drew on the findings from five regional assessments, although they were carried out simultaneously. Each of these regions also had subregions within them although these were used as part of the presentation of data and findings rather than as part of the formal structure and process. The IAASTD used five regions divided into 21 subregions, but in this case is likely to be less directly appropriate for biodiversity and ecosystem services at the regional level because it combines Europe and North America into one region. The regions and subregions, and allocation of countries to them can be found in Annex 4.

19. The Global International Waters Assessment (GIWA) is similarly based on subregional reports, although in this case the assessment process is sequential, with the global picture emerging from bringing together the completed subregional assessment reports. In this case there are a total of 66 subregions spread over nine regions, but as these are based on shared seas and coastal areas (and some countries are in several subregions) they are less likely to be appropriate for use in defining the MEP regions.

20. With the exception of the presentation of data on protected area coverage, the Global Biodiversity Outlook does not use regions, and while the design of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) allowed for contributions to the global assessment from sub-global assessments, these were essentially samples rather than systematic. The main use made of regions and subregions in the MA was in presentation of information, and there was no one set of regions and subregions used throughout.

21. The Global Environmental Outlook is different in that it primarily uses the six UNEP regions (see next section) when considering policy options from the regions, as this was requested by the UNEP Governing Council. However on presenting data within the report other regional or subregional arrangements are used, depending on the data sources. The regions and subregions, and allocation of countries to them can be found in Annex 5.

22. Even with this small sample of global assessments there is a wide variation in the regions used. It would also appear that while for some assessments there was substantive discussion of which regions to use and how to allocate countries to them, formal decisions were not generally taken. However, all the regions and subregions used in these assessments are coherent, each comprising countries and other geopolitical entities that are contiguous.

#### **IV. Regional approaches used in other intergovernmental and international processes**

##### ***United Nations entities (other than MEAs)***

23. There is no one single set of agreed regions used by the United Nations, and different UN bodies use different regional groupings for different purposes. In some cases these are quite different. The regions and the allocation of countries to regions appear to have largely evolved through common practice rather than be the result of a negotiated agreement. The most useful summary can be found in the *United Nations Handbook 2012-2013* which is the 50<sup>th</sup> annual edition of a guide prepared by the Government of New Zealand for those working with and within the UN system.<sup>11</sup> Unless otherwise stated the following information on regions within the UN is taken from this source.

24. The UN General Assembly uses five regional groups: the African Group; the Asia-Pacific Group; the Eastern European Group; the Group of Latin American and Caribbean (GRULAC); and the

<sup>11</sup> See <http://www.mfat.govt.nz/UNHB2012>

Western European and Others Group (WEOG). However even within these groupings there are four 'anomalies'. The United States of America and Kiribati are not members of any regional group, although the USA attends meetings of WEOG as an observer and is considered to be a member of that group for voting purposes. Turkey participates in both the Asia-Pacific Group and WEOG, but for electoral purposes is considered a member of WEOG only. Israel is considered a member of WEOG on a temporary basis. The allocation of countries to these regions can be found in Annex 6.

25. Membership of the governing bodies of UNEP and UNDP is based on these UN General Assembly regions, as is membership of the UN Economic and Social Council through which UNEP and UNDP report to the UN General Assembly. FAO and UNESCO are specialized agencies of the UN, and their governing bodies use different regional groupings, which are also different from each other. For both FAO and UNESCO the country groupings within regions are contiguous, something that is not the case for the UN regions used by UNGA, UNEP and UNDP. The allocation of countries to regions used by FAO and UNESCO can be found in Annexes 7 and 8 respectively.

26. In summary (see table below) the four UN entities most closely involved with IPBES use three different regional groupings, with some substantial differences between them. Only one region is the same for all four UN bodies (GRULAC), as even where the same region name is used for Africa, in the case of UNESCO this does not include the Arab states. However in reality many of the regions are a splitting of other regions, and the only really substantial differences are the location of Australia and New Zealand, and Canada and the USA within the groupings, and the Arab States grouping used by UNESCO which includes states from both African and Asian regions used by other UN bodies.

	UNEP	UNDP	UNESCO	FAO
Africa	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arab States			✓	
Asia-Pacific	✓	✓	✓	
Asia				✓
Near East				✓
Southwest Pacific				✓
Eastern Europe	✓	✓	✓	
Western Europe and others	✓	✓		
Western Europe and North America			✓	
Europe				✓
North America				✓
Latin America and Caribbean	✓	✓	✓	✓

27. With respect to these regions, it is worth noting that the assessments discussed in the previous section that have come under UNEP and FAO have not necessarily followed the same regional groupings when collecting and presenting data and information, suggesting a recognition

that the regions used for governance purposes may not necessarily be the most appropriate for programmatic purposes.

28. The Statistics Division within the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs recommends standard geographical regions for statistical use, and identifies which countries and other geographical entities fall within which region (largely based on continents). These are published by the United Nations as *Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use, Revision 4* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 98.XVII.9). The regions used by the Statistics Division are Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania, each subdivided into up to five subdivisions. The allocation of countries to these regions and subregions can be found in Annex 9.

### **Multilateral Environmental Agreements**

29. The three Rio Conventions (CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC) all use the five UN regions when ensuring regional balance in their activities, although the UNFCCC also includes specific representation for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture uses the regions of its parent organization, FAO, and the World Heritage Convention the UNESCO regions (although for reporting purposes the Western Europe and North America is combined with the group of Eastern European countries).

30. The six regions used by the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in determining regional representation comprise: Africa; Asia; Central and South American and the Caribbean; Europe; North America; and Oceania. There is no formal definition of regions by CITES, therefore a Party may sometimes choose between two possible regions and Israel, for example, has chosen to be included in Europe rather than Asia. The allocation of countries to these regions can be found in Annex 10.

31. The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands has defined six regions<sup>12</sup> comprising: Africa, Asia, Europe, Neotropics, North America (which includes Mexico) and Oceania (which includes Australia and New Zealand). Contracting Parties and those countries that are eligible to join the Convention are assigned to these regional groups, but those Contracting Parties which are geographically near to the boundaries of the allocated region can, at their own request, and based on the existence of similar natural conditions, participate within a neighbouring alternative region, while remaining a member of their geographical region, upon formal notification of this intent to the COP. The allocation of countries to the Ramsar regions can be found in Annex 11.

32. The regions used by the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)<sup>13</sup> comprise: Africa; Asia; Europe; North America; Oceania; and South and Central America and the Caribbean. The allocation of countries to these regions can be found in Annex 12. Membership of the Standing Committee is set out below, and as with the Ramsar Convention each region can also appoint the same number of alternate members who can participate when the appointed members are unable to. Although there is no formal requirement for them to do so, European Parties have always chosen one country from Western Europe and one from Eastern Europe, while the African Parties have similarly always chosen one representative from an English speaking country and another from a French speaking country.

33. In summary (see table below), the three Rio Conventions use UN regions and the World Heritage Convention and the International Treaty use the regions of UNESCO and FAO respectively. CITES, CMS and Ramsar have each defined regions, and the only difference between them being the name of one of the regions, the location of Indonesia and the Philippines (which fall within the

<sup>12</sup> Ramsar Convention resolutions VII.1(1999) and IX.19(2012)

<sup>13</sup> CMS resolution 9.15 and UNEP/CMS/Conf.9.35/Rev.2

Oceania region for CMS, and the Asia region for the CITES and the Ramsar Convention), and the location of Timor-Leste (which falls within Asia for CITES, and Ocean for CMS and Ramsar).

	CBD	WHC	ITPGRFA	CITES	Ramsar	CMS
Africa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arab states		✓				
Asia-Pacific	✓	✓				
Asia			✓	✓	✓	✓
Near East			✓			
Southwest Pacific/Oceania			✓	✓	✓	✓
Eastern Europe	✓	✓				
Western Europe and others	✓					
Western Europe and North America		✓				
Europe			✓	✓	✓	✓
North America			✓	✓	✓	✓
Latin America and Caribbean	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

### ***Other international approaches***

34. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) defines regions in its Statutes<sup>14</sup> for ensuring regional balance in its work and appointments, and for ensuring regional balance in its Council. The latest modifications to the regions were made at the 2012 World Conservation Congress.<sup>15</sup> Seven regions are defined, although one of these regions (Europe with North and Central Asia) is subdivided into two distinct statutory regions for voting purposes. The allocation of countries to these regions can be found in Annex 13.

### ***Individual regional approaches***

35. A number of regions and subregions have mandates and active programmes that are relevant to monitoring and assessment processes, including those compiling and using biodiversity and ecosystem services data and information. Some examples are given here that might be pertinent to helping to identify potential boundaries between IPBES MEP regions.

36. The European Environment Agency<sup>16</sup> established by the European Union includes amongst its members not only the 27 European Union Member States, but also Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. In addition the West Balkan countries Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia. Most significant with respect to regional borders is the involvement of countries from both West and Eastern European UN regions, and the participation of Cyprus and Turkey.

<sup>14</sup> IUCN Statutes and Regulations available at [http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/statutes\\_en.pdf](http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/statutes_en.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> Congress Document WCC-2012-9.4.1/8 Rev 1 CG adopted by the Members' Assembly 14 September 2012

<sup>16</sup> See [www.eea.europa.eu](http://www.eea.europa.eu)

37. The ASEAN Biodiversity Centre<sup>17</sup> established by the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) works with all of the ASEAN Member States, which are: Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Indonesia; Lao PDR; Malaysia; Myanmar; Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; and Vietnam. Timor-Leste formally applied to be a member of ASEAN in 2011, but a decision on this is still pending, reportedly because of its development status. Most significant with respect to regional borders is the inclusion of Indonesia and Philippines, and the future potential inclusion of Timor-Leste, putting these with Asian countries rather than Oceania.

38. The Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)<sup>18</sup> is the primary intergovernmental environment organization working in the Pacific, with a mandate to promote cooperation in the Pacific region and provide assistance in order to protect and improve its environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations. SPREP Members include: Australia; Fiji; Kiribati; Marshall Islands; Micronesia (Federated States of); Nauru; New Zealand; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Tonga; Tuvalu; Vanuatu. However membership also includes France, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, all of which have territories in the Pacific. Most significant with respect to regional borders is the inclusion of Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea within the Pacific Region (although whether the newly released Government White Paper on *Australia in the Asian Century*<sup>19</sup> has any impact on the official view on this remains to be seen).

39. The Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (Central American Commission on Environment and Development, CCAD),<sup>20</sup> established by Presidential agreement in 1989, is responsible for the regional environmental agenda with the aim of contributing to sustainable development in Central America, strengthening cooperation and integration in environmental management. State Members are: Belize; Costa Rica; El Salvador; Guatemala; Honduras; Nicaragua and Panama. While Mexico is an observer to CCAD, has hosted CCAD meetings, and collaborates in a number of ways, it is not a State Member although all seven states to the immediate south are.

## V. Synthesis and possible MEP regions for consideration

40. Recognising the challenges of considering a more biogeographical framework for the composition of the MEP, a pragmatic approach has been taken here to identifying potential options, building on approaches that are already being employed within intergovernmental processes.

41. As is clear from the previous section, there are very close similarities between the regions applied by CITES, CMS and the Ramsar Convention. In the case of CITES, CMS and Ramsar their regions are already agreed by their COPs, and in the case of CMS and the Ramsar Convention there is also agreement by their COPs on which countries are in which regions.

42. When comparing this with the regions and subregions promoted by the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), there is again significant agreement, with the only significant difference being the recognition of North America by all three Conventions as a region rather than a sub-region (as it is by UNSD), and some country allocations to the regions.

43. Drawing from the regional groupings used by CITES, CMS and Ramsar, and the UN Statistics Division, a regional grouping is presented for consideration as IPBES MEP regions in Annex 14 showing allocation of countries to regions. In Annex 15 the differences between this and the four

<sup>17</sup> See [www.aseanbiodiversity.org](http://www.aseanbiodiversity.org)

<sup>18</sup> See [www.sprep.org](http://www.sprep.org)

<sup>19</sup> See <http://asiancentury.dpmc.gov.au>

<sup>20</sup> See [www.sica.int/ccad](http://www.sica.int/ccad)

other similar regional groupings (CITES, CMS, Ramsar and the UN Statistics Division) are illustrated to illustrate the degree of similarity. The regions presented for consideration are as follows:

Possible regional structure	Number of UN Member States	Current number of IPBES Members <sup>21</sup>
Africa	54	26 (48%)
Asia	42	19 (45%)
Australia and the Pacific	14	3 (21%)
South and Central America and the Caribbean	32	20 (63%)
Europe	48	24 (50%)
North America	3	3 (100%)

## VI. Representation of regions on the MEP

44. With respect to the representation of regions on the MEP, the Plenary may wish to consider whether the MEP should comprise the same number of MEP Members for each region, irrespective of the number of IPBES Members in the region; or whether the MEP should comprise varying numbers of MEP Members for each region, for example depending on the number of countries in the region.

45. Approaches in other processes vary, for example, the table below identifies the number of Member States within each region, and provides comparative information on the number of seats each region has on the UNEP Governing Council,<sup>22</sup> UNDP Executive Board,<sup>23</sup> and ECOSOC.<sup>24</sup> Membership varies quite significantly.

Region	Number of UNGA members	ECOSOC	UNEP Governing Council <sup>25</sup>	UNDP Executive Board
African Group	54 (28%)	14 (26%)	16 (28%)	8 (22%)
Asia-Pacific Group	53 (28%)	11 (20%)	13 (22%)	7 (19%)
Eastern European Group	23 (12%)	6 (11%)	6 (10%)	4 (11%)

<sup>21</sup> Correct at the time of writing, although see [www.ipbes.net/about-ipbes/members-of-the-platform](http://www.ipbes.net/about-ipbes/members-of-the-platform) for an updated list of members of the Platform

<sup>22</sup> The number of members and the regions that they should come from is specified in UNGA resolution 2997 (XXVII) (1972)

<sup>23</sup> The number of members and the regions that they should come from is specified in UNGA resolution 48/162 (1993)

<sup>24</sup> The number of members and the regions that they should come from is specified in UNGA resolution 2847 (XXVI) (1971)

<sup>25</sup> At the time of compiling this document, UNEP Governing Council has 58 Members. However discussions during the ongoing session of UN General Assembly are anticipated to result in the universal membership of UNEP Governing Council. Under such arrangements, it might be anticipated that the UNEP Governing Council membership would reflect that of UN General Assembly.

GRULAC	33 (17%)	10 (19%)	10 (17%)	5 (14%)
WEOG	28 (15%)	13 (24%)	13 (22%)	12 (33%)

46. FAO has 191 member nations, and the FAO Council comprises 12 seats for Africa, nine seats for Asia, 10 seats for Europe, 9 seats for Latin America and Caribbean, six seats for Near East, two seats for North America, and one seat for South-West Pacific. UNESCO has 195 Member States, and the UNESCO Executive Board comprises nine seats for Western Europe and North America, seven seats for Eastern European countries, 10 seats for GRULAC, 12 seats for Asian and Pacific countries, 13 seats for Africa, and seven seats for Arab States.

47. Regional representation on the CITES Standing Committee is determined as follows:

- one representative for regions with up to 15 Parties;
- two representatives for regions with 16 to 30 Parties;
- three representatives for regions with 31 to 45 Parties; or
- four representatives for regions with more than 45 Parties.

48. The composition of the Ramsar Standing Committee is determined proportionally, with each regional group represented by voting members in the Standing Committee according to the following criteria:

- one representative for regional groups with 1 to 12 Contracting Parties
- two representatives for regional groups with 13 to 24 Contracting Parties
- three representatives for regional groups with 25 to 36 Contracting Parties
- four representatives for regional groups with 37 to 48 Contracting Parties
- five representatives for regional groups with 49 to 60 Contracting Parties

49. Representation on the CMS Standing Committee is as follows:

- Three Parties each from Africa and Europe
- Two Parties each from Asia and South and Central America and the Caribbean
- One Party each from North America and Oceania

50. The number of IUCN councillors appointed for each of the IUCN regions is based on the concentration of high biodiversity, the size of human population, and the distribution of IUCN Members across the regions. The representation from regions are as follows:

- Africa (electing four councillors)
- East Europe, North and Central Asia (electing three councillors)
- Meso- and South America (electing four councillors)
- North America and the Caribbean (electing three councillors)
- Oceania (electing three councillors)
- South and East Asia (electing five councillors)
- West Asia (electing three councillors)
- West Europe (electing three councillors)

## **Annex 1: State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**

Regions and sub-regions identified in Annex 3 (Subregional reports) from *The State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*.

Region	Sub-region	Countries
Africa	East Africa	Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda
	North and West Africa	Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Tunisia
	Southern Africa	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Asia	Central Asia	Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
	East Asia	China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea
	South Asia	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
	Southeast Asia	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
Europe and the Caucasus		Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom
Latin America and the Caribbean	Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
	Central America	Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama
	South America	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Near and Middle East		Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
North America		Canada, United States of America
Southwest Pacific		Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of Micronesia), Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

## **Annex 2: State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**

Regions and sub-regions identified in Annex 2 (Regional distribution of Countries) from *The Second Report on The State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*.

Region	Sub-region	Countries
Africa	Central Africa	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe
	East Africa	Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda
	Indian Ocean Islands	Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
	Southern Africa	Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
	West Africa	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
Americas	Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
	Central America and Mexico	Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama
	North America	Canada, United States of America
	South America	Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Asia and the Pacific	East Asia	China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea
	Pacific Region	Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
	South Asia	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka
	Southeast Asia	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
Europe	Eastern Europe	Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

Region	Sub-region	Countries
	Western Europe	Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom
Near East	Central Asia	Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
	South/East Mediterranean	Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Morocco, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia
	West Asia	Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

**Annex 3: Global Forest Resources Assessment**

Regions and sub-regions identified in the “Global tables” supporting the *Global Forest Resources Assessment* [<http://foris.fao.org/static/data/fra2010/FRA2010GlobaltablesEnJune29.xls>]

Region	Sub-region	Countries
Africa	Eastern and Southern Africa	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
	Northern Africa	Algeria, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia
	Western and Central Africa	Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
North and Central America	Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
	Central America and Mexico	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama
	North America	Canada, United States of America, Mexico
South America		Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Asia	East Asia	China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea
	Western and Central Asia	Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Yemen
	South and South-east Asia	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam

Region	Sub-region	Countries
	Europe	Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain,  Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom
	Oceania	Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Annex 4: IAASTD**

Regions and sub-regions used in the *International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Sustainable Development*, as identified in the introductory sections of each of the regional reports.

Region	Sub-region	Countries
Sub-Saharan Africa	Central Africa	Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda
	East Africa	Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda
	Indian Ocean Islands	Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
	Southern Africa	Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe
	Sudano-Sahel	Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal,
	West Africa	Benin, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Togo, Sao Tome and Principe
Latin America and the Caribbean	Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
	Central America and Mexico	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama
	Southern cone	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guyana, Paraguay, Suriname, Uruguay
	Andean region	Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela
North America and Europe	North America	Canada, United States of America
	Eastern Europe	Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
	Western Europe	Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom
East and South Asia and the Pacific	East Asia	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Democratic People's republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
	Pacific Region	Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa,

Region	Sub-region	Countries
		Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
	South Asia	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka
Central and West Asia and North Africa	Arabian Peninsula	Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates
	Central Asia and Caucasus	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
	Nile Valley and Red Sea	Djibouti, Egypt, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Yemen
	North Africa	Algeria, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Tunisia, Mauritania
	Southwest Asia	Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey

## Annex 5: Global Environmental Outlook

Regions and sub-regions used in the *Global Environmental Outlook* as identified in the document available here: [http://geodata.grid.unep.ch/extras/geo\\_breakdown.doc](http://geodata.grid.unep.ch/extras/geo_breakdown.doc)

Region	Sub-region	Countries
Africa	Central Africa	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe
	Eastern Africa	Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Uganda
	Northern Africa	Algeria, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia
	Southern Africa	Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
	Western Africa	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
	Western Indian Ocean	Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
Asia and Pacific	Central Asia	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
	East Asia	China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea
	South Asia	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
	Southeast Asia	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
	Australia and New Zealand	Australia, New Zealand
	South Pacific	Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of Micronesia), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
Europe	Central Europe	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey
	Eastern Europe	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova (Republic of), Russian Federation, Ukraine
	Western Europe	Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Latin America and the Caribbean	Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
	Meso America	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama
	South America	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
West Asia	Arabian Peninsular	Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
	Mashriq	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic
North America		Canada, United States of America

## **Annex 6: UN General Assembly**

UN General Assembly regional structure, as identified by New Zealand's UN handbook (p14-16)

<b>African Group</b>
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>Asia-Pacific Group</b>
Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Democratic People's, Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Yemen
<b>Eastern European Group</b>
Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine
<b>Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)</b>
Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela
<b>Western European and Others Group (WEOG)</b>
Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America,

### **Special cases**

- In May 2000 **Israel** became a WEOG full member, on a temporary basis (subject to renewal), in WEOG's headquarters in the US, thereby enabling it to put forward candidates for election to various UN General Assembly bodies. In 2004 Israel obtained a permanent renewal to its membership.
- As of 2010, **Kiribati** (geographically in Oceania) is not a member of any regional group, despite other Oceania nations belonging to the Asian group. Despite its membership in the United Nations, Kiribati has never delegated a permanent representative to the UN.
- **Turkey**, participates fully in both WEOG and Asian Group, but for electoral purposes is considered a member of WEOG only.
- The **United States of America** is not a member of any regional group, but attends meetings of the Western Europe and Other States Group (WEOG) as an observer and is considered to be a member of that group for electoral purposes.

**Annex 7: FAO**

Regional structure of FAO membership, as identified by New Zealand's UN handbook (p320-324)

<b>Africa</b>
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>Asia</b>
Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's, Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam
<b>Europe</b>
Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation,
San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, UK
<b>Latin America and Caribbean</b>
Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela
<b>Near East</b>
Afghanistan, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian AR, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, UAE, Yemen
<b>North America</b>
Canada, USA
<b>South-West Pacific</b>
Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

## **Annex 8: UNESCO**

Regional membership of UNESCO, as identified by New Zealand's UN handbook (p320-324). The division between Arab States and African countries was made using this website (<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/worldwide/regions-and-countries/>).

<b>Western European and North American Countries</b>
Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, USA
<b>Eastern European countries</b>
Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)</b>
Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela
<b>Asia and the Pacific Countries (ASPAC)</b>
Afghanistan, Australia, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Viet Nam
<b>Africa</b>
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>Arab States</b>
Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

## **Annex 9: UN Statistics Division**

Regions and sub-regions used by the United Nations Statistics Division is identified on their website at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>.

Region	Sub-region	Countries
Africa	Eastern Africa	Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
	Middle Africa	Angola, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe
	Northern Africa	Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, South Sudan, Sudan, Tunisia
	Southern Africa	Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland
	Western Africa	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
Americas	Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
	Central America	Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama
	South America	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
	Northern America	Canada, United States of America
Asia	Central Asia	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
	Eastern Asia	China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea
	Southern Asia	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
	South-Eastern Asia	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
	Western Asia	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Georgia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
Europe	Eastern Europe	Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Ukraine
	Northern Europe	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom
	Southern Europe	Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
	Western Europe	Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Switzerland
Oceania	Australian and New Zealand	Australia, New Zealand,
	Melanesia	Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
	Micronesia	Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of Micronesia), Nauru, Palau
	Polynesia	Samoa, Tonga

**Annex 10: CITES**

Allocation of Contracting Parties (in capital letters) to the six CITES regional groups as indicated in their list of Parties. Non Parties (in lower case) are allocated to regions according to information provided by the CITES Secretariat.

<b>AFRICA</b>
ALGERIA, Angola, BENIN, BOTSWANA, BURKINA FASO, BURUNDI, CAMEROON, CAPE VERDE, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHAD, COMOROS, CONGO, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, ERITREA, ETHIOPIA, GABON, GAMBIA, GHANA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, KENYA, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, MALI, MAURITANIA, MAURITIUS, MOROCCO, MOZAMBIQUE, NAMIBIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, SENEGAL, SEYCHELLES, SIERRA LEONE, SOMALIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SUDAN, SWAZILAND, TOGO, TUNISIA, UGANDA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE
<b>ASIA</b>
AFGHANISTAN, BAHRAIN, BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, CAMBODIA, CHINA, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), Iraq, JAPAN, JORDAN, KAZAKHSTAN, D.P.R. Korea, KUWAIT, KYRGYZSTAN, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, Lebanon, MALAYSIA, Maldives, MONGOLIA, MYANMAR, NEPAL, OMAN, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SAUDI ARABIA, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, THAILAND, Turkmenistan, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UZBEKISTAN, VIET NAM, YEMEN
<b>CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, ARGENTINA, BAHAMAS, BARBADOS, BELIZE, BOLIVIA (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF), BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, DOMINICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, GRENADA, GUATEMALA, GUYANA, Haiti, HONDURAS, JAMAICA, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, PERU, SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS, SAINT LUCIA, SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES, SURINAME, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)
<b>EUROPE</b>
ALBANIA, Andorra, ARMENIA, AUSTRIA, AZERBAIJAN, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GEORGIA, GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, LATVIA, LIECHTENSTEIN, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA, MONACO, MONTENEGRO, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SAN MARINO, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>
CANADA, MEXICO, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
<b>OCEANIA</b>
AUSTRALIA, FIJI, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, NEW ZEALAND, PALAU, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, SAMOA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, VANUATU

## **Annex 11: Ramsar Convention**

Allocation of Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties to the six Ramsar regional groups, with names of countries in capital letters denoting Contracting Parties to the Convention at the time of approval of Resolution XI.19(2012).

<b>AFRICA</b>
ALGERIA, Angola, BENIN, BOTSWANA, BURKINA FASO, BURUNDI, CAMEROON, CAPE VERDE, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHAD, COMOROS, CONGO, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, Eritrea, Ethiopia, GABON, GAMBIA, GHANA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, KENYA, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, MALI, MAURITANIA, MAURITIUS, MOROCCO, MOZAMBIQUE, NAMIBIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, SENEGAL, SEYCHELLES, SIERRA LEONE, Somalia, SOUTH AFRICA, SUDAN, South Sudan, Swaziland, TOGO, TUNISIA, UGANDA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, Zimbabwe
<b>EUROPE</b>
ALBANIA, Andorra, ARMENIA, AUSTRIA, AZERBAIJAN, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GEORGIA, GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ITALY, LATVIA, LIECHTENSTEIN, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA, MOLDOVA, MONACO, MONTENEGRO, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, San Marino, SERBIA, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM
<b>ASIA</b>
Afghanistan, BAHRAIN, BANGLADESH, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, CAMBODIA, CHINA, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), IRAQ, ISRAEL, JAPAN, JORDAN, KAZAKHSTAN, Kuwait, KYRGYZSTAN, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, LEBANON, MALAYSIA, Maldives, MONGOLIA, MYANMAR, NEPAL, Oman, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES, Qatar, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, SRI LANKA, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, TAJIKISTAN, THAILAND, TURKMENISTAN, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UZBEKISTAN, VIETNAM, YEMEN
<b>NEOTROPICS</b>
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, ARGENTINA, BAHAMAS, BARBADOS, BELIZE, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, Dominica, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, Grenada, GUATEMALA, Guyana, Haiti, HONDURAS, JAMAICA, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, PERU, Saint Kitts and Nevis, SAINT LUCIA, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, SURINAME, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>
CANADA, MEXICO, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
<b>OCEANIA</b>
AUSTRALIA, FIJI, Kiribati, MARSHALL ISLANDS, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, NEW ZEALAND, PALAU, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, SAMOA, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

## **Annex 12: Convention on Migratory Species**

Allocation of Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties to the six CMS regional groups, with names of countries in capital letters denoting Contracting Parties to the Convention at the time of approval of Resolution 9.15(2011). The list is taken from UNEP/CMS/Conf.9.35/Rev.2.

<b>AFRICA</b>
ALGERIA, ANGOLA, BENIN, Botswana, BURKINA FASO, Burundi, CAMEROON, CAPE VERDE, Central African Republic, CHAD, Comoros, CONGO, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, D.R. CONGO, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, Equatorial Guinea, ERITREA, Ethiopia, GABON, GAMBIA, GHANA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, KENYA, Lesotho, LIBERIA, LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, MADAGASCAR, Malawi, MALI, MAURITANIA, MAURITIUS, MOROCCO, Mozambique, Namibia, NIGER, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SAO TOME & PRINCIPE, SENEGAL, SEYCHELLES, Sierra Leone, SOMALIA, SOUTH AFRICA, Sudan, Swaziland, TOGO, TUNISIA, UGANDA, UNITED REP OF TANZANIA, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>ASIA</b>
AFGHANISTAN, BAHRAIN, BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, CAMBODIA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, D.P.R. KOREA, INDIA, IRAQ, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, ISRAEL, JAPAN, JORDAN, KAZAKHSTAN, KUWAIT, KYRGYZSTAN, LAO PDR, LEBANON, MALAYSIA, MALDIVES, MONGOLIA, MYANMAR, NEPAL, OMAN, PAKISTAN, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SAUDI ARABIA, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, TAJIKISTAN, THAILAND, TURKMENISTAN, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UZBEKISTAN, VIET NAM, YEMEN
<b>EUROPE</b>
ALBANIA, ANDORRA, ARMENIA, AUSTRIA, AZERBAIJAN, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, ESTONIA, EUROPEAN UNION, FINLAND, FRANCE, GEORGIA, GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ITALY, LATVIA, LIECHTENSTEIN, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA, MOLDOVA, MONACO, MONTENEGRO, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SAN MARINO, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, THE FYR OF MACEDONIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE, UNITED KINGDOM
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA, ARGENTINA, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, BOLIVIA, Brazil, CHILE, Colombia, COSTA RICA, CUBA, Dominica, Dominican Rep, ECUADOR, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, PERU, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, URUGUAY, Venezuela
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>
Canada, Mexico, United States
<b>OCEANIA</b>
AUSTRALIA, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, NEW ZEALAND, PALAU, Papua New Guinea, PHILIPPINES, SAMOA, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Annex 13: IUCN**

Allocation of countries to regions by IUCN, taken from the *IUCN Statutes and Regulations* as modified following the World Conservation Congress 2012.

<b>AFRICA</b>
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>MESO AND SOUTH AMERICA</b>
Argentina, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
<b>NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>
Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America
<b>SOUTH AND EAST ASIA</b>
Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
<b>WEST ASIA</b>
Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
<b>OCEANIA</b>
Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
<b>EAST EUROPE, NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA</b>
Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
<b>WEST EUROPE</b> , Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom

**Annex 14: Possible MEP regions**

Possible MEP region	Countries
North America	Canada, Mexico, United States of America
South and Central America and the Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela
Africa	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Asia	Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen
Australian and the Pacific	Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of Micronesia), Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
Europe	Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom

**Annex 15: Possible MEP regions in comparison with UNSD, Ramsar, CITES, CMS**

Possible MEP region	UNSD	Ramsar	CMS	CITES
North America	+ Mexico	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL
South and Central America and the Caribbean	- Mexico	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL
Africa	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL
Asia	- Armenia - Azerbaijan - Cyprus - Georgia - Turkey	- Timor-Leste	- Timor-Leste - Indonesia - Philippines	- Israel
Australian and the Pacific	IDENTICAL	+ Timor-Leste	+ Timor-Leste + Indonesia + Philippines	IDENTICAL
Europe	+ Armenia + Azerbaijan + Cyprus + Georgia + Turkey	IDENTICAL	IDENTICAL	+ Israel