



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



19th Senior Officials' Meeting of the Environment Management Group¹
Hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
LRC Room on the 11th floor of the UNDP FF-Building, 304 E 45th Street, New York.
Preparatory technical segment: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Senior officials' segment: 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

EMG/SOM.19/03/Rev.1
12 September 2013
Distribution: EMG members

Proposed work plan 2014 - 2015

Note by the Chair

Introduction

1. This note presents a proposed work plan for the Environment Management Group (EMG) for the period 2014 – 2015 (both years included). The plan builds on the work plan adopted by the 18th senior officials' meeting (SOM) of the EMG in 2012. The plan has been updated to a 2014 – 2015 EMG work plan which reflects the suggested actions presented in the document EMG/SOM.19/03.
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 2014 and 2015, 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.

¹ Information on the meeting logistics, including the video-audio conference connections, is provided in the logistical note of the meeting (EMG/SOM.19/05)

Environment Management Group work plan for 2014 – 2015

Expected accomplishment	Activities and milestones ²
A. 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 Further the cooperation among EMG members on multi-sectoral contributions to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and respond to the 11th 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 20th senior officials Meeting (SOM).</p> <p>(a) Finalize the online mapping tool on agencies’ contributions to the Biodiversity Strategic Plan (2011-2020) as a basis for joint planning, coordination and cooperation and sharing of tasks as well as reporting on the contribution of the UN system to the implementation of the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>(b) Develop a practical and pragmatic approach to engage the UN system in taking the lead or contributing to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,</p> <p>(c) Define an approach for the contribution of the UN system to the revision and implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs),</p> <p>(d) Prepare a UN contribution to the mid-term review of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and a report on progress to the CBD COP 12 through the Working Group on Review of Implementation and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.</p> <p>2. IMG on Green Economy Provide a coordinated and coherent UN system support to countries in making the transition to a “green economy” in the follow up and implementation of the Rio+20 outcome document.</p> <p>(a) Finalize the stocktaking of the toolkits and knowledge products of the UN system on Green Economy and its distribution to UNCTs,</p> <p>(b) Develop a system-wide coordination approach on Green Economy at global and institutional level for more coherent action at national level</p> <p>(c) Report on progress to SOM20.</p> <p>3. Preparing a UN system-wide contribution to the chemicals management agenda (a) Upon the decision of SOM19, undertake a process for preparation of a UN system-wide approach to the sound management of the chemicals including preparation of TORs and background assessments and recommendations and report on its progress to SOM20.</p>

² Activities will be undertaken with the support of members in the form of personal 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).

Expected accomplishment	Activities and milestones²
	<p>4. Preparing a UN system-wide contribution on stocktaking of financing for international cooperation on environmental matters</p> <p>(a) Upon the decision of SOM19, prepare a system-wide stocktaking report on international cooperation on environmental matters report on progress and findings of the stocktaking to SOM20.</p>
B. Operational issues	
<p>Enhanced coherence in advancing Environmental and Social Sustainability of the UN system.</p>	<p>1. Consultations on Environmental and Social Sustainability</p> <p>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) Finalize a UN Sustainability Guide to support advancing sustainability measures at individual UN agency level,</p> <p>(b) Finalize the Options Paper for the system-wide follow up of the Framework and identify a support function (hub) for knowledge sharing, future coordination and reporting on progress,</p> <p>(c) Keep the CEB and its subsidiary bodies informed for advice on the next steps and provide a progress report on the outcome of the consultative process the 20th EMG SOM.</p> <hr/> <p>2. Peer-Reviews of environmental profiles of the EMG members</p> <p>Undertake the pilot peer-reviews of UNIDO (on behalf of the UN entities based in the Vienna International Centre), WMO and UNEP to share lessons learned. In consultation with the Issue Management Group on Sustainability Management taking into account the monitoring and evaluation procedures in each institution and in consultation with relevant UN evaluation units.</p> <p>(a) Prepare and coordinate the Peer-Review missions and their reports including organisation of the peer-review team missions and meetings of the Peer-Review Body,</p> <p>(b) Prepare 3 Peer-Review reports and report to the SOM20 on the findings of those peer-reviews and steps for engaging additional agencies to the peer-review process on a voluntary basis.</p>
C. Management issues	
<p>Enhanced sustainability of management practices in the United Nations (UN) system.</p>	<p>IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management</p> <p>1. UN Sustainability management</p> <p>Maintain regular IMG meetings to identify how environmental management can be systematically implemented in the UN system so as to implement the CEB decision 5/4/2013 and the HLCM 2013-2016 Strategic Framework. Identify barriers, enabling measures, provide input to relevant bodies and processes in the UN system, and providing progress reports and recommendations to the EMG enabling the EMG to report to the HLCM as per CEB decision 5/4/2013. Prepare a progress report of the above work of the IMG to the 20th senior officials' meeting of the EMG in 2014.</p> <p>(a) Agree with the HLCM on the structure of the report on EMS and climate neutrality progress in the UN system. Besides the report, the IMG will ensure the HLCM is well informed on the work done so far by the IMG on sustainability management so a baseline for progress is defined.</p>

Expected accomplishment	Activities and milestones ²
	<p>(b) Define a set of milestones (or building blocks) that will allow EMG members to measure their progress against a common scorecard. Upload on the UNITE Greening the Blue community, the milestones and documents that will be useful to organisations in understanding how each milestone can be implemented. Organise trainings, provide help desk services and facilitate the work of IMG members to design their respective EMSs.</p> <p>(c) The IMG will more specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Prepare the fifth edition of the report “<i>Moving towards Climate Neutrality in the UN System</i>”, to be released by April 2014; (ii) Provide inputs related to UN corporate environmental management to the EMG Consultative process on Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN system; (iii) Continue knowledge sharing, communication, training and awareness-raising activities, in particular based on the Greening the Blue and the UNITE Connections platforms, on issues such as sustainable facilities, procurement, events, travel, and e-communications; and to strengthen the links created with related inter-agency networks, in particular the HLCM and its Procurement network and the Interagency Group of Facilities Management; (iv) Expand the ongoing work for the on-line sustainability tutorial with at least two more focused add-ons: sustainable procurement and facilities management; (v) Undertake other activities, as needed and possible within existing resources, to maintain the momentum of the UN climate neutral and overall environmental sustainability effort.
D. Overall cooperation	
Strengthened cooperation among EMG members in setting a common agenda, implementing joint initiatives and reporting on progress.	<p>1. Senior officials’ meetings of the EMG Convene the SOM20 of the EMG in September 2014 based on consultations of options for dates, venues and agenda.</p>
	<p>2. Exchange of information and outreach Facilitate the exchange of information and outreach on EMG activities through maintaining the EMG website, among others.</p>
	<p>3. Report to the Environment Assembly of UNEP on EMG accomplishments Preparations of a report by the EMG Chair reviewed by EMG members for submission to UN Environment Assembly of UNEP at its first meeting in 2014.</p>