27 June [A/69/25]. Ministerial-level consultations (26–27 June), which focused on the themes of “Sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda, including sustainable consumption and production” and “Illegal trade in wildlife”, included discussions on eradicating poverty and achieving prosperity within the earth’s safe operating space through sustainable consumption and production; and ensuring a healthy environment, restoring natural assets and enhancing the durability of infrastructure. Annexed to the report [UNEP/EA.1/10] was a summary of the views expressed during the ministerial dialogue on illegal trade in wildlife, convened on 26 June. For its consideration the Environment Assembly had before it a note [UNEP/EA.1/INF/7] by the secretariat on regional consultations with major groups and stakeholders leading up to the first session, and reports of the Executive Director on UNEP engagement with regional ministerial forums and their contributions to the Assembly [UNEP/EA.1/2/Add.2] and a draft policy on stakeholder engagement in UNEP [UNEP/EA.1/2].

The Environment Assembly adopted amendments to the rules of procedure [A/69/25 (res. 1/2)] and, recalling paragraph 6 of Governing Council decision 27/2 [YUN 2013, p. 988], decided that each of the five regions would be represented by two members in the 10-member UNEA Bureau [dec. 1/1]. The Assembly further decided to hold its second session in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016 [dec. 1/2].

The Committee of the Whole, established by the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, held six meetings during the Assembly to consider the agenda items assigned to it.

The Environment Assembly heard from the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on its preparations for the first session. A report [UNEP/EA.1/INF/4] submitted to the Assembly contained the minutes of meetings held by the Committee since the twenty-seventh (2013) session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum.

On 17 November (decision 2014/254), the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Environment Assembly on its first session.

The General Assembly took note of the report in resolution 69/223 of 19 December (see p. 1178).

Election. On 7 March (decision 68/416), the General Assembly, on the proposal of the Secretary-General, re-elected Achim Steiner (Germany/Brazil) as UNEP Executive Director for a two-year term beginning on 15 June 2014 and ending on 14 June 2016.

High-level segment

Sustainable consumption and production

The Environment Assembly had before it a note [UNEP/EA.1/INF/18] by the UNEP secretariat on environmental sustainability for human well-being in the post-2015 development agenda. The note discussed an integrated framework for the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda; evidence from integrated solutions; and building the sustainability foundation for the post-2015 development agenda. The shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns through valuing, maintaining and increasing natural capital, sustainable innovation and dematerialization processes had created opportunities for poverty eradication, green jobs, business and prosperity. The note concluded that the integration of economic growth, social protection and justice, and environmental stewardship should be at the core of the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda.

The Assembly [A/69/25 (res. 1/1)] adopted the ministerial outcome document of its first session, reaffirming its commitment to achieve a universal, implementable and realizable post-2015 development agenda with the aim of eradicating poverty, protecting the environment and promoting inclusive social and economic development in harmony with nature.

Report of Secretary-General. In a September report [E/2014/93] prepared in response to General Assembly resolutions 67/203 [YUN 2012, p. 811] and 68/210 [YUN 2013, p. 787], the Secretary-General summarized progress on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns. Progress had been achieved through the adoption of the 10-year framework at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) [YUN 2012, p. 780], which created momentum for the shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns. Serving as the 10-year framework secretariat, UNEP put in place the framework’s mandated governance structure; organized regional meetings and workshops for national focal points; guided the multi-stakeholder consultation process to develop the framework programmes; and established procedures for the launch and development of such programmes. The secretariat established a trust fund to provide financial support to the framework and specific programmes and initiatives in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The report summarized key mechanisms to delivering capacity-building and implementation at the regional and national levels, as well as regional, national and international progress. The Secretary-General reported on the UN Environment Assembly’s focus at the ministerial level on sustainable consumption and production during its first session, noting that ministers highlighted the potential of the 10-year framework as an important tool for the development of economies on a sustainable basis. He also noted that sustainable consumption and production and the 10-year framework were included in the agenda and dialogues of the 2014 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and at the high-level political forum.