



1st meeting of the Issue Management Group Tackling E-waste: Towards Eco-design and a Life-cycle Approach for E-products

EMG/e-waste/IMG/
20.06.2016
Distribution: IMG members

15.06.2016

GoToMeeting from 03:00 p.m. to 04:30 pm. (Geneva time)

1. Introduction

The first meeting of the IMG took place online on 15 June 2016, chaired by the Director of the EMG Secretariat, Mr. Elliott Harris. The meeting discussed and approved the the Terms of Reference of the IMG and its work plan upon incorporation of additional comments during the meeting. The meeting agreed as well to recommend to the 22nd meeting of the EMG senior officials to extend the mandate of the IMG into 2017 to accomplish its tasks.

The list of participants is provided in Annex I.

2. Opening remarks and adoption of the agenda

In his opening remarks, the Chair welcomed focal points and meeting participants to the first meeting of the IMG, expressing his thanks to by ITU, UNU, the BRS Secretariat, UNEP, UNITAR, the SAICM Secretariat and UNIDO that have been actively engaged in defining the scope of the IMG reflected in the draft ToR. The Chair stressed that this IMG will deal with e-waste from a programmatic and policy perspective, facilitating coordination of UN entities' work in support of Member States, without overlapping activities of the Sustainable UN that looks at how the UN deals with (e-)waste management of its own facilities.

The meeting adopted the agenda (Annex 2).

3. Consideration and approval of the Terms of Reference

The Chair introduced the context and content of the TOR and opened the floor for comments and suggestions by the participants. The following comments were made:

- ILO suggested that the ToR could be further strengthened by including employment and labour aspects of e-waste. For example, SDG targets 8.3 and 8.8. could be mentioned in paragraph 14 while wording could be added to paragraph 19 (e) highlighting employment creation, transition to the informal economy and safety and health in the management of e-waste. Precise language will be proposed by ILO to the EMG Secretariat.
- FAO requested a more precise description of what the IMG will be mapping under paragraph 19 (a) and suggested that the IMG should put emphasis on the beginning and end of the lifecycle of e-products.
- UNEP argued that there would be a loss of opportunity if the full lifecycle approach is not applied in consideration of e-waste issues and hence underscored that the ToR should make clear reference to the whole lifecycle of e-products.

- Referring to the Chair’s opening remarks, UNDP requested a clarification of the focus of the IMG as described in paragraph 16 and 19 (b), as the paragraphs could be misinterpreted to cover UN internal work to manage its own e-waste. The Chair proposed that a separate paragraph 20 is added to the ToR, explaining that the IMG will remain in touch with the IMG and SUN to keep each other informed of their work.
- The SUN facility welcomed the focus of the IMG on programs and policies and added that the work of the IMG could provide a useful basis to inform UN internal e-waste management practices.
- WFP proposed adding a paragraph to part B of the ToR further describing relevant inter-agency initiatives such as the work convened by the Norwegian Refugee Council. The Chair suggested that any other initiatives can be included in the in the mapping study rather than in the ToR .

Agreed actions

Based on these comments, the EMG Secretariat will revise the ToR with a specific focus on paragraphs 14, 16 and 19. A finalised draft will be circulated by June 17 for the approval of the IMG/EMG.

4. Consideration of the draft work plan of the IMG

The Chair introduced the draft work plan included in the ToR. He explained that four meetings have been planned for the IMG over the course of one year and that the expected input of IMG members includes i.a. contributing to the mapping study by providing information on activities of their agencies and commenting on the draft mapping report. The IMG members will also engage in the strategic discussion on the follow up of the mapping report and definition of a strategic approach on E-Waste.

The following comments were made:

- UNU proposed to undertake the mapping by building on existing mapping on e-waste to avoid duplication of work. The Chair agreed and added that the mapping should provide an accurate picture of possible gaps that may exist in the UN’s work on e-waste. UNU further inquired whether the mapping exercise could lead to an interactive world map such as the one prepared within the Solving the E-waste Problem (STEP) initiative.
- BRS Secretariat suggested that a new line would be added to the work plan in order to reflect the new paragraph 20 in the ToR.

Agreed actions

The EMG Secretariat will revise the work plan based on the comments received, including an additional line that reflects the new paragraph 20 in the ToR.

5. Next steps and meeting of the IMG

The Chair explained the EMG procedure of providing a progress report on each IMG's work to the senior officials at their annual meeting in September, offering an opportunity to request extended mandates for the processes that are still ongoing. He proposed that the IMG on e-waste requests an extension of its mandate to complete the tasks in its ToR in time to report results to SOM23 in September 2017. The next meeting of the IMG is proposed to be held towards the end of 2016, when a draft mapping report is available.

The following remarks were made:

- In response to an inquiry by WFP, the Chair confirmed that IMG members will be kept informed of progress in between meetings. WFP requested that the list of participants is included in the meeting minutes, in order to facilitate exchange of information among focal points.
- UNU suggested that an online depository such as a shared Dropbox folder is created, in which all material and data collected for the mapping is stored, and to which all focalpoints have access.
- UNDP inquired whether there would be interest among the focal points to also share information about e-waste related events. ESCAP supported the idea and proposed that a live, collaborative list of events is stored in the Dropbox folder for anyone to complete and update.

Agreed action

The Chair summarized the next steps as follows:

- The revised ToR and work plan will be shared with the IMG for final comments and approval by June 17, 2016.
- The minutes of the meeting, including a list of participants, will be shared during the week of June 20th.
- The IMG will begin its work by designing a survey for the mapping exercise, taking into consideration already accomplished work such as the mappings done under the STEP initiative. Data collection is planned to take place in the 3rd quarter of 2016.
- A shared Dropbox folder will be created to facilitate exchange of information and data among IMG focal points.

6. Closure of the meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 4.30pm GVA time.

Annex 1**List of Participants**

	Name	Organisation
1	Patricia Charlebois	IMO
2	Tianbing Huang	IMO
3	Llorenç Milà i Canals	UNEP
4	Chandra Srivastava,	ESCAP
5	Paul Thompson	ESCAP
6	Eric Roeder	ESCAP
7	Alfredo Cueva	UNIDO
8	Nelson Manda	UNITAR
9	John Marks	UNICEF
10	Cristina Bueti	ITU
11	David Seligson	ILO
12	Ajiniyaz Reimov	UNDP
13	Ruediger Kuhr	UNU
14	Aramis Alojantis	WFP
15	Georgina Stickels	WFP
16	Matthias Kern	BRS Secretariat
17	William Abi Abdallah	UNICEF
18	Cezar Santos Alvarez	FAO
19	Marit Nilseth	ESCAP
20	Victor Ocade	
21	Hossein Fadaei	EMG Secretariat
22	Elliott Harris (Chair)	EMG Secretariat
23	Jannica Pitkanen	EMG Secretariat
24	Monica Villegas	EMG Secretariat
25	Isabella Marras	SUN

Annex 2



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



1st meeting of the Issue Management Group Tackling E-waste: Towards Eco-design and a Life-cycle Approach for E-products

15.06.2016

GoToMeeting from 03:00 p.m. to 05:00 pm. (Geneva time) .

EMG/e-waste/IMG/
08.06.2016

Distribution: IMG members
CC: EMG members

Documents:

- Draft Agenda
- Draft Terms of Reference and work plan for the IMG

Provisional Agenda

1. Opening remarks by Elliott Harris, Director of the EMG Secretariat
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Consideration and approval of the Terms of Reference
4. Consideration of the draft work plan of the IMG
Incl. consideration of resource requirements, roles and responsibilities
5. Next steps and meeting of the IMG
Including progress reporting to SOM22 and relevant e-waste related events
6. Other matters
7. Closure of the meeting