



# 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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## 18<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting of the Environment Management Group

1 November 2012

Preparatory technical segment: 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Senior officials segment: 3 – 6 p.m.

EMG/SOM.18/03

8 October 2012

Distribution: EMG members

LRC Room, 11<sup>th</sup> floor of the UNDP FF-building,  
304 E 45<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10017.

## Proposed work plan 2013 - 2014

### Note by the Chair

### Introduction

1. This note presents a proposed work plan for the Environment Management Group (EMG) for the period 2013 – 2014 (both years included). The plan builds on the work plan adopted by the 17<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the EMG in 2012. The plan has been updated to a 2013-2014 EMG work plan which reflects the suggested actions presented in the document EMG/SOM.18/03.
2. It is proposed that the work plan, as was decided last year, be given a two year horizon, i.e. be a plan for 2013 to 2014, which is subject to annual approval by the Senior Officials. This approach is meant to capture activities which have a time span longer than one year. The plan, an overview of forthcoming activities and milestones for the next 24 months, has four main expected accomplishments which pertain to programmatic, management and operational issues as well as overall cooperation.
3. The work plan remains un-costed as there is no common budget for EMG activities. It is recommended that the work plan be implemented through in-kind contributions, subject to the availability of resources. The in-kind contributions will be budgeted, programmed and reported on by each member and the UNEP secretariat within their own administrative processes.

## Environment Management Group work plan for 2013 – 2014

Expected accomplishment	Activities and milestones <sup>1</sup>
<b>A. Management issues</b>	<b>IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management</b>
Enhanced sustainability of management practices in the United Nations (UN) system	<p><b>1. UN Sustainability management</b>            Maintain regular IMG meetings to identify how sustainable management can be further developed and systematically implemented in the UN system by identifying barriers, enabling measures, providing input to relevant bodies and processes in the UN system, and providing respective reports and recommendations to the EMG. Prepare a progress report of the above work of the IMG to the 18th Senior Officials Meeting of the EMG in 2013</p> <p>(a) Identify possible options for a common structure to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan and for resourcing the structure's operation.</p> <p>(b) Develop and implement organization-specific sustainability management systems (SMS) as outlined in the Strategic Plan. Members will be encouraged to design their respective SMSs, for consideration at the appropriate level within each organization, based on existing work (e.g. emission reduction strategies) and provide details on human and financial resources required.</p> <p>(c) The IMG will more specifically:</p> <p>(i) Prepare the fourth edition of the report "Moving towards Climate Neutrality in the UN System", to be released at the spring meeting of the CEB in April 2013;</p> <p>(ii) Provide inputs to EMG contributions to the UNCSD as part of advancing environmental and social sustainability in the UN system;</p> <p>(iii) Continue knowledge sharing, communication, training and awareness-raising activities, in particular based on the Greening the Blue platform, on issues such as sustainable facilities, procurement, events, travel, and e-communications; and to maintain the links created with related inter-agency networks;</p> <p>(iv) Seek resources and create partnerships to develop a tutorial for the UN system aimed at enhancing a culture of sustainability and enabling staff in their respective categories to contribute to the success of emissions reduction strategies and sustainability management;</p> <p>(v) Undertake other activities, as may be needed and possible within existing resources, to maintain the momentum of the UN climate neutral and overall sustainability effort.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Activities will be undertaken with the support by members in the form of personnel time, travel, in-kind and financial support, with support provided by the UNEP hosted EMG secretariat and the support provided by the UNEP Sustainable UN Facility (SUN).

<b>B. Programmatic issues</b>	
<p>Enhanced coherence in programming of environmental activities in the United Nations system, including for mainstreaming environmental concerns into sectoral programmes</p>	<p><b>1. IMG on biodiversity</b>  Further the cooperation among EMG members on a multi-sectoral contributions to the implementation of the post 2010 biodiversity agenda including the outcome of the General Assembly high level event on biodiversity, the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Outcome Document of the Rio+20; and report on its work to the 19<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM).  (a) Develop a synthesis mapping report on agencies contributions to the Biodiversity Strategic Plan (2011-2021) building on EMG report entitled “Advancing the biodiversity agenda, A UN system wide Contribution”; and identify areas of joint planning, coordination and cooperation as well as reporting on implementation of the Strategic Plan  (b) Develop a practical and pragmatic approach to the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategic Plan at national level including cooperation at national level in revising and implementing the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPS) and to report on progress to the CBD bureau and the COP 11 through the Working Group on Review of Implementation and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.</p>
	<p><b>2. IMG on Land</b>  Prepare modalities for a joint coherent UN system-wide contribution response and agenda for action on dry-lands, including the implementation of the 10-year strategic plan of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa and the Rio+20 Outcome Document and report on its work to UNCCD COP11 and the 19<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting.  (a) Prepare, based on the findings of the report “Global Drylands, A UN system-wide Contribution”, the decision of the UNCCD COP10 and the Secretary-General’s Rio+20 implementation framework , a UN system-wide Action Plan on Drylands  (b)Prepare a report on the outcome of its work to the 11th COP of the UNCCD</p>
	<p><b>3. IMG on Green Economy</b>  Provide a coordinated and coherent UN system support to countries in making the transition to a “green economy” in follow up and implementation of the Rio+20 Outcome Document  (a) Prepare a collation of toolkits and best practices, building on existing materials but with a higher level of specification to address practical challenges in major country groupings;  (b) Prepare a collation of analytical/assessment methodologies that exist within the UN system and preliminary suggestions for an integrated approach;  (c) Represent IMG at major international platforms on inclusive green economies</p>
	<p><b>4. Support in implementation of the Rio+20 Outcome Document and respond to any requests arising from the post Rio+20 process including contributions to the Post 2015 Development Agenda</b></p>

	<p>(a). Prepare possible EMG contributions to the relevant elements of the Rio+20 Outcome Document including on green economy, biodiversity, desertification and preparatory process on sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the context of the post 2015 Development Agenda.</p>
	<p>(b) Submit a progress report on EMG strategic discussions to the UNCSD Secretariat in response to the Secretary-General's implementation framework for UN system agencies contribution to Rio+20 Outcome Document.</p>

<b>C. Operational issues</b>	
Enhanced coherence in advancing environmental and social sustainability of the UN system	<p><b>1. Consultations on environmental and social sustainability</b> Continue to facilitate the Consultative Process in close cooperation with the IMG on environmental sustainability management and other relevant social inter-agency mechanisms and entities with the view to:</p> <p>(a) Translate the policy-level Framework into a roadmap that provides UN entities with an implementation and operational model, including further development and clarification of elements of the Sustainability Framework essential for implementation and for adopting a common approach</p>
	<p>(b) Explore options for a common support function and establish and utilize a common knowledge sharing mechanism</p> <p>(c) Provide a progress report on the outcome of its work to the 19<sup>th</sup> EMG SOM.</p>
	<p><b>2. Peer-reviews of environmental profiles of the EMG members</b> Develop a common approach for undertaking of environmental peer-reviews of the EMG members taking into account the monitoring and evaluation procedures in each institution and in consultation with relevant UN evaluation units.</p> <p>(a) Undertake two or three pilot peer-reviews on a voluntary basis in the interested agencies following the suggested approach in the options paper.</p> <p>(b) Report to the 19<sup>th</sup> SOM on the progress of those peer-reviews for further consideration of the Group and extension of peer-reviews to other EMG members on a voluntary basis.</p>
<b>D. Overall cooperation</b>	
Strengthened cooperation among EMG members in setting a common agenda, implementing joint initiatives and reporting on progress	<p><b>1. Senior Officials Meetings of the EMG</b> Convene the 19<sup>th</sup> SOM of the EMG in September 2013 based on consultations of options for dates, venues and agenda.</p>
	<p><b>2. Exchange of information and outreach</b> Facilitate exchange of information and outreach on EMG activities including through maintaining the EMG website.</p>

	<b>3. Report to UNEP Governing Council on EMG accomplishments</b>
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Preparations of a report by the EMG Chair reviewed by EMG members to UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its 27<sup>th</sup> Special Session.

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