The United Nations Environmental Council (UNEC) will have a global coordinating function in sustainable development. It will be a central organization that collects, produces, propagates and exchanges information on sustainability worldwide, concerning ecological, social and economical sustainability issues. This new council should have a billboard function in sustainable building design. The building will be located next to the existing UN Headquarters on the East River bank in Manhattan.

Because of the East River Park, the focus on the UNHQ ensemble is more on the elevation seen from the riverside: an unbalanced composition. The building will be placed to the north end of the plot to readdress the balance. The East River Park will be highlighted.

UNEC Building form will strengthen the public plaza by its canopy. The plaza becomes a strong focal point.

This will integrate the podium with the building ensemble. The UN plot, one UNEC plot, one podium: clear boundaries. Between the UNEC and the Assembly, a plaza will become the public focus of the UN plot (entrance for public to the UN).

Reuse the former FDR-canopy (sustainable). This will integrate the podium with the building ensemble. Connection UNHQ - UNEC.

Floor plan -1 (1:500)
Floor plan +2 (1:200)
Section AA’ (1:500)
Section CC’ (1:500)

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Construction & grid

Climate

Ventilation concepts

Office backbone
- Vented backbones as separated cooling elements
- Ventilated corridor as acoustic and cooling elements

Offices spaces

Solar roof
- Energy is generated on the roof of the UNEC building. The PV panels are mounted on the roof to provide energy for the building.

Collection, filtering and use of rainwater
- Rainwater is collected in the bassins on the plaza and filtered by helofytes. It will be reused to flush the toilets of the total UN plot.
Facade fragment I

Facade fragment II

Detail A

Detail B

Detail C

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