



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

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**Fifth Programme for the Development and
Periodic Review of Environmental Law
(Montevideo Programme V):
delivering for people and the planet
First global meeting of national focal points
Nairobi, 6–9 June 2022*
Agenda item 5****

Partnerships and stakeholder engagement

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 4/20 of 28 March 2019, the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) adopted the fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V).¹ The vision of Montevideo Programme V is to promote the development and implementation of environmental rule of law, strengthen related capacity at the national level and contribute to the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Partnerships and stakeholder engagement are at the core of Montevideo Programme V. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (e) the Programme, it will support collaboration and the promotion of partnerships across the United Nations and with other relevant entities in the field of environmental law. Additionally, paragraph 5 (c) of the Programme stipulates that the Programme and its activities will be developed and implemented in cooperation, coordination or partnership with relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, promoting public participation. Paragraph 6 (a) (vi) states that the secretariat of UNEP, which serves as the secretariat for the Programme, will foster the active participation of relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Programme, and paragraph 6 (d) states that academics and eminent experts in the field of environmental law, relevant civil-society organizations and the private sector may be invited to assist in the implementation mechanism of the Programme, as appropriate and feasible.

3. As is stated in the updated version of the report by the secretariat on the status of implementation, activities and funding (UNEP/Env.Law/MTV5.GNFP/1/2/Rev.1), since the adoption of the Programme the secretariat has undertaken several activities to support and foster partnerships. These activities have included the holding of an inter-agency dialogue entitled “Advancing Environmental Rule of Law Together”, in Geneva from 26 to 28 November 2019; the creation of a new legal officers’ network for the Programme; the provision of bilateral briefings on the Programme

* The first global meeting is being held in two segments – an online segment held from 2 to 4 June 2021 and an in-person segment to be held in Nairobi from 6 to 9 June 2022. The report of the online segment is set out in document UNEP/Env.Law/MTV5/GNFP.1/6.

** UNEP/Env.Law/MTV5/GNFP.1/1.

¹ UNEP/EA.4/19, annex.

to various stakeholders in 2020, 2021 and 2022; the launch of the Law and Environment Assistance Platform of UNEP (UNEP-LEAP), which, among other things, has provided stakeholders with information on the Programme; and the launch of a “Partner of the Programme” initiative, through which stakeholders of all relevant groups listed in the text of the Programme were invited to express their interest in participating in the implementation of the Programme.

4. During the online segment of the first global meeting of national focal points, held from 2 to 4 June 2021, national focal points were invited to provide initial comments on how partnerships could be developed and harnessed to implement the Programme. They emphasized the importance of partnerships for the successful implementation of the Programme. Following those discussions, the secretariat developed a working document on partnerships to be considered during the in-person segment, scheduled to take place from 6 to 9 June 2022.

5. The purpose of the present working document on partnerships is to provide a set of guiding questions to assist national focal points and stakeholders in their consideration of agenda item 5,² “Partnerships and stakeholder engagement,” during the resumed meeting. The input received will inform the secretariat in the development of a strategy for the promotion of partnerships in the implementation of Montevideo Programme V, to be presented to the steering committee for implementation in due course.

II. Guiding questions

6. In considering agenda item 5, national focal points and stakeholders are invited to share their views on arrangements for partnerships and stakeholder engagement for the implementation of the Programme, focusing on the following questions:

- (a) What would be the key objectives of a partnership and stakeholder engagement strategy?
- (b) What principles should be considered in the development of a partnership strategy under the Programme?
- (c) What elements should be included in a partnership strategy under the Programme?
- (d) How should the priority areas for the implementation of the Programme relate to the development of a partnership and stakeholder engagement strategy?
- (e) What good practices for partnership engagement can inform the development of a partnership strategy under the Programme?

² See UNEP/Env.Law/MTV5/GNFP.1/1/Add.1.