Rules applied when collecting citations between multilateral environmental agreements¹

- Reference to agreements other than multilateral environmental agreements, such as non-legally binding agreements, bilateral agreements, non-environmental agreements, European Union directives, and national legislation, are not included.
- Generic reference to an agreement, even if it is possible to guess what the referenced agreement might be, is not included (e.g., "as well as other Conventions and Agreements of relevance").
- Reference to a forthcoming agreement, even if the agreement has actually been adopted, is not included (e.g., "An inter-American convention on human rights shall determine the structure, competence, and procedure of this Commission, as well as those of other organs responsible for these matters").
- When an agreement refers to a specific international organisation (e.g., World Trade Organization), the agreement that established the organization is considered cited (i.e., Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization).
- When an agreement refers to an amendment in a non-specific manner (e.g., International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969, *as amended*), the amending protocol that replaced the original agreement (i.e., Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969) is considered cited, along with the original agreement (i.e., International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969).
- When an agreement refers to another agreement that is amended through an amending protocol (e.g., Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969), both the original agreement (i.e., International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969) and the amending protocol (i.e., Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969) are considered cited.
- When an agreement refers to another agreement that is revised or replaced without an amendment or amending protocol (e.g., International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea), both the original and revised agreements are considered cited (until the original MEA expires, if applicable).

¹ Rakhyun E. Kim. 2013. The emergent network structure of the multilateral environmental agreement system. *Global Environmental Change*, 23: 980-991.