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**4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Issue Management Group on Tackling E-waste:  
Towards Eco-design and a Life-cycle Approach for E-products**

**EMG/e-waste/IMG/  
02.08.2017**

24.07.2017

Distribution: IMG members

GoToMeeting from 03:30 p.m. to 05:00 pm. (Geneva time).

Documents:

- Provisional Agenda
- Draft Note on Recommendations (Action Points for the IMG)
- Draft Joint Statement
- Draft Analytical Report

## **Draft Report**

### **1. Introduction**

The fourth meeting of the IMG took place online on 24 July 2017, chaired by Mr. Hossein Fadaei of the EMG Secretariat. The meeting discussed the future work of the IMG following the finalization of the Synthesis Report and considered a draft Joint Statement on continuing and enhancing UN system-wide collaboration on tackling the global e-waste problem

The list of participants is provided in Annex I.

### **2. Opening remarks and adoption of the agenda**

There were no comments on the agenda, which was subsequently adopted.

### **3. Comments and discussion on the note on action points for 2017/2018**

#### *a.) Comments on the proposed outline for implementation of the recommendations*

The EMG Secretariat introduced agenda item 3 and the related note that provides more detail on the potential follow-up of the recommendations in the e-waste analytical report and transposes this follow-up into actionable points for decision by the EMG Senior Officials in September 2017.

WFP inquired whether a lead agency (or agencies) has been selected to support the follow-up of the recommendations, suggesting that it would be best for an agency whose mandate is positioned around e-waste, to take on this voluntary role.

The Secretariat highlighted that currently the action points are divided into short and long-term timelines, for suggestive purposes. However, no timeline has specifically been agreed upon for the implementation of the recommendations. This will be the topic of discussion in the next meeting of the IMG on Tackling E-waste towards the end of September 2017 and thus will be determined at a later date, alongside the identification of a lead agency (or agencies) to support follow-up of the recommendations.

It was further noted, that it has not yet been agreed who will present the progress of the IMG on Tackling E-waste at the SOM.

#### **4. Draft joint statement**

The EMG Secretariat gave an introduction into the elements of the joint statement and emphasized how these elements mirror the recommendations of the report. The procedure on commenting on the statement by members of the IMG, and the subsequent circulation of the statement among Heads of agencies was described. The importance of the joint statement in enabling the work of the IMG to move forward was highlighted.

WFP noted that the last sentence of the statement's first paragraph should be strengthened to highlight the importance of the design stage early on and its positive effects at the end of the life-cycle of electrical and electronic equipment.

Participants were requested to provide any comments they have in writing.

#### **5. Brief presentation by World Food Programme**

Ms. Georgina Stickles presented the World Food Programme's internal work on e-waste in the context of the UN e-waste inventory carried out by SUN. Ms. Stickles also gave an overview of the SUN project on managing UN e-waste which includes work on drafting guidance manuals and fact sheets, the undertaking of training and production of an awareness-raising report for senior management. She mentioned that partial funding for this work on e-waste has been received from the International Environment Technology Centre (IETC), and that the project is a collaboration among SUN, IETC and WFP.

Before opening the floor for any comments on the presentation, Ms. Stickles gave a picture of the potential avenues for liaison between the IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management in the UN System (managed by SUN) and the IMG on Tackling E-waste.

The Chair emphasized the benefit of keeping contact between the two IMGs in a two-way process, inviting the SUN to ask for guidance and advice on e-waste whenever needed. He noted that there may be potential to also map the internal e-waste issues during the programmatic gap analysis proposed by the e-waste analytical report.

ILO provided an overview of its work on internal e-waste, giving an example of the waste management practices undertaken and of the challenges faced in country offices.

The United Nations University (UNU) offered support for internal e-waste practices from a data perspective and technical point of view.

The EMG Secretariat highlighted that the mapping exercise carried out by the IMG was undertaken from the perspective of UN agencies and programmes, and that it focussed on their programmatic initiatives including guidance, manuals and standards, rather than on specific on-the-ground work. UNU pointed out that there is currently work by the UNU-led Solving the E-waste Problem initiative, that looks at mapping particular features in different countries.

#### **6. Other matters (including any last comments on the draft analytical report)**

The Chair offered a quick overview of the e-waste analytical report, highlighting comments made suggesting the inclusion of positive elements of e-waste; for example, through the green economy and green jobs. Participants were reminded about providing their inputs into the report relating to these comments.

Comments by members of the IMG on the joint statement and note on action points will be requested by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2017. A 5<sup>th</sup> IMG meeting is proposed for the end of September, upon endorsement of the action points by EMG Senior Officials.

#### **7. Closure of the meeting**

The Chair closed the meeting at 17:00 GVA time.

**Annex 1 (List of Participants)**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
1	Mr. Andy Cole	WFP
2	Ms. Georgina Stickels	WFP
3	Ms. Annika	WFP
4	Mr. Usman Tariq	SAICM
5	Mr. Casper Edmonds	ILO
6	Ms. Bianca Perina	ILO
7	Ruediger Kuehr	UNU
8	Ms. Eloise Touni	UN Environment
9	Mr. Ivan Blazevic	UN Environment
10	Mr. Mario Kacha	ITU
11	Mr. Hossein Fadaei (Chair)	EMG Secretariat
12	Ms. Jannica Pitkänen	EMG Secretariat
13	Mr. Garam Bel	EMG Secretariat
14	Ms. Karma Knutson	EMG Secretariat