



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



Reference: NYO/EMG/SOM22/EH/EO/2016

14 June 2016

Dear Colleagues,

In conjunction with the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2016, the 22nd Senior Officials Meeting of the Environment Management Group (EMG) will be held on 22 September 2016.

Continuing the new modality followed by the Senior Officials at their last meeting in 2015, the meeting will be composed of two segments as follows:

1. The Technical Segment on Wednesday 21 September from 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.
2. The Senior Segment on Thursday 22 September from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

The Technical Segment will consider the progress report by the EMG Issue Management Groups and Consultative Processes and approve (*ad interim*) the decisions for the future work of the EMG on behalf of the senior officials. The Senior Segment will consider and approve the report of the technical segment, including the suggested draft decisions. This will be followed by a strategic dialogue on delivering the environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda and the contribution of the EMG. In this regard, the Senior Officials will discuss approaches for implementation of the System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment for the UN system (SWFS) following its consideration by the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP (UNEA-2).

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my sincere appreciation to you and your respective representatives for your contribution to the preparation of the SWFS, as well as for your expression of support to the Framework at its launch during the second session of UNEA-2.

The provisional agenda and background documents will be sent to you no later than three weeks in advance of the meeting. Additional organizational details of the meeting will be communicated to you through your designated EMG focal points.

I would be grateful if you can confirm your participation to the EMG Secretariat by e-mail to (EMG@unep.org) or of your designated senior official who is authorized to make decisions on your behalf. I would be also interested in hearing your views on the proposed topic for discussion.

TO: EMG Members

Executive Office

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Lastly, as this is my last communication to you in my capacity as Chair of the EMG, I wish to thank you for all your support and kindness to me during my tenure. Without your exemplary support and your dedicated focal points, the EMG would not have succeeded in delivering on its mandate. I sincerely hope that this spirit of cooperation and friendship continues as the EMG engages in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, under my successor, Mr. Erik Solheim, the new Executive Director of UNEP and Chair of the EMG. Mr. Solheim's outstanding background in international and inter-agency cooperation in the field of sustainable development will certainly advance the future agenda of the EMG.

I take this opportunity to offer you my best wishes and an excellent Senior Officials meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner
Executive Director and Chairman, EMG

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