



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



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Dear Colleagues,

At the outset, I wish to thank you for your participation and for the high level attendance of your agencies in the annual meeting of the Environmental Management Group (EMG) on 8 October. This confirms a renewed interest in the work of the Group and your commitment to its success. I trust we will be able to maintain this high level attendance and contribution in the future.

I am pleased to attach the report of the EMG meeting, which reflects the discussions and agreements reached on the next steps, as well as your subsequent comments on the draft that had been circulated for comments. I am also very pleased with the practical and focused nature of our discussions. The agenda item on a Climate-neutral UN resulted in a draft statement for our consideration and adoption at the Chief Executives Board (CEB) later this week. The draft statement has already been circulated to you by the CEB secretariat, and the report of the EMG meeting addresses the background and the process behind this exciting project.

While there was clear interest by the EMG to continue working on the topic of issue-based cooperation between global environment treaties, we were not ready to set up a formal issue management group at this stage. Nevertheless, in the conclusions of this agenda item (see paragraph 45 of the EMG report) we have given the EMG secretariat a 'watching brief' to report to us on the areas identified when they are ready for our consideration. I have also requested them to consult with relevant Heads of conventions to determine how the EMG could assist and facilitate an exchange of views on cooperative arrangements.

I look forward to working with all of you on these activities and to deliver tangible results.

With my best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner
Chair, EMG
Executive Director

To: Executive heads of agencies, funds, programmes and MEAs (i.e. members of EMG)

Cc: EMG Focal Points and CEB Secretariat

Attachment: Report of the annual meeting of the EMG held on 8 October 2007 in Geneva and follow-up

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