

Proposed Action points
for endorsement of the senior segment

As revised by the EMG Technical Segment at their meeting on September 21, 2015.

Suggested Action I: The Issue Management Group (IMG) on Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste

The senior officials:

1. Welcome the Synthesis Report *United Nations and Sound Chemicals Management: Coordinating delivery for member states and sustainable development* and the recommendations therein;
2. Welcome and approve the *Statement by the Members of the Environment Management Group* committing to stepping up joint and coordinated efforts to promote the sound management of chemicals as a critical component of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda;
3. Take note of the decision by the 43rd IOMC meeting to invite the UN bodies involved in the IMG exercise to a meeting in 2016 to gauge their interest in future engagement with IOMC on the sound management of chemicals and wastes;
4. Also take note of the invitation by the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions to look at how the United Nations system can deliver on the 2020 goal for the sound management of chemicals and wastes;
5. Further take note of the invitation by the Strategic Approach's Open-ended Working Group to look at how the United Nations system can deliver on the Overall Orientation and Guidance (OOG) up to 2020;
6. Decide to extend the IMG for one more year to provide a coordinated system-wide input to the work underway led by the UN Statistical Division on possible composite indicators on sound management of chemicals for the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Also consider how the EMG can best contribute to a system wide implementation of the SDGs, inter alia, by promoting integration of sound management of chemicals into policy frameworks of selected sectors through system wide cooperation in the light of the integrated nature of the SDGs.

Suggested Action I BIS – on Electronic Waste

The senior officials:

Invite the ITU in consultation with the EMG Secretariat to provide a proposal on the rationale and Terms of Reference for a potential Issue Management Group in the area of Electronic Waste on the basis of which the EMG will make a decision on whether to establish an IMG on this issue.

Suggested Actions II: Consultations on Advancing the Framework for Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN system.

The senior officials:

1. Take note of the progress made by the Consultative Process on the implementation and the findings of piloting the Framework for Advancing Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN System as well as the Interim Guide in seven UN agencies;

2. With the aim of generating system-wide commitment in advancing the Framework for Environmental and Social Sustainability, decide to extend the Consultative Process for one more year to:

a) Revise the Sustainability Framework: Improve and strengthen the Sustainability Framework as the basis for a common approach for advancing environmental and social sustainability in the UN system, based on the lessons learned from the pilot process, including elaborating where there is a common basis that can be built on (e.g. principles, minimum requirements, etc.), and clarifying the implications of and the linkages with the post-2015 sustainable development agenda;

b) Revise Interim Guide: Update the Interim Guide to align it with the new Sustainability Framework, building on feedback from the pilot phase, and to address commonly identified implementation challenges and best practices in responding to those challenges;

c) Communications Package: Develop a package of key communications materials related to the Sustainability Framework and Interim Guide, including a brochure, PowerPoint presentations, webinars etc., that can be used across the UN system;

d) Online Platform: Create an online platform on environmental and social sustainability in the UN system for information exchange and sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

e) Expand Uptake: Facilitate continued implementation of the Framework by the volunteer pilot organizations, requiring feedback on progress made by each agency during this time; and propose a mechanism by which other agencies may be supported to adopt the Framework and benefit from lessons learned to date.

Suggested Action II BIS – Possible linkages among EMG UN Sustainability Processes

The senior officials:

Invite the EMG Secretariat to prepare a note on the possible linkages to bring together the EMG work streams namely, the IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management, the Peer Reviews and the Environmental and Social Sustainability (ESS) Framework with a view to enhance coherence between these initiatives and consider consolidated reporting on their progress to the senior officials in the future.

Revised Suggested Action III: System-wide commitments on Environmental Sustainability Management

The senior officials:

1. Endorse the above report on activities of the IMG on environmental sustainability management and invite the EMG to continue its joint work including with the HLCM, to ensure full integration of environmental sustainability in UN management practices;
2. Welcome the decision of the CEB to reach Climate Neutrality by 2020 and echo its recommendation that while carbon offsets are an important tool, focus should be placed on reducing the actual carbon footprint of the UN system. In that regard, invites the IMG to take into account cost implications of emission reduction measures;
3. Agree to continue to integrate and improve environmental sustainability in the management of their respective facilities and operations as well as to design specific sustainability management action plans where appropriate.

Suggested Action IV: Peer-Review of Environmental Profiles of UN organizations

The senior officials:

1. Take note of the progress made in initiating the second phase of the Peer-Reviews;
2. Welcome that IMF and UNFCCC have volunteered to be reviewed and share the costs, and the willingness of other UN entities to contribute to the reviews, including through participation in the peer review expert teams;
3. Invite the reviewed agencies to share with other EMG members information on the progress made in their agencies in implementing the recommendations of their Peer Review reports;
4. Consider developing guidelines and documenting good practices, as an output of the peer review process.

Suggested Action V: Contribution of the EMG to a UN System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment

The senior officials:

Decide to continue the Consultative Process on System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment (SWFS) to finalize the Framework for submission to the UNEA II.

REVISED Suggested Action VI: Maximizing the effectiveness of the EMG in coordinating the environmental work in the United Nations in the context of the 2030 development agenda

The senior officials:

1. Take note of the draft report *Maximizing the effectiveness of the EMG in the context of the 2030 development agenda*, including the recommendations and suggested action points therein;

3. Agree to extend the Task Team for another year to:

a) Consider the recommendations of the report: *Maximizing the effectiveness of the EMG in the context of the 2030 development agenda*, including its cost implications and preparation of a possible revision of the Terms of Reference for the EMG;

b) Finalize the report taking into account the comments of the Senior Officials upon which the final report should be made available for the Executive Director of UNEP for submission to the second meeting of the UNEA in response to UNEA Resolution 1/11;

b) Prepare an analysis on the implementation of the environmental dimensions of the SDGs based on the outline suggested by the Task Team for consideration of the EMG members.

Suggested Action VII: Approval of the EMG Work Plan for 2016–2017

The senior officials approve the work plan for EMG for the period 2016–2017 based on the understanding that the EMG secretariat will revise the plan presented in document EMG/SOM.21/05 to ensure that the plan fully reflects the actions agreed by the 21st senior officials meeting of the EMG. The work plan will be implemented on the basis of in-kind contributions from members and is subject to availability of resources.

Suggested Action VIII: Progress report on the work of the EMG o the UN Environment Assembly of UNEP and other EMG member agencies

The senior officials:

1. Welcome the opportunity to inform the UN Environment Assembly of UNEP on the work of the EMG by providing a summary report by the Executive Director of UNEP in his capacity as chair of the EMG

2, Also encourage members of the EMG to make the report available to their governing bodies as appropriate.

Suggested Action IX: Date and venue of the next senior officials meeting

The senior officials request the EMG secretariat to circulate to the members of the EMG the date and venues for the 22nd meeting of the senior officials, and consult with members on its agenda.