

Fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V): delivering for people and the planet

Third global meeting of national focal points

Online, 4 and 5 November 2026

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda¹

Midterm review of the Montevideo Programme V²

Note of the secretariat

Summary

1. The United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/20 on the Fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law decided to review the Montevideo Programme V no later than 2025 and requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide a report on that review, including clearly defined and measurable targets, to be considered by the United Nations Environment Assembly at the session following the submission of that report. The present report, submitted pursuant to the above-mentioned resolution, provides a high-level analysis of progress made in the implementation of Montevideo Programme V since its commencement in January 2020 and includes clearly defined and measurable targets for consideration by UNEA. [Furthermore, it transmits the guidance provided by national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V at the third global meeting of national focal points held on 4-5 November 2026. This guidance informed the finalization of this midterm review, as well as the identification of possible priority areas, including emerging issues of environmental law and governance, to bring to the attention of the international law community and UNEP through the Montevideo Programme V during its remaining period.]

I. Introduction

2. **The present midterm review is a report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) that responds to a mandate of resolution 4/20 of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) on the Fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V).**³ The Assembly, in particular, decided to review the Montevideo Programme V no later than 2025, and requested the UNEP Executive Director to “provide a report on that review, including clearly defined and measurable targets, to be considered by the United Nations Environment Assembly at the session following the submission of that report.”⁴

3. **This midterm review of the Montevideo Programme V was initiated in 2024, and it draws on a combination of desk-based research, documentary analysis and direct engagement with national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme.** Surveys and semi-structured interviews were used to engage national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme, as well as staff from the UNEP secretariat of the Programme and other UNEP personnel. Together, these resources provided valuable insights

¹ UNEP/ Env.Law/MTV5/GNFP.3/1

² The document includes [bracketed] placeholder text that will be finalized after the third global meeting of national focal points.

³ Since 1982, the environmental law activities of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have been organized and coordinated through a series of ten-year programmes widely known as the Montevideo Programme. Iterations of the Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of UNEP and subsequently by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), aim to contribute to the development and periodic review of environmental law.

⁴ UNEP/EA.4/Res.20 - Fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V): delivering for people and the planet, available at <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3982546>

into the Programme's implementation, related challenges and lessons learned, and an outlook on its future implementation for the remainder of its duration.

4. **This midterm review covers the implementation period of the Montevideo Programme V from its adoption, for the decade beginning in January 2020, through June 2026.** [Considering that the third global meeting of national focal points of the Programme was held online in November 2026, and that it constituted an important opportunity for national focal points to discuss a draft of this midterm review and provide guidance for its finalization, this period was considered suitable to provide national focal points with the most up-to-date picture of the Programme's implementation.]

5. **This midterm review does not aim to provide a comprehensive catalogue of all activities implemented under Montevideo Programme V. It aims to provides a high-level analysis of the implementation of the Programme, presenting its results in a compelling manner** that responds to the Programme's nine strategic activities and implementation guidelines,⁵ and the guidance received by national focal points. The review draws on past progress reports and other resources to provide an overarching sense of the level of accomplishment of the Programme, highlighting exemplifying results.

II. Process for the midterm review

6. **The development of this midterm review was supported by an independent consultant drawing upon a combination of desk-based research, documentary analysis and direct engagement with national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V.** Documents reviewed include: progress reports prepared for the global meetings of national focal points; Co-Chair's summaries of meetings of the steering committee for implementation;⁶ as well as other strategic documents, such as [UNEP's medium-term strategy 2026-2029 and programme of work](#), and other substantive documents recommended by the stakeholders engaged in the development process.

7. **Surveys and semi-structured interviews were used to engage national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme, as well as staff from the UNEP secretariat and other UNEP personnel,** who were also deeply engaged in the development process of this midterm review. Over 50 national focal points and 17 partners and stakeholders participated in the survey, and 19 interviews were held with members of the steering committee for implementation and UNEP personnel. The steering committee for implementation, moreover, was directly involved in the development of this midterm review, providing guidance and feedback throughout the process.

8. **[Further guidance was provided by national focal points of the Montevideo Programme V at their third global meeting, as well as through consultations held with national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme in the lead up to the third global meeting.** The third global meeting of national focal points held in November 2026 served as an important opportunity for national focal points to discuss a draft of the midterm review and provide guidance for its finalization.] In the lead up to the third global meeting and under the guidance of the steering committee for implementation, a series of regional consultations were organized between June and July 2026 with national focal points of the Montevideo Programme V from all five United Nations regions.⁷ These were led by the respective steering committee members of each region, with the support of the UNEP secretariat and resulted in the identification of potential priority areas, including emerging issues of environmental law and governance, and proposed actions for consideration by the Programme during its remaining period. A consultation with partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V was also organized in September 2026,⁸ facilitated by the UNEP secretariat, to gather their views on the same matter. [The outcomes of these consultations were subsequently presented at the third global meeting of national focal points, for further reflections and guidance by national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme. A summary of these is provided in the annex to the present report.]

⁵ Available at <https://wedocs.unep.org/rest/api/core/bitstreams/1b6adf22-1ee5-42ec-891d-116ba14b6aca/content>

⁶ For reference, the official progress reports on the status of implementation, activities and funding of the Montevideo Programme V, as well as the Co-Chairs summary of the steering committee for implementation are available on the UNEP Law and Environment Assistance Platform (UNEP-LEAP) at <https://leap.unep.org/en/about/meetings>

⁷ Informal document 3 (Inf. 3) – Summary of the regional consultation meetings of national focal points for the Montevideo Programme V, available at <https://leap.unep.org/en/about/meetings/third-global-meeting-national-focal-points#meeting-documents>

⁸ Informal document 4 (Inf. 4) – Summary of the consultation meeting of partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V, available at <https://leap.unep.org/en/about/meetings/third-global-meeting-national-focal-points#meeting-documents>. More information on the consultation is available at <https://leap.unep.org/en/about/meetings/partners-and-stakeholders-consultation-preparation-third-meeting-national-focal#meeting-information>

III. Analysis of the implementation of Montevideo Programme V

9. **This section provides a high-level analysis of the implementation of the Montevideo Programme V between January 2020 and June 2026, focusing on the key issues addressed and the legal and governance responses supported, including the Programme's contribution to the development of environmental law.**

10. **The achievements of the Montevideo Programme V are presented in line with the thematic and cross-cutting areas identified by national focal points in past global meetings, namely:**

- (a) Legal responses to address the pollution crisis;
- (b) Legal responses to combat the climate crisis;
- (c) Legal responses to combat the biodiversity crisis;
- (d) Cross-cutting areas, including enhancing access to environmental information, public participation in environmental decision-making and access to justice; and strengthening education and capacity-building on environmental law.

11. **Progress related to partnerships and stakeholder engagement is embedded within the above thematic areas,** to provide national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V with a compelling overview of their role in helping the Programme achieve its vision and objectives, and through a thematic lens that outlines their substantive contributions to the Programme's implementation. Further general considerations about partnerships and stakeholders are included in the section on enabling conditions to support the Programme's implementation.

12. **This section concludes with a high-level analysis of enabling conditions to support the Montevideo Programme V implementation and to enhance its responsiveness and effectiveness.** These include:

- i. Institutional arrangements;
- ii. Digital services through the United Nations Environment Programme Law and Environment Assistance Platform (UNEP-LEAP);
- iii. Partnerships and stakeholder engagement;
- iv. Resource mobilization;
- v. Communication and visibility.

A. Legal responses to address the pollution crisis

13. **The Montevideo Programme V has made a substantive contribution to strengthening the role of environmental law in responding to the pollution crisis.** Since its inception, the Programme has provided technical legal assistance and capacity building support to over 33 countries to develop, strengthen or implement legal and regulatory frameworks addressing issues such as waste prevention and mismanagement, including plastic waste and transboundary waste management, air quality management and the prevention and reduction of air pollution, chemicals management, as well as marine litter and circular economy approaches to plastics. The Programme has supported over 46 national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives to advance the development and enforcement of legislation to manage pollution and support the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs); delivered over 16 guidance documents, materials or capacity-building tools (e.g. reports, studies, knowledge products) addressing both established and emerging issues; and supported 4 intergovernmental bodies and processes addressing pollution.

14. **A central accomplishment of the Programme has been its support for coherent legal responses that address pollution as an interconnected challenge, rather than through isolated sectoral responses, and with a focus spanning from prevention to compliance and enforcement.** This has provided a structured basis for connecting legislation on air, chemicals and waste, marine pollution and resource use, while recognizing the interlinkages between pollution, climate change, biodiversity loss and human health.

15. **The issue of air pollution has been at the heart of the Montevideo Programme V implementation since its recognition among the priority areas of the Programme during the first global meeting.** In this respect, the Programme has strengthened the global evidence base on legal responses to improve air quality governance and combat air pollution through a range of guidance documents and reports that have advanced understanding of the legal and institutional measures required to prevent and reduce air pollution. These include:

“[Regulating Air Quality: The First Global Assessment of Air Pollution Legislation](#)” (2021), which reviewed air quality legislation in 194 countries and the European Union and examined the legal measures for determining whether air quality standards are being met and what legal standards exist; as a follow-up to this assessment, the “[Guide on Ambient Air Quality Legislation](#)” (2023), a practical tool to assist national lawmakers and policymakers in developing, scrutinizing and updating national air quality legislation with the aim of promoting robust national systems of outdoor air quality governance that prioritize public health outcomes; and, most recently the “[Law and Air Quality Toolkit](#)” (2025 - currently in its pilot phase) to assist national lawmakers and policymakers to develop or improve ambient air quality legislation. Through partnerships such as the UNEP-hosted Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the World Health Organization (WHO), the UNEP-hosted Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), the Programme has also supported a multitude of national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives on air quality law and governance, uniting governments, partners and stakeholders in committing to improving air quality, protecting human health and the climate by reducing short-lived climate pollutants, and fostering regional collaboration to combat acid deposition and related atmospheric pollution.

16. Plastic pollution has emerged as an important area in which the Montevideo Programme V legal work has connected upstream prevention with downstream waste management and marine environmental protection, including the issue of marine litter. The Programme has helped countries translate an evolving international framework and emerging scientific evidence into coherent national measures addressing plastic production, consumption, product design and disposal. In the field of research, information, knowledge production and dissemination, the Programme has supported the preparation of studies and reports such as: “[Neglected: Environmental Justice Impacts of Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution](#)” (2021), which examined the impacts of the plastic lifecycle on vulnerable communities, reviewed legal and policy frameworks exploring historical successes and challenges, and proposed actions for various state and non-state stakeholders; and “[Tackling Plastic Pollution: Legislative Guide for the Regulation of Single-Use Plastic Products](#)” (2021), in partnership with the World Resources Institute, a tool to help legislators and policymakers explore options for reducing the harmful impacts of single-use plastic products by regulating their production and consumption, promoting alternatives, and /or improving the management, recycling, and final disposal of single-use plastic. Through its technical legal assistance and capacity building work, the Programme has contributed to advancing legal approaches that move beyond end-of-life management and towards prevention, reuse, recycling, extended producer responsibility (EPR) and circularity. This is particularly significant in the context of the global shift towards a life-cycle approach to plastics, reflected in the international negotiations initiated by UNEA resolution 5/14, which the Programme has also supported since their inception.

17. In the chemicals and waste field, the Montevideo Programme V has provided analysis and guidance and built capacities to develop and implement legal and policy responses to chemicals and waste management challenges, including those brought to the fore by the COVID-19 pandemic and in the context of crimes that affect the environment, and to promote circularity across value chains. Reports such as the “[Guidance on Policy and Legislation for Integrated Waste Management during a Pandemic](#)” (2022), “[Supporting the transition to a sustainable textile value chain: the role of environmental permitting systems](#)” (2026) and “[Leapfrogging Guidance on Chemicals Regulation](#)” (2026 - for internal use in pilot cases) have helped identify opportunities to strengthen framework legislation, institutional coordination, prevention measures and environmentally sound chemicals and waste management, including in high-impact sectors. Through partnerships with relevant MEA secretariats and the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), the Programme has strengthened national legal and institutional frameworks for chemicals and waste management, bringing together national experts such as MEA focal points, national focal points of the Montevideo Programme and other stakeholders to identify opportunities for mutually supportive implementation, including through stronger legal frameworks and institutional coordination, in support of the Global Framework on Chemicals and relevant MEAs implementation. Through collaboration with entities such as the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the Programme has tackled the issue of waste trafficking, including to support a circular economy, and promoted cross-border cooperation across relevant national authorities and stakeholders to strengthen law enforcement and the prevention, detection and prosecution of waste trafficking.

18. A further achievement of the Montevideo Programme V has been its support to the Green Customs Initiative (GCI) to strengthen the capacity of customs and border enforcement authorities to combat the illegal trade and transboundary movement of environmentally sensitive commodities and wastes. Through support to the GCI and its partners, the Programme has supported synergies in the implementation of relevant MEAs, including those addressing chemicals and waste and ozone-depleting substances, while advancing sustainable trade and circular economy approaches. It has also raised awareness among customs and border control officers across the world of the links between trade, environmental protection, pollution and human health, and encouraged a more proactive role for enforcement actors in preventing environmental harm. The

“[Green Customs Guide to Multilateral Environmental Agreements](#)” (updated in 2022) has provided a practical resource to support this work and strengthen the capacity of customs and border authorities to contribute to environmental protection and pollution prevention at all levels.

B. Legal responses to combat the climate crisis

19. **The Montevideo Programme V has advanced effective and forward-looking legal and governance responses to the climate crisis.** Since its inception, the Programme has provided technical legal assistance and capacity building support to over 17 countries to develop, strengthen or implement climate change legislation, including national framework legislation and sectoral legislation, and address issues such as carbon markets, renewable energy development, ozone depleting substances, forest carbon sequestration and storage services, climate judicial capacity and the interlinkages between human rights and climate change. The Programme has supported over 30 national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives to advance the development and enforcement of climate change legislation and support the implementation of MEAs; delivered 5 guidance documents, materials or capacity-building tools (e.g. reports, studies, knowledge products) improving the understanding of legal approaches to climate change, including through legislation and litigation; and supported 2 intergovernmental bodies and processes addressing climate change.

20. **A key contribution of the Programme has been its multi-dimensional approach to strengthening legal responses to the climate crisis, connecting law, governance, knowledge and judicial practice. The Programme’s particular emphasis on strengthening the capacity of the judiciary to address climate-related cases has elevated and clarified the role of judges at all levels.** The Programme has not only supported the development and implementation of climate legislation but has also strengthened the wider legal community required for effective climate action: informed policymakers and parliamentarians, capable legal practitioners and judiciary, stronger accountability and transparency mechanisms, and an expanding body of accessible legal knowledge for national decision makers and stakeholders alike. This integrated approach is particularly relevant as countries move from the formulation of climate commitments towards their implementation and as courts, legislators and other institutions play a growing role in ensuring that climate action is effective, transparent, rights-responsive and accountable. Through judicial dialogues, training, knowledge-sharing initiatives and peer-to-peer exchange, in particular, the Programme has helped foster a more informed and consistent judicial response to climate-related legal questions, contributing to elevating the role of judges in the global climate agenda and to strengthening their capacity to adjudicate increasingly complex climate-related disputes. This has been particularly important as courts and tribunals are being called upon to consider questions concerning the adequacy and implementation of climate action vis-à-vis domestic and international legal frameworks, as well as governmental and corporate responsibilities and issues related to human rights, environmental protection and intergenerational equity.

21. **An important achievement of the Montevideo Programme V has been its contribution to the development and dissemination of global knowledge on climate legislation and litigation, strengthening awareness of emerging trends and enabling decision makers and stakeholders to better anticipate and respond to evolving legal challenges.** Reports such as the Global Climate Litigation Reports (2021, 2023, 2025) have provided an authoritative assessment of the rapidly evolving landscape of climate litigation, including the increasing diversity of cases and legal arguments being brought before courts and tribunals. By consolidating evidence and identifying emerging trends, these reports have supported legal practitioners, policymakers, judges and other stakeholders in understanding the implications of climate litigation for climate governance and environmental law. Practical resources such as the “[Law and Climate Change Toolkit](#)” (2024 – under continued enhancement) developed in partnership with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat and the Commonwealth Secretariat, have helped countries put in place the legal frameworks necessary for effective domestic implementation of the Paris Agreement and their nationally determined contributions (NDCs). This Toolkit has also assisted stakeholders, including international organizations, legal practitioners, academia and research institutions with researching and understanding the growing body of climate change-related legislation throughout the world.

22. **The engagement of parliamentarians has been central to the Montevideo Programme V response to climate change.** In partnership with institutions such as the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO), the Programme has engaged parliamentarians as key actors within national climate governance systems. Through briefings, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing, the Programme has supported parliamentarians in strengthening their understanding of national and international climate and environmental legal frameworks, the implications of climate change for sectoral legislation, and emerging legal and policy approaches to climate action. This has helped equip parliamentarians and their advisors to play a more informed role in developing, reviewing and strengthening climate legislation, overseeing its implementation and enforcement, and promoting transparency and accountability in national and regional

climate governance, including in relation to NDC implementation, while fostering greater coherence between national climate objectives and broader environmental and development priorities.

23. **The Montevideo Programme V has also addressed emerging issues, including climate justice and rights-based approaches to climate action, and the role of model forest legislation in climate governance.** Through research, knowledge development and capacity-building, the Programme has strengthened understanding of how legal frameworks can respond to the distributional and human rights dimensions of climate change. By promoting greater recognition of the perspectives and interests of stakeholders, such as youth, including Indigenous youth, and future generations, in shaping legal responses to climate change, the Programme has highlighted the importance of participatory and intergenerational approaches to climate governance, especially for those most affected. The Programme's contribution to the "[Practical Guidance for National Human Rights Institutions on Addressing Human Rights and Climate Change](#)" (2022), developed in partnership with the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), is a prime example of the Programme's practical support to advance rights-based climate governance. Initiatives such as the [Model Forest Act Initiative](#) (MoFAI), organized by UNEP jointly with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Commission on Environmental Law and others, moreover, have promoted the modernization of forest laws and the role of forest governance, including conservation and restoration efforts, in advancing climate action.

24. **A further achievement of the Montevideo Programme V has been the extension of legal support to the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment.** In collaboration with the UNEP-hosted [OzonAction](#), the Programme has provided targeted legal advice to Article 5 countries to support the development, updating and revision of national compliance frameworks to meet their hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) commitments under the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment. This demonstrates the Programme's ability to connect environmental law expertise with specialized multilateral environmental regimes and to address pollution and atmospheric protection through practical national legal measures.

C. Legal responses to combat the biodiversity crisis

25. **The Montevideo Programme V has supported the development and implementation of robust and coherent legal and governance frameworks to address the biodiversity crisis.** Since its inception, the Programme has provided technical legal assistance and capacity building support to over 18 countries to develop, strengthen or implement biodiversity legislation, including criminal legislation, and address issues such as biosafety law; biodiversity and wildlife crime, protected areas and wildlife conservation; desertification and land restoration governance; and accession to and implementation of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement). The Programme has supported over 30 national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives to advance the development and enforcement of biodiversity legislation and support the implementation of MEAs; delivered 6 guidance documents, materials or capacity-building tools (e.g. reports, studies, knowledge products) improving the understanding of legal approaches to biodiversity governance; and supported 8 intergovernmental bodies and processes addressing biodiversity loss.

26. **The Montevideo Programme V approach to combating the biodiversity crisis has increasingly reflected the interlinkages between biodiversity, climate change and pollution, promoting integrated legal and governance solutions that generate co-benefits across these interconnected challenges.** This approach has informed the Programme's support to countries and stakeholders in strengthening the legal frameworks, institutional capacities and enforcement mechanisms needed to conserve biodiversity and wildlife and address the drivers of biodiversity loss.

27. **Recognizing the links between biodiversity conservation, wildlife management and the prevention of zoonotic disease risks, the Montevideo Programme V has brought together environmental law, criminal justice and biodiversity expertise to address illegal activities affecting wildlife and natural resources, while supporting regulatory reforms to strengthen the biosafety and biosecurity of facilities handling wildlife.** Through the [Safety Across Asia for the Global Environment \(SAFE\)](#) project, implemented jointly by UNEP, UNODC and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Programme has provided legal and policy advice to national authorities and legal practitioners in the Asia-Pacific region to strengthen regulatory frameworks governing the licensing and management of wildlife facilities at national and subnational levels. Concluded in 2024, the project enabled beneficiary jurisdictions to strengthen the implementation of national laws and policies to effectively address the risk of zoonotic disease transmission in captive wildlife facilities through improved

licensing, facility management, biosafety and biosecurity measures. At the regional level, the project also contributed to the broader One Health agenda of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), including through the development of the discussion paper “[Preventing the Next Pandemic: Strengthening Biosafety and Biosecurity in ASEAN Captive Wildlife Facilities](#)” (2024), which provided a legal and policy basis for further action. Beyond its direct country-level impact, the SAFE project has provided a practical model with potential for replication in other countries and jurisdictions, demonstrating how targeted legal and regulatory reform can strengthen biodiversity protection while simultaneously addressing public health, pollution prevention and zoonotic disease risks.

28. An important feature of the Programme's biodiversity work has been its support to countries and stakeholders with the implementation of MEAs and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF), enabled by the engagement of key actors across the environmental rule of law ecosystem. In partnership with relevant MEA secretariats, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), as well as international organizations such as IPU and IUCN, the Programme has supported a multitude of national legislation reviews and legal capacity-building initiatives. Through these, the Programme has provided legal practitioners and decision makers, including parliamentarians and the judiciary, with opportunities to review national legislative frameworks, exchange experiences and identify ways to strengthen domestic implementation of MEAs and advance environmental rule of law. Publications such as “[Legislative Approaches to Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Governance](#)” (2020), done in partnership with FAO, have supported this work, providing a comprehensive framework to help countries track, develop, and align their natural resource laws with global sustainability goals informed by an overarching holistic perspective that is supportive of a systems-thinking approach.

29. The need to strengthen the human rights dimensions of biodiversity governance has emerged as an important area for the Montevideo Programme V. Partnerships with organizations such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) have enabled the Programme to facilitate information-sharing, raise awareness and highlight joint activities at the intersection of human rights and the environment. Engagement in inter-agency mechanisms such as the Environment Management Group (EMG), moreover, has enabled the Programme to bring system-wide attention to rights-based biodiversity governance. In this respect, the development of guidance tools such as the “[Guidance on Integrating Human Rights in National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans \(NBSAPs\)](#)” (2023), submitted to the 15th Conference of the Parties to the CBD to inspire Member States in the development of their NBSAPs, is amongst the Programme's achievements in this area of work. Complementing these initiatives, the development of the “[Core Human Rights Principles for Private Conservation Organizations and Funders](#)” (2024) has provided practical principles to promote respect for human rights in conservation initiatives and financing by private actors. Taken together, these efforts have helped advance a rights-based, inclusive and people-centred approach to biodiversity governance, strengthening recognition of the importance of participation, accountability and human rights safeguards in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

30. A further achievement of the Montevideo Programme V has been its role in promoting synergies, cooperation and collaboration amongst biodiversity-related MEAs for the implementation of the KM-GBF, including through the support provided to the Bern Process.⁹ Through legal and policy analysis, knowledge exchange and continued engagement with MEA secretariats and other stakeholders, the Programme has helped identify opportunities to strengthen coherence and mutually supportive implementation across 16 participating biodiversity-related MEAs. In this context, the Programme supported the production of the “[Key Entry Points for Cooperation and Collaboration amongst MEAs](#)” (2024), a practical guidance tool, which identifies opportunities for enhanced cooperation and collaboration among the participating conventions. This work, which remains ongoing, has contributed to advancing more coordinated legal and governance approaches and to reducing fragmentation in the implementation of global biodiversity commitments and it has been recognized by several decisions of MEA governing bodies.

D. Cross-cutting areas

31. The Montevideo Programme V has advanced innovative and inclusive legal and governance approaches to enhance access rights and promote environmental rule of law, while continuing to scale up environmental law education and capacity building worldwide. Since its inception, the Programme has provided technical legal assistance and capacity building support to over 25 countries to develop, strengthen or implement legislation and build the capacities of institutions and stakeholders, addressing issues such as: development of framework environmental laws and the codification of environmental legislation, access to

⁹ <https://www.unep.org/topics/environmental-law-and-governance/strengthening-institutions/bern-process>

justice, environmental rights and capacity development of stakeholders to advance the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, compliance and enforcement processes and procedures of environmental law, environmental law and governance awareness and training for legal professionals, public administrations and the judiciary, and synergies in the implementation of MEAs. The Programme has supported over 116 national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives to advance access rights and environmental education, promote environmental rule of law and support the implementation of MEAs; delivered 32 guidance documents, materials or capacity-building tools (e.g. reports, studies, knowledge products) improving the understanding of environmental rule of law and cross-cutting issues, such as human rights and the environment; and supported 6 intergovernmental bodies and processes addressing cross-cutting issues.

32. The Montevideo Programme V has made a significant contribution to advancing environmental rights and strengthening the legal and institutional conditions for their realization, including through greater awareness and capacity building around the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and the procedural rights that underpin it. Through reports such as “[Right to a Healthy Environment in Practice: A Decade Before the Courts \(2015–2025\)](#)” (2025) and practical guidance materials such as the “[Environmental Human Rights Defenders Toolkit](#)” (2022), developed in partnership with the Asia Pacific Network of Environmental Defenders (APNED), the Programme contributed to the evolving body of legal evidence on environmental rights and provided knowledge resources to enable environmental human rights defenders (EHRDs) to protect, promote and realize the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. Through partnerships with organizations such as OHCHR, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Council of Europe, the Programme has consistently supported a multitude of regional and global forums, platforms and capacity-building initiatives for rights holders, public authorities and other stakeholders, including EHRDs. In terms of support to intergovernmental processes, legal and technical support was provided to Member States on the recognition of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, which culminated in the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution 76/300 (2022). At the regional level, the Programme has advanced access rights supporting the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, which ultimately led to the adoption of a regional Declaration on the Right to a Safe, Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment in 2025. Furthermore, the Programme’s support for children’s rights to a healthy environment in ASEAN is exemplified by initiatives such as the publication of the “[Principles and Policy Guidance on Children’s Rights to a Safe, Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment in the ASEAN Region](#)” (2021), guiding Member States on ways in which those rights can be promoted and protected. The Programme’s longstanding partnership with GANHRI has further strengthened awareness and knowledge-sharing among national human rights institutions on how to integrate climate change and environmental matters into their work. Together, these efforts have helped strengthen recognition of environmental rights, expand access to legal information and support, and empower rights holders and environmental defenders to participate meaningfully in environmental decision-making and seek remedies where environmental rights are at risk.

33. Intergenerational equity and the rights and interests of future generations have emerged as a frontier dimension of environmental governance addressed by the Montevideo Programme V through system-wide collaboration and stakeholders’ engagement, including children and youth. In partnership with entities such as the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations University, the Programme contributed to a workstream under the High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) examining the concepts of “intergenerational equity” and “duties to the future”. This work included UNEP’s co-leadership, alongside three other organizations, of the HLCP Core Group on Duties to the Future, comprising 19 UN system entities, and contributed to the development of the “[United Nations System Common Principles on Future Generations](#)” (2023), approved by the HLCP and endorsed by the Chief Executives Board, as well as the related “[Frequently Asked Questions on Duties to the Future](#)” (2024). Together, these resources have helped establish a common conceptual basis across the UN system and informed intergovernmental deliberations leading to the Declaration on Future Generations, annexed to the Pact for the Future. The Programme has also contributed to the implementation of “[STEP-UP](#)” (2021), a joint commitment of UN entities in the context of the Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights, to promote the right of children, youth and future generations to a healthy environment and their meaningful participation in decision-making on climate action and climate justice. Through this work, including consultations with children and young people, the Programme has helped advance a more participatory and intergenerational understanding of environmental governance, recognizing the interests of those who will experience the long-term consequences of today’s environmental decisions.

34. An important achievement of the Montevideo Programme V has been its substantive contribution to strengthening global knowledge and understanding of environmental rule of law as a foundation for effective environmental governance, accountability and access to justice, and to building the capacities of stakeholders to effectively implement and advance environmental rule of law in policy, legislation,

institutions and practice. The publication of the report “[Environmental Rule of Law: Tracking Progress and Charting Future Directions](#)” (2023) provided an updated assessment of global progress and identified emerging priorities for strengthening environmental rule of law. Similarly, through the report “[Environmental Courts and Tribunals - 2021: A Guide for Policymakers](#)” (2022), the Programme supported the establishment and effective functioning of institutions and mechanisms for environmental adjudication, providing practical guidance to policymakers, judges, academics and other stakeholders on the establishment and functioning of specialized environmental courts and tribunals in the context of environmental disputes. Furthermore, the development of courses such as “[Upholding Environmental Justice for Judges and Lawyers in Asia Pacific](#)” (2022-2023), done in collaboration with IUCN, and the support provided to a multitude of national and regional dialogues, trainings and events, have complemented these knowledge products with practical opportunities for capacity-building. These initiatives brought together government representatives, MEA secretariats, UN agencies, Supreme Courts, judges, academics, researchers and training institutions, civil society and NGOs to advance effective environmental rule of law and environmental justice.

35. The Montevideo Programme V has significantly scaled up environmental law education and helped build a stronger and more connected global community of environmental law educators, students and practitioners, in partnership with academia, education or research institutions and networks. The Programme has advanced the integration of environmental law into legal education, strengthened lecturers’ and trainers’ capacities, and fostered regional and global networks of environmental law institutions and clinics. Examples include the partnership with the Legal Education Board of the Philippines to launch the Environmental Law Teachers Online Training Programme (2021), supporting law schools nationwide to integrate environmental law into law degrees, as well as train-the-trainers initiatives for environmental law educators and practitioners in India, Liberia and Sierra Leone (2020–2021). Regional academic engagement has extended across all five UN regions through support for conferences, training courses and scholars’ forums, including the ASEAN Environmental Law Conference, Oceania Environmental Law Conference, South Asian Research Colloquium on Environment and Climate Change Law (2021–2023); Conferences of the Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North African Universities (2023–2026); the third Uruguayan Congress on Environmental Law (2024); the Training Course for Law Students in the Asia-Pacific Region on Emerging Issues in International Law and the Council of Europe’s Human Rights Education for Youth (HEY) online training course on environment (2025); the Summit of African Bar Associations Presidents (2026) and the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (PIELC) (2025). These efforts have benefitted from partnerships with organizations including the Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North African Universities (ASSELLMU), the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, the East African Law Society (EALS) and the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW). The Programme has also strengthened the global and regional movement of environmental law clinics as practical avenues for legal education and access to justice, including through the Asia Pacific Environmental Law Clinics Alliance, the Alliance of Environmental Legal Clinics of Latin America and the Caribbean, and, most notably, the launch and operationalization of the first Global Network of Environmental Law Clinics in 2026. The Programme’s longstanding partnership with the University of Eastern Finland, as co-organizer of the annual course on MEAs, has strengthened the knowledge and capacities of the next generation of environmental legal professionals and educators to navigate the complexities of environmental governance.

E. Enabling conditions for implementation

i. Institutional arrangements

36. As of June 2026, 193 national focal points have been designated by 156 Member States, as well as by the European Union, the State of Palestine, the Cook Islands and Niue.¹⁰ National focal points continue to play a crucial role in the Programme’s implementation. Pursuant to UNEA resolutions 2/19 and 4/20, member states are invited to designate national focal points for exchanging information and building capacities to collaborate with and guide UNEP in strengthening the Programme, as well as for monitoring and evaluating its implementation. As set out in the [Montevideo Programme V document](#), national focal points should preferably be senior government officials with expertise in environmental law. Since 2020, the number of designated national focal points has grown, forming a global network that has enhanced country ownership and enabled more responsive delivery of legal assistance.

¹⁰ The total number includes main and alternate designations of national focal points. More information is available at <https://leap.unep.org/about/nfps>

37. **The designation of national focal points has strengthened the Programme’s overall responsiveness and effectiveness.** National focal points serve as the primary liaison between Member States and the UNEP secretariat, and as designated government representatives with expertise in environmental law, they have contributed to identifying priority areas, reviewing implementation progress, and supporting collaboration with the secretariat. They have provided strategic advice, shared national environmental law and governance developments, participated in global and regional meetings, and facilitated coordination among national stakeholders to enable the effective implementation of the Programme’s activities. National focal points have also helped align implementation efforts under the Programme with country-specific environmental law and governance needs, fostering national ownership of the Programme’s implementation and relaying relevant priorities and needs to the UNEP secretariat. Their engagement has significantly increased the Montevideo Programme V’s visibility at the national level. The focal point mechanism has also fostered structured and inclusive dialogue between the UNEP secretariat and governments, facilitating inter-ministerial coordination and national and regional legal consultations. This mechanism has delivered a significant shift towards more participatory, country-driven implementation, ensuring that the Programme remains aligned with national priorities and evolving environmental legal and governance needs.

38. **The Montevideo Programme V steering committee for implementation continues to be an important strategic mechanism to support the Programme’s success.** Pursuant to the Montevideo Programme V document paragraph 6 (c), the steering committee for implementation is at the heart of the Programme’s institutional arrangements. The steering committee works with the secretariat in implementing Programme based on recommendations and overall guidance from the global meetings of national focal points. The steering committee for implementation has, *inter alia*, guided decisions on the Programme’s thematic priorities and stakeholder engagement, including in relation to emerging issues of environmental law and governance. It has consistently reviewed implementation progress, providing guidance to the secretariat on any issues and fostering a more structured and responsive approach to implementation, aligning the Programme’s activities with national legal needs. The steering committee has also played a pivotal role in preparing for global meetings of national focal points, ensuring sound strategic direction, clarity of purpose and outcomes. Moreover, it has over time refined its working modalities, promoting equitable and inclusive representation and enhancing transparency and accountability, including by making meeting summaries and preparatory documents publicly available on UNEP-LEAP. Additionally, it has supported a strategic review of the Programme’s funding status over time, advising the secretariat on funding gaps and resource mobilization efforts, to align these with the Programme’s strategic direction.

39. **Since the first designation of its members in June 2021, the steering committee for implementation of the Montevideo Programme V has met for a total of thirteen times – a testament to its steadfast commitment to fulfilling its mandate and providing strategic direction for the implementation of the Programme.** At the first global meeting of national focal points, the focal points elected members of the steering committee for implementation by acclamation and adopted its modalities of work, which have since guided the committee’s work.¹¹ At the second [and third global meetings], the national focal points elected members of the steering committee for the period between that meeting and the subsequent global meeting.

ii. Digital services through UNEP-LEAP

40. **UNEP-LEAP has enabled the Montevideo Programme V to benefit from a digital backbone, providing access to hundreds of thousands legal and knowledge resources.** Since its launch in June 2021, UNEP-LEAP has served as a central resource hub for implementing the Programme, which has been enhanced continuously over time. UNEP-LEAP has provided a trusted, global knowledge base for environmental law and governance resources, facilitating access by national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme to national environmental legislation, toolkits, guidance products and model laws, publications and reports, e-learning courses, partners’ tools and resources, and other products developed under the Programme or relevant to its activities. As of June 2026, the Platform counts more than 220,000 resources, including legislation and case-law records, alongside toolkits, guidance products and model laws, publications and reports, e-learning courses and partners’ tools and resources offering users, *inter alia*, practical, adaptable guidance for legislative review, development, alignment with MEAs and strengthening institutional capacities. As an example, the platform’s expansion through the launch of [Legal Toolkits](#), such as the Law and Climate Change Toolkit, the Law and Plastics Toolkit and the Law and the Air Quality Toolkit, has facilitated access to up-to-date legislation databases capable of producing granular search results on specific thematic issues. The availability of key flagship publications, such as the Global Climate Litigation Report, the 2023 Environmental Rule of Law: Tracking Progress and Charting Future Directions report, and various environmental law guidance documents, has supported countries in identifying legal gaps, aligning national legislation with international obligations, and

¹¹ Annex, UNEP/Env.Law/MTV5/GNFP.1/6.

strengthening legal and institutional frameworks in line with the objectives of the Montevideo Programme V. The [country profile sections of UNEP-LEAP](#), moreover, have allowed users to explore the data part of the platform's knowledge base per country, including information on national focal points, technical assistance requests and projects, case studies, legislation and case law.

41. **UNEP-LEAP has also provided countries with the opportunity to [directly request technical legal assistance support from the Programme, subject to resource availability](#).** This process has enabled national focal points to establish a direct line of communication with the UNEP secretariat, supported by digital means. An activity tracker function was incorporated in the technical assistance system of UNEP-LEAP with the intention of strengthening accountability and allowing the requesting focal point to track progress in real time, although the need for continued maintenance and improvement currently prevents its full and effective functionality, as further explained in the key findings section.

42. **UNEP-LEAP has been instrumental in enhancing transparency in the governance of the Montevideo Programme V.** All documents pertaining to global meetings of national focal points and the steering committee for implementation, including meeting reports and Co-Chairs' summaries, have been consistently uploaded online to enable greater access and appreciation by the Programme's national focal points, partners and stakeholders, as well as the general public. [Contact details for national focal points](#) have also been published, subject to their approval.

43. **Enhancing the interoperability between UNEP-LEAP and the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA) has allowed for the consolidation of legal and knowledge resources, benefitting the Montevideo Programme V.** By aligning data standards and structured legal content across the two platforms, including national legislation, treaty texts, decisions, and jurisprudence, the interoperability has enabled legal information to be discovered, linked, and reused across both portals. This has advanced system-wide coherence, reduced fragmentation of UNEP's digital legal knowledge base, and strengthened the single authoritative reference base that supports countries in meeting their international environmental obligations. Technical interoperability between UNEP-LEAP and InforMEA, in particular, was advanced along three lines: alignment of the InforMEA harmonised MEA terminology and controlled vocabularies as shared reference points across both platforms; structuring of legal content, including, among others, national legislation and jurisprudence; and the use of an Application Programming Interface (API) enabling legal information to be exchanged and discovered across both portals. This work has formed part of UNEP's ongoing consolidation of its digital information assets within the World Environment Situation Room (WESR).

iii. Partnerships and stakeholder engagement

44. **Partners and stakeholders have been instrumental in the implementation of the Montevideo Programme V since its inception. The breadth and diversity of partners and stakeholders involved, in particular, has been one of the Programme's key strengths.** From academia to legal professionals, civil society organizations, environmental defenders and Indigenous Peoples, youth organizations, women organizations, faith-based organizations, parliamentarians, the judiciary, the private sector, secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other United Nations entities, partners and stakeholders have played a key role in advancing the implementation of the Montevideo Programme V. Partners and stakeholders have contributed to the development and implementation of environmental rule of law and sound environmental governance, providing expertise, knowledge, innovation, practical experience, perspectives and networks that have been instrumental in the Programme's delivery, ensuring that a 'whole-of-society' approach would be applied in practice.

45. **The Montevideo Programme V has promoted a more structured and systematic engagement of partners and stakeholders, which has been recognized in a dedicated Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy.**¹² Adopted by the Programme's steering committee for implementation in February 2024, the Strategy aims to enhance mutual supportiveness and complementarity between the Montevideo Programme V and external legal and institutional initiatives. In doing so, its implementation has established a framework for inclusive collaboration, knowledge exchange, and transparent engagement of partners and stakeholders in the Programme's delivery, expressly emphasizing guiding principles and modalities of engagement, and exemplifying roles and responsibilities for partners and stakeholders. The continued engagement of partners and stakeholders in the Programme's implementation has not only enabled the co-development and mutually

¹² [UNEP/Env.Law/MTV5/GNFP.2/5](#). At their first global meeting, national focal points agreed that the secretariat would prepare a draft strategy on partnerships and stakeholder engagement. After a consultative development process, the strategy was adopted by the steering committee for implementation at its seventh meeting (February 2024).

supportive implementation of relevant activities, thereby promoting inclusive and participatory approaches; it has also expanded the overall reach and impact of the Programme through greater awareness and dissemination of the Programme's activities and results across multiple levels and segments of society.

46. **Under the continued guidance of national focal points, the Montevideo Programme V secretariat has built an evidence base for the Programme's partners and stakeholders' involvement, with ongoing efforts to expand their participation and engagement to increase the Programme's outreach, effectiveness and impact.** As of June 2026, the secretariat has undertaken a mapping of over 365 partners and stakeholders operating in the field of environmental law and governance, which are regularly involved in the Programme's implementation and awareness raising activities. Whilst participation in global meetings and related events have increased the visibility and outreach of the Programme to partners and stakeholders over time, the secretariat continues to periodically update the list of partners and stakeholders, inviting partners and stakeholders to register to the Programme's mailing list through UNEP-LEAP,¹³ and to participate in relevant intergovernmental meetings.

iv. Resource mobilization

47. **The Montevideo Programme V Resource Mobilization Strategy has provided a structured avenue for the secretariat to engage in fundraising efforts to support the Programme's implementation, with clear objectives and targets.** Responding to an invitation by national focal points to prepare and provide an estimate of the resources needed to implement the Programme and to develop a resource mobilization strategy,¹⁴ the UNEP secretariat developed the Strategy, which was later discussed by the Programme's steering committee for implementation in March 2023.¹⁵ The Strategy is aligned with UNEP's Resource Mobilization Strategy and ensures that resource mobilization efforts are consistent with UNEP-wide policies, procedures, including in relation to partners and stakeholder engagement.¹⁶ It draws lessons from the evaluation of previous Montevideo Programmes, past resource mobilization efforts as well as an overall assessment of needs, challenges, and opportunities to secure the effective implementation of the Programme. Its implementation remains under the leadership of the UNEP Law Division, in partnership with other UNEP Divisions and Offices, as well as national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V to seek more sustained financing modalities for the Programme. The Resource Mobilization Strategy has two primary objectives: (a) to develop an approach to mobilize voluntary contributions to support the implementation of activities under the Programme; and (b) to broaden the Programme's donor base and build long-term partnerships with key donors to improve the sustainability of the Programme's interventions.

48. **To implement the Resource Mobilization Strategy, the Montevideo Programme V secretariat has taken the following measures:**

- (a) Developed a clear funding needs assessment for the Programme, based on the priority areas for implementation identified by national focal points. This needs assessment was prepared in the form of a financial overview, continuously updated and presented periodically to the Programme steering committee for implementation for information and guidance.
- (b) Developed and disseminated information materials highlighting the comparative advantage and key achievements of Programme, such as the 2024 [Montevideo Programme V Handbook](#), as well as [factsheets and other communication tools](#) targeting national focal points, partners and donors, uploaded on the UNEP website or UNEP-LEAP.
- (c) Increased efforts in building relationships with a range of donors through meetings, consultations and sharing of information with actors such as private foundations and development banks, which have resulted in additional funding going towards the Programme's implementation.

¹³ Stakeholders can sign up to the stakeholder mailing list of the secretariat of the Programme by contacting the secretariat, either through the UNEP Law and Environment Assistance Platform or via email at unep-montevideo@un.org to express interest in receiving Programme-related information. This information may include updates on activities and projects contributing to the implementation of the Programme and relevant upcoming meetings. Interested stakeholders should be able to demonstrate how their area of work relates to one or more objectives of the Programme. The secretariat may also contact strategic stakeholders and invite them to sign up to the mailing list, which the secretariat will keep up to date in order to communicate with stakeholders who express an interest in the Programme.

¹⁴ National focal points, at their first global meeting, invited the secretariat to develop a resource mobilization strategy for Montevideo Programme V - UNEP/Env.Law/MTV5/GNFP.1/6/Add.1. The strategy is available at https://leap.unep.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/EN_3.pdf

¹⁵ Co-chairs' summary, fifth meeting of the steering committee for implementation, available at https://leap.unep.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/5th%20Steering%20Committee_Co-chairs%20Summary.pdf

¹⁶ Resource Mobilization Strategy' (2021), available at <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/36793>.

- (d) Established a clear and coordinated approach to resource mobilization within UNEP offices and among partners, facilitated by the preparation of programmatic documents co-created with other UNEP Divisions and Offices, as well as MEA Secretariats.

49. **The funding of the Montevideo Programme V depends heavily on earmarked extrabudgetary contributions.** The Montevideo Programme V trust fund became operational in May 2022, specifically to support activities that promote information and data exchange, education, capacity building and technical assistance aiming at strengthening national environmental governance systems, including environmental rule of law and contributing to the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda at the international and national level. Since the trust fund's inception, contributions from partners and stakeholders have amounted cumulatively to 3.1 million USD until June 2026, with an annual breakdown of 46% in 2022, 4% in 2023, 12% in 2024, 4% in 2025 and 35% in 2026, respectively. The trust fund's contributions have been received from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Commonwealth, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Ford Foundation. Based on the current resources level and trends, to achieve the target set in the Resource Mobilization Strategy of the Programme, additional funding of 7.2 million USD annually to the trust fund are needed to finance the core activities of the Programme until 2029.

v. *Communication and visibility*

50. **Numerous efforts have been made to enhance visibility and communication around the Montevideo Programme V.** Communication activities have focused on ensuring timely, accessible, and consistent information for Member States, members of the steering committee for implementation, partners and stakeholders, and the broader environmental law community. Dedicated communication materials, including [factsheets](#), [infographics](#), [videos](#) and [promotional content](#) created and posted on the UNEP website and social media, have been developed to present key results and demonstrate the Programme's contribution to strengthening environmental law. Visibility has also been enhanced through side events, webinars, regional workshops and participation in major international environmental and other thematic meetings, creating opportunities to showcase experiences and facilitate peer learning. These efforts have helped strengthen the Programme's identity, improve access to information and resources, foster greater stakeholder engagement, and support the exchange of knowledge, good practices and lessons learned across regions.

51. **UNEP-LEAP has provided an important platform to share the resources and knowledge developed under the Montevideo Programme V and engage in outreach and awareness raising with national focal points, partners and stakeholders and the general public.** The platform has served as a centralized repository for publications, legal and policy resources, guidance materials, training modules, event recordings and other knowledge products developed under the Programme. Regular updates have been disseminated also through newsletters and social media channels, providing information on meetings, capacity-building activities, publications and opportunities for engagement. UNEP-LEAP has also facilitated the dissemination of news, success stories and examples of national and regional implementation, helping to showcase progress and encourage peer learning. By bringing together a broad range of environmental law resources in a single digital space, the platform has strengthened knowledge exchange, supported continuous learning, increased the visibility of Programme outputs and promoted wider engagement with environmental law practitioners, policymakers, academics, civil society organizations and other interested audiences. This platform is also supported by others hosted by UNEP, including InforMEA, the [Global Judicial Portal](#) and the [UNEP website](#).

IV. Key findings of the midterm review

52. **This section presents the key findings of this midterm review.** The findings are not presented in order of importance.

53. **Promote and maintain regular, effective and regionally balanced engagement of national focal points in the governance of the Montevideo Programme V, beyond biennial global meetings, and supported by effective information sharing and onboarding.** The Programme has maintained a good level of engagement of national focal points, as well as partners and stakeholders, in its governance mechanisms, particularly in biennial global meetings of national focal points. The global meetings have convened national focal points to seek their review and guidance in the implementation of the Programme at the global level. They have also provided opportunities for partners and stakeholders of the Programme to strengthen their engagement, as well as cement mutual supportiveness and networks. Opportunities for regional engagement of national focal points, partners and stakeholders have also been created frequently under the auspices of the Programme,

although more prominently in certain regions (e.g. Africa, Asia-Pacific) rather than others. Nevertheless, this midterm review finds that, during its remaining period, the Programme would benefit from more active, consistent and frequent participation of national focal points in its implementation, including through more opportunities to provide substantive input on implementation progress, emerging priorities and needs, and to contribute to surveys, consultations, reporting and other information-gathering exercises, particularly in intersessional periods (e.g. between or in the lead-up to global meetings) and in a more regionally balanced way. This would not only ensure greater consultation and exchange of information on implementation progress and priorities and enable the Programme to draw more systematically on the experience and perspectives of national focal points but also enhance opportunities for collaboration and networking among national focal points, partners and stakeholders more broadly across regions. Recognizing that effective engagement starts with effective onboarding and information sharing, moreover, national focal points should be encouraged to maintain an active role throughout the implementation cycle, while the UNEP secretariat should continue to enhance its onboarding practices for national focal points. This can help circumvent possible institutional gaps resulting from changes in the designation of national focal point.

54. Intensify efforts to achieve greater geographical balance and responsiveness in the activities supported by the Montevideo Programme V, especially within the Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean regions. As demonstrated by the progress reports on the status of implementation, activities and funding, the Programme has supported a wide range of activities across all five United Nations regions, ranging from technical legal assistance and capacity building to awareness raising and the promotion of education, knowledge production and dissemination, including emerging issues. According to data collected by the UNEP secretariat of the Montevideo Programme V covering the period 2020-2026, the Programme has delivered over 41% of its technical assistance and capacity building to the Africa region, almost 40% to the Asia-Pacific region (of which 13% to the Central Asia and 7% to the West Asia subregions), 17% to Latin America and the Caribbean, and less than 2% to the Eastern European region. The support provided to countries, partners and stakeholders of the Programme was found to have improved the development, implementation, enforcement and compliance with environmental law at all levels and in a manner tailored to regional, or subregional contexts and needs. In this regard, the Programme has strived to be consistently demand-driven, benefitting largely from the active engagement of UNEP regional offices and a broad network of partners in identifying opportunities for collaboration and responding to country needs, subject to available resources. Nevertheless, this midterm review finds that opportunities remain to further enhance the balance of the Programme's delivery across geographic regions. In cases where countries from underserved regions have submitted requests for technical legal assistance, including through UNEP-LEAP, moreover, the UNEP secretariat has not always been able to attend such requests, due to lack of capacities or funds. In some cases, the secretariat has been unable to acknowledge them altogether. While differences in demand, available partnerships, funding opportunities and regional capacities have influenced the distribution of activities, additional efforts would help ensure that all regions have equitable opportunities to benefit from the Programme's support and contribute to its implementation. Such efforts could include engaging more proactively with national focal points from underserved regions to identify regional and national priorities, expanding collaboration with regional organizations and centres of excellence, and pursuing targeted resource mobilization to support activities in underserved regions, in continued coordination with UNEP regional and subregional offices. Consideration could also be given to organizing additional regional consultations, capacity-building activities and knowledge-sharing events, as well as promoting greater participation of institutions and experts from underserved regions in global activities under the Programme. Such measures would contribute to a more geographically balanced implementation of the Programme, while fostering broader ownership, stronger regional networks and more equitable access to the Programme's services and opportunities.

55. Present the achievements of the Montevideo Programme V in a more compelling, measurable and verifiable manner that focuses on impact, improves attribution to the Programme and better recognizes the contribution of partners and stakeholders to its implementation. This midterm review finds that the Programme has not always presented its results in a consistently measurable and verifiable manner, as mandated by its implementation guidelines. The guidance provided by national focal points during global meetings of national focal points, as well as meetings of the steering committee for implementation, suggests that there is room to improve this condition. On the one hand, this entails better discerning the actual results attained and their attribution to the Programme; on the other hand, this entails clarifying the nature and impact of the support provided to countries, including by providing more granular and regionally disaggregated data to get a better sense of the distribution of the activities and results across regions. Progress reported in relation to partnerships and stakeholder engagement, moreover, was found to lack the necessary depth to provide a compelling overview of the role of partners and stakeholders in achieving the Programme's vision and objectives, especially from a thematic lens. In response, under the guidance of the steering committee for implementation, in 2026, the UNEP secretariat introduced a revamped approach to the presentation of the Programme's results through the progress report on the status of implementation, activities and funding of the Programme prepared for the third global

meeting of national focal points. The report clustered relevant activities according to measurable and verifiable indicators that remain fully aligned with the Programme's nine strategic activities and also provided more regionally disaggregated data. This approach has also inspired the preparation of this midterm review, including the proposed targets, to enable national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme to better understand and measure the Programme's achievements to date and its intended future direction. Under the continued guidance of the steering committee for implementation, the Programme could continue to build on this approach, combining quantitative and qualitative methods, during its remaining period.

56. Promote the full, effective and inclusive engagement of partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V, with more systematic efforts to increase and diversify their participation, recognize their knowledge, values and expertise, and strengthen their mutual collaboration and support in advancing the objectives of the Programme and beyond. The Programme has made steady progress in strengthening collaboration with a diverse range of partners and stakeholders, especially with the adoption of the Partnerships and Stakeholders Engagement Strategy in 2024, which has provided an important framework for broadening their participation and enhancing their collaboration in support of the Programme's vision and objectives. This midterm review, however, finds that during its remaining period, the Programme would benefit from further efforts to progressively operationalize the goals and objectives of the Strategy. Although systems have been put in place to encourage partners and stakeholders to engage with Programme, such as by signing up to the stakeholder mailing list of the Secretariat to receive information related to the Programme, collaboration with partners and stakeholders on the ground has, in many instances, remained project driven. Whilst the UNEP secretariat has made increasing efforts to map and continuously update the Programme's partners and stakeholders' roster, this information has not been publicly disclosed. More outreach to and diversification of partners and stakeholders, as well as greater efforts to strengthen collaboration and mutual support between them, including through the public disclosure of the Programme's partners and stakeholders' roster, remain important preconditions to achieve the full operationalization of the Programme's Partnerships and Stakeholders Engagement Strategy.

57. Harness synergies, collaboration and mutual supportiveness with MEAs to promote complementarities and enhance the impact of the Montevideo Programme V, including through leveraging MEA financing windows more strategically. A particular issue of interest for the international law community is the need to enhance synergies amongst MEAs and seek co-benefits in their implementation at national level, recognized by multiple decisions of MEA governing bodies, as well as several UNEA resolutions.¹⁷ MEA secretariats are key partners of the Montevideo Programme V and play a crucial role in achieving its vision and objectives. This midterm review finds that while MEA Secretariats have been engaged in the implementation of numerous activities supported by Programme so far, there is room to strengthen their engagement even further. On the one hand, by actively involving MEA secretariats up front in the design of relevant interventions, leveraging their resources, experience and expertise – from engagement in technical assistance, capacity-building, information sharing and awareness raising, to consultation in the development of model laws, studies and knowledge products. On the other hand, by promoting a coordinated approach in implementation at the national level that systematically fosters greater collaboration and joint engagement of national MEA focal points and national focal points of the Montevideo Programme V. Based on existing experience and lessons learned, this joint engagement not only amplifies institutional coordination to secure the effective development and implementation of environmental law that supports MEAs implementation with a “whole-of-government” approach; it also creates more conducive national settings that can enable national focal points of the Montevideo Programme V – as well as the UNEP secretariat – to tap into opportunities offered by MEA financial instruments (e.g. the Global Environment Facility), to scale up impact. This remains a very important strategic entry point that deserves attention by the Programme during its remaining period.

58. Strengthen awareness and engagement of United Nations Resident Coordinators (UNRCs) and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) in the implementation of the Montevideo Programme V to enhance its effectiveness and reinforce impact-driven partnerships. The Programme has increasingly engaged with the wider United Nations system, including selected Resident Coordinator Offices, UNCTs and other entities on the ground, particularly in the delivery of technical legal assistance and capacity-building activities. These efforts have demonstrated the value of leveraging the United Nations development system to better respond to country needs, facilitate inter-agency collaboration and situate environmental law and governance within broader sustainable development priorities. Nevertheless, this midterm review finds that the Montevideo Programme V is not yet known and sufficiently appreciated by UNRCs and UNCTs at large and that it would benefit from a more systematic and strategic approach to engaging these particular stakeholders,

¹⁷ For instance: [UNEP/EA.6/Res.4](#); [UNEP/EA.6/Res.6](#), which expressly recognized the role of the Montevideo Programme in facilitating coherent and effective implementation of multilateral environmental agreements at the regional and national levels; and most recently [UNEP/EA.7/Res.5](#).

especially in countries receiving legal assistance under the Programme. More targeted and dedicated awareness raising to UNRCs and UNCTs would be helpful to close existing knowledge gaps. Moreover, closer collaboration with UNRCs and UNCTs, facilitated by the support of UNEP's regional offices, would help integrate environmental law and governance considerations into country-level strategic planning and programming processes (e.g. United Nations Country Analyses and Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks), while improving the identification of country priorities, opportunities for joint programming and the sustainability of Programme interventions. Such engagement would also strengthen the Programme's visibility and positioning within the United Nations development system, facilitating greater coordination with other United Nations entities and enhancing its contribution to an integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, where environmental governance can be recognized as the foundation for social and economic governance. Furthermore, stronger collaboration at country level would provide additional entry points for engaging partners and stakeholders—including government institutions, development partners, civil society, academia and regional organizations—in the implementation of the Programme, fostering broader ownership, more coordinated delivery and increased opportunities for resource mobilization and partnerships.

59. Create more compelling and visible communication narratives around the Montevideo Programme V, informed by the continued engagement of national focal points in assessing its intended impact. This midterm review finds that the Programme has so far not always been successful at creating and disseminating consistent narratives around its results and impact, particularly from the perspective of its intended beneficiaries. Whilst the UNEP secretariat has maintained attention to the Montevideo Programme V activities through UNEP internal and external communication and reporting channels (e.g. newsletters, annual reports, website items etc), the engagement of national focal points, partners and stakeholders to gather testimonies of the Programme's effectiveness and impact has not been systematic. This also extends, in particular, to engaging national focal points upon conclusion of the technical legal assistance requested under the Programme, to assess whether it actually resulted in the intended legislative or institutional reforms at national level. In turn, this could help the UNEP secretariat better document the Programme's outcomes. Investing in producing and disseminating more compelling communication pieces around the Programme, such as beneficiary-driven impact stories, as well leveraging UNEP-LEAP's activity tracker for a more systematic assessment of the Programme's intended impact, remain valuable entry points to strengthen the Programme's visibility and outreach during its remaining period.

60. Increase the visibility and presence of the Montevideo Programme V, including UNEP-LEAP, in major global and regional meetings or events. This midterm review finds that while the Programme has maintained its well-known status amongst its extensive network of partners and stakeholders over the years, its presence in major global and regional meetings or events has not always been felt as strongly as it could have. UNEA, the Annual Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), MEA conferences or meetings of parties (COPs and MOPs), regional fora and other processes provide valuable opportunities for the Programme to affirm its presence and showcase impact. Such events could benefit, for instance, from testimonies of national focal points, partners and stakeholders, as well as visibility initiatives supported by the UNEP secretariat (e.g. side events, exhibitions, knowledge products or official communication). UNEP-LEAP also provides a valuable entry point to showcase the Programme's extensive knowledge and capacity building repository of environmental law and governance resources to external audiences. Practical demonstrations during global and regional meetings or events, for example, could potentially spur greater interest and use of the platform by wider audiences and the general public.

61. Improve the functionality, user-friendliness and outreach of UNEP-LEAP and maintain its interoperability with InforMEA in line with UNEP's efforts to consolidate its digital platforms for greater effectiveness and impact. UNEP-LEAP has evolved over time in an effort to increasingly meet its intended scope as a full-fledged digital backbone for the implementation of the Programme. Since its launch in June 2021, UNEP-LEAP has enabled knowledge and information sharing, supported capacity building and training, and facilitated interactions between the UNEP secretariat and national focal points with respect to requests for technical legal assistance. This midterm review, however, finds that despite the progress made, UNEP-LEAP has not yet fully reached its desired level of ambition, as it continues to be hampered by maintenance issues and structural limitations, as well as lack of awareness, practical application and use by its intended audience comprised of national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme, as well as the general public. Issues observed, in particular, include inconsistent evolutionary maintenance of the platform, compounded by lack of dedicated staffing from the UNEP secretariat to support its back-end functions; malfunctions in the public activity tracker, which may discourage national focal points from submitting technical legal assistance requests through the platform and rather rely on traditional pathways, thus making systematic tracking of follow-up more difficult; lack of multilingualism and responsiveness of the platform to mobile use, especially the country profile sections; lack of systematic publicization of capacity-building events and trainings organized under the Programme, which could otherwise ensure more consistent tracking and outcome dissemination; as well as its

underuse as a strategic planning tool that could help the periodic tracking and reporting of the Programme's activities, including by informing workings of the steering committee for implementation. In line with UNEP's ongoing efforts to consolidate its digital platforms, the progressive interoperability of UNEP-LEAP and InforMEA, especially for the training and capacity-building resources, was found to be a strong point in the evolution of UNEP-LEAP, which should continue to be actively pursued as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the platform's effectiveness and impact.

62. Embed and track gender-responsiveness more systematically in the implementation of the Montevideo Programme V, moving away from project-level interventions and towards more systemic change. Gender-responsiveness means going beyond meeting workshop representation targets and markers for publications and knowledge products. It means seeking the full and effective consideration of gender, its intersectionality and inclusivity, as well as the engagement and participation of women organizations or groups at all stages of the Programme's implementation, to attain its effective delivery and achieve systemic changes in environmental rule of law at all levels. This midterm review finds that, throughout the implementation of the Programme so far, gender-responsiveness has often remained confined to single project interventions, rather than broader catalytic initiatives. To effectively promote gender equality, as mandated by the Montevideo Programme V implementation guidelines, and to fully implement the Programme's Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, gender considerations should be more consistently integrated throughout the Programme's implementation. This could include systematically applying a gender lens to law and governance needs assessments, inviting women organizations or groups to provide their thought leadership in the design and implementation of legal assistance and capacity building initiatives; and routinely involve women legal professionals, policymakers, judicial actors, civil society organizations and community representatives in the monitoring and evaluation of activities. Systematically embedding these mechanisms within the Programme's implementation would strengthen institutional learning, enable adaptive programming, and generate evidence on the effectiveness of gender-responsive approaches, thereby supporting continuous improvement and greater accountability. Ultimately, it would help ensure that gender equality is not only carried out to fulfil project requirements but is maintained as a core condition of the Programme's effectiveness and impact.

63. Increase efforts to ensure the availability and predictability of resources to implement the Montevideo Programme V, including by strengthening and diversifying the donor base, enhancing donors and funding partners' awareness and exploring new and innovative funding pathways, with sustained guidance from the steering committee for implementation. While the Montevideo Programme V trust fund has created a dedicated funding window to support the Programme's implementation, enriched by the generous contributions of Member States and partners, overall funding has remained below targets since its inception. The Programme's Resource Mobilization Strategy, moreover, has provided a structured approach to mobilizing voluntary contributions and broadening the donor and partners' base for the Montevideo Programme V. This midterm review finds that increased resource mobilization and donor engagement remain necessary conditions for the effective implementation of the Programme. During its remaining period, the Montevideo Programme V should undertake more targeted communication efforts around its trust fund, to enhance donor awareness and increase contributions. This may include developing a funding prospectus, complemented by tailored donor information packages, investment cases and communication materials. Furthermore, more opportunities for direct engagement with existing and prospective donors and partners, including through targeted regional engagements, should be pursued (i.e. donor or partners roundtables). These could serve as important opportunities to present the achievements, priorities and funding needs of the Programme, with a view to creating new partnerships or enhancing existing ones. Pursuing coordinated fundraising initiatives, including with the sustained guidance of the steering committee for implementation, remains an important entry point to leverage complementary expertise and attract multi-partner financing. Such efforts should be supported by regular bilateral outreach to existing and prospective funding partners, as well as joint funding initiatives involving multiple UNEP Divisions and Offices, MEA secretariats, other UN entities and partners.

V. Targets for consideration of the United Nations Environment Assembly

64. This section presents clearly defined and measurable targets to guide the work of the Montevideo Programme V during its remaining period, for the consideration of the United Nations Environment Assembly. In response to the mandate of UNEA resolution 4/20 requesting the UNEP Executive Director to provide a report on the midterm review of the Programme, including clearly defined and measurable targets to be considered by UNEA, the following targets are proposed as part of this midterm review. The development of the targets was informed by the midterm review development process and by the continued guidance of the steering committee for implementation.

65. **The targets are presented thematically, in line with the analysis of the implementation of the Montevideo Programme V included in this midterm review, and with due consideration to enabling conditions to support the Programme's implementation.** As such, they respond to the thematic and cross-cutting areas identified by national focal points in past global meetings and related priorities reflected in the Programme's implementation roadmaps adopted by the steering committee for implementation. Further targets are also proposed to address enabling conditions to support the Programme's implementation and to enhance its responsiveness and effectiveness.

66. **The full achievement of the targets will depend on available resources, and their implementation will be monitored through UNEP's internal monitoring systems, including relevant projects or programmes housing relevant activities, and through continuous updates to the steering committee for implementation and global meetings of national focal points.** The steering committee for implementation will play a key role in ensuring that progress is achieved, providing guidance to the UNEP secretariat in case issues or challenges arise, and recommend adaptive responses or solutions. Global meetings of national focal points will also provide an important platform for national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme to review progress, including through the secretariat's progress reports on the status of implementation, activities and funding of the Programme.

67. **[The substantive implementation of the targets will also be informed by the guidance provided by national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V at the third global meeting of national focal points held on 4-5 November 2026, set out in the annex to the present report, and by any subsequent guidance.]** The guidance of national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme will continue to be a valuable input into the identification of potential priority areas, including emerging issues of environmental law and governance, to bring to the attention of the international law community and UNEP through the Programme during its remaining period.

(a) Legal responses to address the pollution crisis

- (i) By 2029, support the development, strengthening and implementation of legal and institutional frameworks to address pollution in at least nine countries. This will be done on a demand-driven basis prioritizing a balanced geographical distribution of activities and funding across all five UN regions.
- (ii) By 2029, support the development and dissemination of at least five practical guidance documents and materials, legal tools, model frameworks, policy briefs, studies, reports or knowledge products to address pollution.
- (iii) By 2029, support at least seven national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives focused on law and governance to address pollution.

(b) Legal responses to combat the climate crisis

- (i) By 2029, support the development, strengthening and implementation of legal and institutional frameworks to combat the climate crisis in at least six countries. This will be done on a demand-driven basis prioritizing a balanced geographical distribution of activities and funding across all five UN regions.
- (ii) By 2029, support the development and dissemination of at least five practical guidance documents and materials, legal tools, model frameworks, policy briefs, studies, reports or knowledge products to combat the climate crisis.
- (iii) By 2029, support at least four national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives focused on law and governance to combat the climate crisis.

(c) Legal responses to combat the biodiversity crisis

- (i) By 2029, support the development, strengthening and implementation of legal and institutional frameworks to combat the biodiversity crisis in at least six countries. This will be done on a demand-driven basis prioritizing a balanced geographical distribution of activities and funding across all five UN regions.

- (ii) By 2029, support the development and dissemination of at least five practical guidance documents and materials, legal tools, model frameworks, policy briefs, studies, reports or knowledge products to combat the biodiversity crisis.
- (iii) By 2029, support at least five national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives focused on law and governance to combat the biodiversity crisis.

(d) Cross-cutting areas

- (i) By 2029, support the development, strengthening and implementation of legal and institutional frameworks to enhance access rights and respond to other cross-cutting issues in at least nine countries. This will be done on a demand-driven basis prioritizing a balanced geographical distribution of activities and funding across all five UN regions.
- (ii) By 2029, support the development and dissemination of at least six practical guidance documents and materials, legal tools, model frameworks, policy briefs, studies, reports or knowledge products to enhance access rights and respond to other cross-cutting issues.
- (iii) By 2029, support at least fifteen national or regional dialogues, trainings, capacity-building workshops or initiatives focused on law and governance to enhance access rights and respond to other cross-cutting issues.
- (iv) By 2029, establish or maintain at least ten new or existing partnerships and communities of practice with academia, education and research institutions and networks to scale up environmental law education and capacity building.

(e) Enabling conditions for implementation

Institutional arrangements

- (i) By 2029, organize at least one annual consultation in each of the five UN regions with the national focal points of the Montevideo Programme V, and at least one annual consultation with partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V.

Digital services through UNEP-LEAP

- (ii) By 2029, organize at least three training sessions of national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V on UNEP-LEAP.
- (iii) By 2029, improve the functionalities, maintenance and outreach of UNEP-LEAP and continue to enhance its interoperability with InforMEA.

Partnerships and stakeholder engagement

- (iv) By 2027, develop at least one knowledge product on the Montevideo Programme V for dissemination to UN Resident Coordinators and UN country teams and, during the Programme's remaining period, organize dedicated awareness raising sessions. These will be done on a demand-driven basis and prioritizing a balanced geographical distribution of activities across all five UN regions.
- (v) By 2027, produce a public-facing roster of partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V for publication on UNEP-LEAP, and update it on a regular basis.

Resource mobilization

- (vi) By 2027, create a comprehensive communication package around the Montevideo Programme V trust fund to enhance awareness and increase contributions.
- (vii) By 2029, organize at least one annual donor roundtable to present the achievements, priorities and funding needs of the Montevideo Programme V and strengthen partnerships with existing and prospective donors.

- (viii) By 2029, diversify and strengthen the Montevideo Programme V funding portfolio through coordinated fundraising initiatives, including by securing contributions from at least five new or returning funding partners.

Communication and visibility

- (ix) By 2029, enhance the visibility and recognition of the Montevideo Programme V through sustained engagement in major global and regional environmental and other thematic meetings or events.
- (x) By 2029, develop and disseminate at least three impact stories annually, demonstrating the Montevideo Programme V contribution to strengthening environmental law, supporting implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the SDGs.

VI. Conclusion

68. **The United Nations Environment Assembly may wish to note the progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of Montevideo Programme V, and to consider the clearly defined and measurable targets included in this midterm review,** [as well as the guidance provided by national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Programme at the third global meeting of national focal points as set out in the annex to the present report.]

Annex

[Recommendations of national focal points, partners and stakeholders of the Montevideo Programme V from the third global meeting of national focal points of the Montevideo Programme V held online from 4 to 5 November 2026.]