



Environment Management Group
Sixteenth meeting of senior officials
21 September 2010
New York

EMG/SOM.16/05
8 October 2010
Distribution: EMG members

Report of the meeting

I. Summary of proceedings

1. The sixteenth meeting of the senior officials of the Environment Management Group was held in the margins of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly in New York on Tuesday, 21 September 2010. The meeting was hosted by the United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA).

2. The meeting was comprised of two segments as presented in the agenda (see annex II to the present report): a technical segment, at which participants considered a progress report on ongoing work and suggested directions for further work; and a senior officials segment, at which participants considered broader policy issues and actions recommended during the technical segment. The meeting was attended by representatives of 29 member agencies (see annex II to the present report). Presentations made during the meeting are available at the EMG website www.unemg.org.

A. Senior officials segment

3. The senior officials segment was opened at 3.15 p.m. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP and Chair of the Environment Management Group, and Mr. Sha Zukang, Under Secretary General for UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (DESA). Participants heard opening remarks from the co-chairs. The Chair of the Group thanked Mr. Sha and UNDESA for hosting the meeting and thereby furthering a practice that had become a tradition in the Group and underlined its system-wide nature. After the adoption of the agenda (see annex I to the present report), the Chair invited an oral presentation of the recommendations from the technical segment from Mr. Ivar Baste, co-facilitator of the technical segment. Following the consideration of these recommendations, the group engaged in a discussion on strategic directions for EMG based on the opening remarks by Mr. Sha and an introduction from Mr. Steiner. The conclusions and actions agreed upon by the senior officials segment of the meeting are presented in part II A below. The sixteenth meeting of the senior officials of the Environment Management Group was declared closed at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 September 2010.

B. Technical segment

4. The technical segment was opened at 9.15 a.m. on Tuesday, 21 September 2010. It was co-facilitated by Mr. Baste, an affiliate with the Environment Management Group secretariat, and Mr. Tariq Banuri, Director of Division for Sustainable Development, UNDESA, with Mr. David O'Connor, Chief of the Policy Integration and Analysis Branch, UNDESA, as alternate in his absence. Participants heard opening remarks from the co-chairs. After the adoption of the agenda (see annex I to the present report), participants heard presentations on each agenda item based on the note by the Chair titled "Progress report on ongoing work and suggested directions for further work" (EMG/SOM.16/03). The conclusions and actions agreed upon by the senior officials at the technical segment of the meeting are presented in part II B below. The technical segment of the meeting was declared closed at 3.10 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 September 2010.

II. Conclusions

A. Senior officials segment

1. Adoption of the recommendations from the technical segment of the meeting on actions related to the ongoing work of the Environment Management Group

5. The senior officials heard an oral report on the recommendations from the technical segment. In considering the report, senior officials congratulated the technical segment participants on their efficient work and concise recommendations and adopted their proposed actions. The conclusions and corresponding actions are reflected below in chapter II B of the present report. In adopting the actions, the senior officials acknowledged the results achieved by the EMG since its last meeting. The substantive portfolio reflected in the EMG work-plan was commended, but one member remarked that the plan would have benefited from being costed, even if it is implemented through in-kind contributions by members and UNEP in its capacity as secretariat.

2. Strategic directions for the Environment Management Group: - the intergovernmental environmental agenda and the sustainability management and safeguard policies of the UN system

6. In his opening remarks, Mr. Sha Zukang noted the encouraging spirit of cooperation present in the EMG, and welcomed what the Group had accomplished in terms of promoting cooperation on environmental activities in the United Nations system. He emphasised the role EMG can play in enhancing the technical understanding of environmental issues. In his capacity as Secretary General for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable development (UNCSD) (also referred to as the Rio+20 Conference), he called on the EMG to help deliver a coherent and powerful UN system contribution to the Conference. Mr Sha felt that the Group is well placed to help address information needs of governments in particular as it relates to one of the key themes for the Conference, namely, Green Economy in the context of poverty alleviation and sustainable development. The other main theme, which is the institutional framework for sustainable development, could be seen as a consequence of the former and would in a sense be a question of the institutional infrastructure needed to support a transition to a green economy. Mr. Sha also highlighted the work on land by the EMG, which is of importance for the follow-up of CSD17.

7. The Chair of the Group, Mr Steiner, remarked that the level and extent of participation in the sixteenth meeting of senior officials is unprecedented, and he thanked his colleagues for their support for the EMG endeavour. The level of in-kind support demonstrates that issues tackled through the current EMG modality are evidently demand-driven. The time-bound and results-based approach of the EMG has enabled it to address issues that cut across the different timelines and mandates of its members and their intergovernmental processes. As an example, he referred to EMG's contribution to the post-2010 biodiversity agenda which has been transformative in the sense that it has connected the work of various agencies and articulated how important biodiversity is to their work. Mr Steiner highlighted that the Rio+20 Conference is an opportunity for the UN system to articulate how it internalises sustainability measures and how it can support countries in advancing sustainable development such as through a Green Economy approach.

8. A number of EMG members echoed the views expressed by the co-chairs regarding the renewed spirit of cooperation in the EMG, and the added-value the work brings to the UN system. The role EMG can play in mobilising the joint environmental competence and capacity of the UN system in supporting both agenda setting ("upstream") and implementation and reporting ("downstream") under the MEAs was stressed. The EMG Secretariat's MEA-related work on biodiversity and drylands were used as examples, and a suggestion was made to expand this work to include work related to the chemical conventions (Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm). The work on Green Economy and International Environmental Governance reform illustrates efforts, which addresses issues beyond the MEA agendas. Members expressed the views that the EMG should maintain a time-bound and results oriented approach to addressing key issues on the intergovernmental environmental agenda. While the EMG could play an important role in demonstrating the UN system's environmental deliverables, the issue-based EMG portfolio should not be expected to be representative of the much broader set of environmental activities undertaken in the UN system.

9. It was felt that the Rio+20 Conference represents an opportunity to demonstrate how the UN can implement the internationally agreed norms which amongst others are set out in the MEAs and in other internationally agreed goals and targets and standards. Some members emphasised that implementing sustainability measures have significant cost implications, for instance those related to

offsetting of green house gas emissions which could make difficult a decision of giving such mandate to the UN. Political sensitivities among member states, such as on the promotion of sustainable procurement in the UN system, was also mentioned. However, attention was drawn to the fact that the UN has demonstrated that sustainable measures can be implemented in a way which enhances the comparative advantage of suppliers in developing countries, and the use of local contractors in building new and green office facilities in the UN compound in Nairobi is one such example. In general senior officials favoured a structured, cooperative and flexible approach both in terms of application and timelines to the work on advancing internal sustainability in the UN system, backed up by necessary resources by each EMG member. The ongoing work on sustainable management and environmental social safeguards was seen as representing the foundation for advancing the internal sustainability agenda in the UN system at the level of policy, operations and management.

10. Senior officials were of the view that the UN system should provide substantive inputs to the Rio+20 Conference in a coordinated fashion, including by making use of EMG. The EMG work on Green Economy is a promising attempt in this respect. The EMG comprises expertise from the whole UN family and is well positioned to assist governments in their efforts to explore the notion of a green economy in the context of poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Some members stressed that the notion of Green Economy should not be seen as a fixed approach, but a flexible and evolving one. A transition to a Green Economy would mean something for all countries and could become a bridging factor to end the “North-South” divide. To date, no country has a 100 % “green” economy, but many countries have some or several elements of a Green Economy. The kernels exist and it is now a matter of building them up to a critical mass. Attention was drawn to successful initiatives, such as the “quiet revolution” on lead that saved millions of lives and contributed to human-well being, green jobs and better health. Also, there are several on-going efforts that could be brought together, such as the work to quantify health benefits of Green Economy initiatives. Senior officials felt that the work should concentrate on identifying the “essential elements” of a Green Economy (e.g. management efficiency, low carbon, green jobs) and seek to analyse benefits, costs and risks of these elements respectively.

B. The technical segment

1. The IMG on biodiversity

24. The senior officials in the technical segment acknowledged that the IMG had completed its mandate and expressed a high level of satisfaction with the process and the report and statement which had been produced. Senior officials welcomed the proposed road map for presenting the outcome to the General Assembly (UNGA) High Level event on biodiversity (22 September) and the 10th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Nagoya, Japan (19-27 October). The EMG Heads of agencies statement will be made available to the GA event. A side event will be held during the high level segment of the CBD COP 10 to launch the report. The report will be made available as an information documents to the COP 10 as well as to a Heads of agencies event. Members of the EMG also remarked that the continued work on biodiversity in the EMG is an opportunity for the five biodiversity conventions to meet and work together with the whole UN family.

27. The senior officials in the technical segment proposed the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 1: Continuation of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on biodiversity with a renewed mandate

The senior officials meeting decides to continue the work of the IMG on biodiversity for another two years to implement the biodiversity component of the EMG work plan for 2011 – 2012 with a view to:

- a) Implement the findings of the report “Advancing the biodiversity agenda, A UN system wide Contribution” and the statement by Executive Heads of EMG members; and
- b) Respond to any requests made to it from the UNGA high-level event on biodiversity, the 10th COP of the CBD and the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

The meeting also requests the IMG to prepare a submission on the follow up to the UNGA high-level event on biodiversity, the 10th COP of the CBD and any biodiversity aspects of the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

2. The IMG on land

28. The senior officials welcomed the progress made by the IMG, and welcomed the presentation of the issues which are under consideration in the process of preparing the report on drylands. The report presents drylands as opportunities for investment, and uses an ecosystem approach to highlight their importance amongst others for climate change, biodiversity, food security and human settlements. It was felt that the IMG, in developing a common UN agenda on drylands, could explore ideas for linkages with other land-related issues. In doing so it should clearly address the rationale for such linkages and build on the findings of the report. Land is a useful entry point for understanding multi-sectoral interdependencies. The results show coherence of a UN response. However, if the wider land issues are to be tackled, it would require contribution from relevant experts on climate change, biodiversity, water, property, labour, human rights, etc.

29. The senior officials in the technical segment commended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 2: Ongoing work of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on land

The senior officials meeting welcomes the progress made by the time-bound Issue Management Group on land, and requests that the draft report on drylands be circulated to the wider EMG for approval. The meeting also requests the IMG to continue its efforts by preparing a common UN agenda for actions on drylands, and possibly exploring ideas for linkages with other land-related issues by building on the findings of the report.

3. The IMG on Green Economy

30. The senior officials acknowledged with thanks the progress made in preparation of the EMG Green Economy report. The uniqueness of the broad participation of agencies in the IMG and the constructive dynamics of the group was stressed. The fact that the IMG report will highlight key policy issues as identified by contributing UN system and Bretton Woods institutions, as well as the response by the organizations to assist countries, was welcomed. It was felt that the report is well placed to complement reports that are already available and under preparation, including, for example, the UNEP Green Economy Report, the TEEB and the planned UNDG Guidance Note on Green Economy. Given the sensitivity and complexity of the Green Economy issues, members emphasized that EMG should strive to ensure a high quality report that would be of help to the UN system as well as the member states, in particular in the preparatory process for the Rio+20 Conference. It was observed that the timing for preparation of the report is quite short, and proposals were made to extend the timeline somewhat in order to provide enough time for contributing agencies to provide their inputs and undertake the necessary internal coordination. One member pointed out that green technology should be added to the list of elements in the report outline. Another member added that waste streams are also relevant.

32. The senior officials in the technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 3: Ongoing work of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on green economy

The senior officials meeting welcomes the progress made by the time-bound Issue Management Group on green economy, including its decision to submit a progress report for the information of the 1st Intersessional Meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, as well as the decision to circulate the final draft of the IMG report to the full EMG membership for consideration before the 2nd Intersessional Meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development..

4. Cooperation on International Environmental Governance

33. The senior officials considered the brief provided by the Secretariat on the EMG contribution to the UNEP process on International Environmental Governance in particular the report on Environment in the UN system. The report has undergone two rounds of EMG reviews and includes factual information on the way environment is addressed by the UN system. Members noted that the ongoing discussions on IEG reform potentially can have implications for all EMG members, and therefore emphasized the need to facilitate the involvement of the UN system entities and their governing bodies in the relevant stages of the reform process.

34. The senior officials considered the idea of turning the “Environment in the UN” report into an EMG report. While some members felt that significant efforts had already gone into the report by members and that turning it into an EMG report was within reach, others felt that more time and efforts would be needed to finalise it for that purpose. Agreement was reached on an approach whereby the report remained a UNEP report reviewed by EMG members. The need for additional review comments of the annex on estimated annual levels of international financing for the environment was stressed by the EMG Secretariat. The question of preparation of a shorter report on environment in the UN was discussed, but no conclusive action was taken as there was differing views as to the content and purpose of such a paper. While members welcomed the invitation by UNEP Governing Council to contribute to the reform process, it was also generally felt that the EMG should await requests from the intergovernmental reform process for explicit information, before engaging in collective actions.

35. The senior officials in the technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 4: Contributions to intergovernmental consultations on broader reform of the international environmental governance (IEG) system

The senior officials meeting welcomes the opportunity provided to its member agencies to contribute to the UNEP report on ‘Environment in the UN system’ and the work of the consultative group of ministers and high-level representatives on International Environmental Governance.

5. Consultations on environmental and social safeguards in the United Nations system

36. The senior officials welcomed the progress made in the consultative process on environmental and social safeguards in the EMG. Members noted that the work on sustainable management in the UN represents a subset of the issue under consideration, and that this sub-set is complemented by other sustainability aspects such as those related to internal UN policies and operations. The consultations on safeguards could explore how a ‘Sustainable UN’ approach could be presented at Rio + 20. One member informed the EMG that it has embarked upon a two year process to review its 20 years of experience with safeguards. Any UN agency would have to tailor the baselines and minimum standards to the realities of their activities. The need for flexibility on application of approaches and timelines was heavily emphasized, as UN agencies operate in very different contexts, with activities ranging from peacekeeping, via development assistance and lending, to facilitation of normative international cooperation. The consultative process needs to identify how the environmental competence held by EMG members can be complemented by the necessary competency on the social dimensions of safeguards. Further progress will depend on the ability by EMG members to actively participate in the endeavour and share information on their current environmental and social priorities and practices.

37. The senior officials in the technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 5: Furthering the consultation on environmental and social safeguards in the UN system

The senior officials meeting welcomes the progress made by the chair in the consultations on options for the development of a possible United Nations system-wide approach to environmental and social safeguards. In recognising the complexity of the issue at hand, requests the chair to continue to facilitate the consultative process in close cooperation with the Issue Management Group on sustainable management with view to:

- (a) Finalize the mapping exercise and gap-analysis and refine the conceptual framework for environmental and social safeguards; and
- (b) Prepare options for a coherent UN system-wide approach to environmental and social safeguards including a possible input on ‘Sustainable UN’ to the UN CSD.

6. IMG on Sustainability Management in the United Nations system: moving toward climate neutrality; sustainable procurement; and a coherent approach to sustainable management in the United Nations system

38. The senior officials congratulated the IMG on sustainability on their progress and the concrete outputs delivered. The guidance and results available on the “Greening the Blue” website was welcomed. Several members brought up the issues of approaches to financing the climate neutrality strategy, that emissions reduction should be encouraged in priority rather than offsetting greenhouse gas emissions. They also discussed about options on payment for offsetting UN greenhouse gas emissions, of which 56 % of the emissions are from peacekeeping operations. It was felt that such approaches need to factor in the UN financial rules, possibility of rising carbon prices and mandates/political sensitivities in member agencies and existing policies. Political sensitivities are also related to the question of advancing sustainable procurement in the UN system. Discussions are underway in the 5th committee of the General Assembly, and UNEP Governing Council has encouraged the work of the EMG on the matter. Members felt that there is a need for flexible ambition levels, timelines and labelling and welcomed the proposal to develop a strategic plan for sustainable management in the UN system.

39. The senior officials in the technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 6: Ongoing work of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on sustainable management

The senior officials meeting welcomes the progress made by the time-bound Issue Management Group on sustainable management and the recent attention given to this issue by the Joint Inspection Unit in its report “*Environmental Profile of the United Nations System Organizations*”.

Given the ongoing nature of the work of the IMG the meeting decides to extend its time-period until the end of 2012 according to the attached draft work plan for EMG.

In view of the need to anchor sustainable management in intergovernmental processes and in the internal management and operational structures of the UN system, the meeting requests the IMG to prepare a strategic plan for sustainable management in the UN system by September 2011, which should include:

- (a) Modalities for a regular integrated process for greenhouse gas inventories and where possible, sustainability reporting, with appropriate linkages to enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems;
- (b) Cooperation on a common approach for emission reductions in the UN system, through emission reduction plans for UN system organizations and working with relevant interagency networks - including the networks on travel (IATN), facilities management (INFM), procurement and ICT - on how relevant management policies may be applied or adapted in support of sustainable management;
- (c) Modalities for implementing the GHG offsetting part of the UN climate neutral strategy;
- (d) Approaches for maintaining inventories, reporting, communication, joint training, resource development and investments in sustainable management;
- (d). Continued support for promoting sustainable procurement practices in the United Nations system, and documenting benefits of such approaches to member states;
- (e) Urgently prepare a common communications strategy on sustainable procurement for the UN; and
- (f) Include possible input on Sustainable UN to the UN CSD.

7. EMG work plan for 2011–2012

40. The senior officials welcomed the proposed work-plan for 2011-2012 and stressed the need for it to be amended to take account of the decisions taken under the different agenda items. The approved plan is attached in annex III. Members agreed that the plan would be implemented through in-kind contributions, but some members still felt it would be advisable to cost the suggested activities and outcomes.

41. The senior officials in the technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 7: Approval of the proposed work plan for EMG for the period 2011 – 2012

The senior officials meeting approves the work plan for EMG for the period 2011 – 2012 presented in annex III, based on the understanding that it will be implemented on the basis of in-kind contributions from members and is subject to availability of resources.

8. Process for reporting to the UNEP Governing Council

42. The senior officials considered the proposals by the chair on his reporting to UNEP Governing Council and recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 8: Reporting to the Governing Council of UNEP

The senior officials meeting welcomes the opportunity to inform the UNEP Governing Council, and through the Council the UN General Assembly, of its work. The meeting appreciates the guidance received from the Council and request the Chair to continue the practise of circulating his draft report on the work of EMG to the Council to members of the Group for their comments, and to explore modalities by which the full report of the EMG can also be made available to the UNGA.

9. Date and venue of the next senior officials meeting

43. The senior officials discussed the options for dates and venues for the 17th senior officials meeting and did also consider the idea of an extraordinary meeting held back to back with the planned spring session of the Chief Executives Board to be held in Nairobi in March 2011. Some members questioned the practicality of convening an extraordinary meeting in March 2011 amongst other because few of the EMG focal points would be present. It was felt that the issues related to biodiversity, sustainability in the UN system and possible contributions by the EMG to the preparatory process for the Rio+20 Conference, which may need the attention by EMG members at that time, could be addressed in other ways, preferably by the use of video conferencing, tele-presence or webinars for EMG meetings. Any such proposals should be communicated well before the meetings. The secretariat was encouraged to continue and if possible expand the use of virtual meetings. The question of leaving more space between the technical segment and the official segment was raised as something which could be considered in the context of ensuring broad and high-level participation in the latter segment.

44. The senior officials considered the proposals by the chair on his reporting to UNEP Governing Council and recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 9: Date and venue of the next senior officials meetings

The senior officials meeting requests the EMG secretariat to circulate to the members the EMG options for dates and venues for its 17th senior officials meeting and consult with members on its agenda. The secretariat was also encouraged to continue and when relevant expand the use of video, web and teleconference facilities for meetings.

10. Any other business

45. The senior officials were informed about the updated website of the EMG and launch of the online EMG contact directory. Members were requested to consult the website and the contact directory to update their contact details.

46. Members also considered the issues raised by UNDESA on support by the EMG to the preparation of Rio+20 Conference and the senior officials in the technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Action 10: Support the preparatory process for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

The senior officials meeting agrees that their respective agencies will take timely actions to support the preparatory process for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development including by providing technical contributions to the Secretary General's reports, sharing lessons from experience, and supporting national and regional stakeholder processes.

Annex I

Agenda

A. Agenda for the senior officials segment of the sixteenth meeting of senior officials of the Environment Management Group

1. Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs: Mr. Sha Zukang, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and host of the meeting and Mr Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and Chair of the Environment Management Group
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Adoption of the recommendations from the technical segment of the meeting on actions related to the ongoing work of the Environment Management Group
4. Strategic directions for the Environment Management Group: - the intergovernmental environmental agenda and the sustainability management and safeguard policies of the UN system
5. Any other business

B. Agenda for the preparatory technical segment of the 16th senior officials meeting of the Environment Management Group

1. Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Considerations of ongoing work, including by the Issue Management Groups (IMGs), and recommendations to the senior officials segment:
 - (a) The IMG on biodiversity;
 - (b) The IMG on land;
 - (c) The IMG on green economy;
 - (d) Cooperation on international environmental governance;
 - (e) Consultations on environmental and social safeguards in the United Nations system;
 - (f) IMG on Sustainable Management in the United Nations system: moving toward climate neutrality; sustainable procurement; and a coherent approach to sustainable management in the United Nations system
4. Environment Management Group work plan for 2011–2012
5. Process for reporting to the UNEP Governing Council
6. Date and venue of the next senior officials meeting
7. Other business

Annex II * List of participants

<p>1. UNDESA Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General Tariq Banuri, Director, Division for Sustainable Development Navid Hanif , Chief , Strategic Planning Unit, Office of the Under-Secretary-General David O'Connor, Chief, Policy Analysis and Networks Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Federica Pietracci, Sustainable Development Officer, Division for Sustainable Development</p> <p>2. UNEP Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP Juanita Castaño, Director, UNEP NY Office Zehra Aydin, Senior Program officer Matti Lehtonen, Programme officer, Post conflict issues Niclas Svenningsen, Head Sustainable United Nations (SUN) Julie MacKenzie, SUN Advisor</p> <p>3. CEB Mr. Adnan Z. Amin, Director, UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination</p> <p>4. UNESCO Gretchen Kalonji, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences Christine Alfsen, Senior Programme Officer, UNESCO Office in NY Salvatore Arico, Biodiversity Specialist</p> <p>5. The GEF Brennan Van Dyke, Senior Advisor to the CEO</p> <p>6. UNFCCC Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary Henning Wuester, Special Adviser Karen Smith</p> <p>7. FAO Annika Söder, Assistant Director-General, Office of Corporate</p>	<p>16. UNCCD Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary Sergio A. Zelaya-Bonilla, Coordinator of the Policy for Advocacy, Global and Emerging Issues unit Melchiade Bukuru, Chief of the UNCCD Liaison Office in NY</p> <p>17. WHO Maria Neira, Director, Public Health and Environment Marina Maiero, By audio connection</p> <p>18. UN-HABITAT Inga B-Klevby Officer-in-Charge of UN-Habitat Yamina Djacta, NY office Francesca Deferrari Raf Tuts (by audio connection)</p> <p>19. DFS Anthony Banbury Assistant-Secretary-General Sophie Ravier, Environmental Officer</p> <p>20. ESCAP Rae Kwon Chung, Director, Environment and Development Division</p> <p>21. ITU Doreen Bogdan, Chief, Strategic Planning and Membership Department Gary Fowlie, Head of the ITU Liaison Office of UN in NY</p> <p>22. UNICEF Gaspar Fajth, Chief, Social Policy and Economic Analysis Unit, Division of Policy and Practice Michele Ferenz, Senior Advisor, Division of Governance, UN and Multilateral Affairs</p> <p>23. WIPO Rama Rao Sankurathripathi, Officer-in-Charge of the WIPO Coordination Office in New York</p> <p>24. UNITAR Achim Halpaap, Associate Director , Training Department , Head</p>
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* The list of participants is presented without formal editing.

<p>Communications and External Relations Javier Molina C., Land tenure consultant</p> <p>8. UNECE Patrice Robineau, Senior Advisor to the UNECE Executive Secretary</p> <p>9. UNIDO Sarwar Hobohm, Director of the Organizational Strategy and Coordination Group Amber Pervaiz, Expert</p> <p>10. CITES John Scanlon, Secretary General</p> <p>11. WMO Elena B. Manaenkova, Assistant Secretary-General Zamba Batjargal, WMO Representative and Coordinator in NY</p> <p>12. World Bank James Warren Evans, Director, Environment Department</p> <p>13. UNDP Olav Kjørven, Assistant Director of Bureau for Development Policy Anne Marie Sloth Carlsen, Climate Change Advisor Environment and Energy Group Holly Mergler, Programme Analyst, Environment and Energy Group</p> <p>14. CBD Ahmed Djoghlaf, Executive Secretary David Cooper Senior Program Officer</p> <p>15. Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Convention Katharina Kummer Peiry, Executive Secretary</p>	<p>Environment Unit</p> <p>25. UNEP - WCMC Jessica Smith, Senior Programme Officer</p> <p>26. Ramsar Anada Tiéga, Secretary General (by video connection)</p> <p>27. WTO Vivien Liu (by video connection)</p> <p>28. IMO Karin Sjolin Frudd, Senior Adviser, Marine Environment Division (by audio connection)</p> <p>29. ICAO Jane Hupe (by audio connection)</p> <p>30. UNEP/EMG Hossein Fadaei, EMG Acting Secretary Ivar Baste, Consultant Aniket Ghai, Coordinator, Green Economy (by video connection) Ingunn Lindeman Programme Officer (by video connection)</p>
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ANNEX III

Environment Management Group work plan for 2011 – 2012

Expected accomplishment	Activities and milestones ¹
A. Sustainability issues	
Enhanced sustainability of policies, management practices, and operations in the United Nations system	<p>1. Consultations on environmental and social safeguards Prepare options for scope of and modalities for the development of a possible United Nations system-wide approach to environmental and social safeguards for consideration by the EMG based on a review of existing polices such as the ongoing work by UNDG on a guidance note on environmental sustainability. Continue to facilitate the consultative process in close cooperation with the Issue Management Group on sustainable management with view to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Finalize the mapping exercise and gap-analysis and refine the conceptual framework for environmental and social safeguards; (b) Prepare options for a coherent UN system-wide approach to environmental and social safeguards for consideration by special meeting of the senior officials of the EMG immediately prior to the spring session of the Chief Executive Board in Nairobi in April 2011; (c) Undertake follow up consultations on the proposed options for a coherent UN system-wide approach to environmental and social safeguards with the EMG (d) Provide a progress report on the outcome of its work to the 17th EMG senior officials meeting. <p>2. IMG on Sustainable Management</p> <p>2.1 Sustainable management Maintain regular IMG meetings to identify how sustainable management can be further developed and systematically implemented in the United Nations 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 special session of the senior officials meeting of the EMG in April 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Develop, by the 17th regular senior officials meeting of EMG (September 2011), a Strategic Plan on sustainable management for the consideration of EMG on how sustainable management systems may be introduced in the UN system organizations. The Strategic Plan would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i)a proposal for a regular integrated process for reporting on greenhouse gas inventories and where possible, sustainability reporting, with appropriate linkages to enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems; ii)a proposal for inter-agency cooperation and reporting on emission reduction approaches in the UN system, supported

¹ 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 for expected accomplishment A with the support provided by the UNEP Sustainable UN Facility (SUN).

Expected accomplishment	Activities and milestones ¹
	<p>by relevant interagency/HLCM networks; and</p> <p>iii) a proposal for a long-term approach to maintain common inventories, reporting, communication, joint training and resource development in support of emission reductions and a common sustainable management approach in the UN system.</p> <p>The Strategic Plan will include rationale, criteria, costs and savings associated with such systems.</p>
	<p>2.2 Climate neutral United Nations</p> <p>Facilitate cooperation among members of the Environment Management Group (EMG) on implementation of the statement by the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) on moving toward a climate neutral United Nations.</p> <p>(a) Develop, in support of the development of the Strategic Plan, emission reduction plans approved for each UN system organization where possible, by the end of 2011, and report on their implementation in the annual implementation reports of the UN Climate Neutral Strategy.</p> <p>(b) Continue to work with the common UN networks with an aim to have by October 2012 recommendations/guidelines from each of the concerned networks on how to support emission reduction and sustainability improvement in the areas of buildings, travel, ICT, procurement and communications. The IMG/SUN will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Initiate a review of how common travel policies may be applied or revised to better support sustainable travel in UN in cooperation with IATN; (ii) Develop a guideline, in cooperation with INFM, on sustainability criteria for UN facilities worldwide, as well as consider how a joint baseline environmental assessment of UN buildings worldwide can be conducted; (iii) Develop, in consultation with ICT network, a recommendation on how ICT may be applied to support improves sustainability in the UN system, including through improved e-communication and sustainable ICT infrastructure; and (iv) Prepare with the UN Communication Group, the Internal-External communication platform for the <i>Greening the Blue website</i>. <p>(c) Submit a final recommendation on how to implement the offsetting part of the UN Climate Neutral Strategy to EMG at the special session of the senior officials meeting in April 2011.</p> <p>(d) Provide a proposal to 17th senior officials meeting on how budgeting of sustainability investments in UN may be approached, including identification of potential barriers and enabling measures to overcome the barriers.</p>
	<p>2.3 Sustainable procurement</p> <p>Continue the development, in cooperation with the HLCM procurement network, of support services for integrating sustainable procurement practices into the United Nations system and take stock of the integration of these practices in the UN procurement function.</p> <p>(a) Assist the UN Procurement Division in creating a more favorable ground for UN SP within the General Assembly with documents, concrete case studies, joint participation in meetings with delegates if /where necessary.</p> <p>(b) Continue training for requisitioners and procurers through face to face events and the online training module.</p>

Expected accomplishment	Activities and milestones ¹
	<p>(c) Continue document success stories and good practices related to sustainable procurement within the United Nations system and assess the impact of these requisitions on the geographical balance of sourcing.</p> <p>(d) Continue the development and promotion of use of sustainable procurement practical tools.</p> <p>(e) Promote awareness on sustainability for the business community through business seminars in collaboration with the HLCM procurement network and the Global Compact</p> <p>(f) Urgently prepare a common communications strategy on sustainable procurement for the UN; and</p> <p>(g) Seek through HLCM funding to test the tools developed in a number of interested UN duty stations (preferably in One UN countries) to provide by 2012 to the General assembly concrete guidance of where and with which boundaries Sustainable procurement can be implemented in the UN system.</p> <hr/> <p>Prepare a consolidated contribution on the above sustainability issues for possible input on Sustainable UN to the UN summit on sustainable development (UNCSD) in 2012</p>

B. Programmatic issues	
Enhanced coherence in programming of environmental activities in the United Nations system, including for mainstreaming environmental concerns into sectoral programmes	<p>1. IMG on biodiversity</p> <p>Further the cooperation among EMG members on a multi-sectoral contribution to the implementation of the post 2010 biodiversity agenda including the outcome of the General Assembly high level event on biodiversity and the 10th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and report on its work to the 17th senior officials meeting.</p> <p>(a) Prepare a submission on the follow up to the UNGA high-level event on biodiversity, the 10th COP of the CBD and any biodiversity aspects of the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to the special meeting of the senior officials of the EMG to be held immediately prior to the spring session of the Chief Executive Board in Nairobi in April 2010.</p> <p>(b) Ensure effective follow up to the findings of the report “Advancing the biodiversity agenda, A UN system wide Contribution” and the statement by Executive Heads of EMG members.</p> <p>(c) Respond to any requests made to the EMG from the UNGA high-level event on biodiversity, the 10th COP of the CBD and the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.</p>
	<p>2. IMG on Land</p> <p>Prepare modalities for a joint coherent United Nations system-wide contribution and agenda for action on drylands , including the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (UNCCD) 10-year strategic plan.</p> <p>(a) Finalize and circulate for approval of the EMG members the United Nations system-wide rapid response report on drylands, together with options for follow-up actions.</p> <p>(b) Prepare a joint agenda for action on drylands and possibly on land that would propose opportunities for cooperation and joint action.</p> <p>(c) Prepare a report on the outcome of its work to the 17th senior officials meeting.</p>
	<p>3. IMG on Green Economy</p> <p>Assess how the UN system can more coherently support countries in making the transition to a Green Economy and work on joint and consistent messaging on measures needed to support the transition to a “green economy”</p> <p>(a) Prepare an assessment of how the UN system can more coherently support countries in making the transition to a Green Economy.</p> <p>(b) Submit a progress report for the information of the 1st Intersessional Meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, as well as the decision to circulate the final draft of the IMG report to the full EMG membership for consideration before the 2nd Intersessional Meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development.</p> <p>(c) Prepare joint and consistent messaging on measures needed to support the transition to a Green Economy.</p>
	<p>4. Cooperation on international environmental governance (IEG)</p> <p>Contribute to requests made to the EMG from the UNEP Governing Council on consultations on broader reform of the IEG system.</p> <p>(a) Contribute to the review of the UNEP report ‘Environment in the UN system’.</p>

C. Overall cooperation	
Strengthened cooperation among EMG members in setting a common agenda, implementing joint initiatives and report on progress.	<p>1. Support the preparatory process for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Support the preparatory process for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development including by providing technical contributions to the Secretary General’s reports, sharing lessons from experience, and supporting national and regional stakeholder processes.</p>
	<p>2. Senior officials meetings of the EMG Convene the 17th senior officials meeting based on consultations of options for dates, venues and agenda and convene ad-hoc meetings as necessary preferably by the use of video, web and teleconference facilities for meetings.</p>
	<p>3. Exchange of information and outreach Facilitate exchange of information and outreach on EMG activities including through maintaining the EMG website.</p>
	<p>4. Report to UNEP Governing Council on EMG accomplishments Preparations of a report by the EMG Chair reviewed by EMG members to UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its 26th regular Session and explore modalities by which the full report of the EMG can also be made available to the UNGA.</p>