



UNITED NATIONS

ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

EMG

24th Senior Officials Meeting of the Environment Management Group	26 September 2018
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Summary of Approved Actions

Action I: Issue Management Group on Tackling E-waste

The Senior Officials:

- a. Welcome the initiative by the Letter of Intent signatories and the subsequent concept note, developed by these signatories and other stakeholders, detailing plans for the development of an e-waste coalition. Further welcome continued engagement with other UN entities and stakeholders outside the UN system;
- b. Decide to extend the work of the IMG on Tackling E-waste for one more year, in order to build a stable arrangement for the E-waste Coalition and any continued future collaboration.

Action II: Issue Management Group on Environment and Humanitarian Action

The Senior Officials:

- a. Welcome the Terms of Reference of the IMG on Environment and Humanitarian Action and invite the Group to proceed with the implementation of the tasks as outlined in the ToR and through the established working groups;
- b. Invite the Group to provide a report on progress made, to the 25th meeting of the Senior Officials.

Action III: Consultations on Environmental and Social Sustainability in the United Nations

The Senior Officials:

- a. Welcome the draft "Moving Towards a Common Approach on Environmental and Social Standards in UN Programming" (Common Approach), recognizing it as a significant contribution to moving the UN system towards greater alignment, transparency and accountability in its programmes, in particular at country level;
- b. Agree to extend the Consultative Process for another year to:
 - i. Conduct a public consultation process to receive inputs from stakeholders and experts on the draft Common Approach;
 - ii. Finalise the Common Approach and initiate a phase of application by volunteer agencies;
 - iii. Facilitate shared learning to support implementation of the Common Approach;
 - iv. Identify possible entry points to link the Common Approach to the work of other relevant UN platforms and processes such as the UN Sustainable Development Group, the Sustainable UN etc., and articulate ways in which the Common Approach can contribute to other processes, i.e. the UN development system reform;
 - v. Based on the findings of the desk study, prepare recommendations for enhanced collaboration in the UN system in the area of organizational sustainability reporting in close collaboration with the Sustainable UN Facility;
 - vi. Support UN entities to strengthen their own environmental and social sustainability by facilitating access to relevant guidance and tools;
 - vii. Establish a task team composed of interested members of the Consultative Process on Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN system and the IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management to propose a draft UN corporate sustainability vision and strategy beyond 2020, for consideration of the EMG Senior Officials at their next meeting ((see Suggested Action VI.e).

Action IV: Environment Management Group Nexus Dialogues

The Senior Officials:

- a. Welcome the Nexus Dialogues as opportunities for identifying collaboration amongst agencies on SDGs interlinkages and for a continued exchange on lessons learned and good practices;
- b. Invite UN agencies to sponsor and identify themes for future Nexus Dialogues and to share their ideas for how the dialogues can be further improved;
- c. Encourage UN agencies to participate and contribute to future Dialogues by sharing their experience and exchanging ideas on innovative solutions to environmental challenges with other stakeholders.

Action V: A United Nations System-wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment

The Senior Officials:

- a. Encourage UN agencies to provide input to the second edition of the SWFS Report, with a thematic focus on biodiversity, including case studies of illustrative interagency collaboration on the topic;
- b. Welcome the proposal to convene an expert group meeting of EMG Members prior to the High Level Political Forum to consider progress made by the agencies in the implementation of the environmental dimensions of the SDGs, nexus areas and interlinkages and to showcase, best practices and interagency collaboration efforts on the environment. The Senior Officials further request the EMG Secretariat, in close collaboration with UNDESA, to prepare a proposal outlining the organisation of such meeting for the consideration of EMG members;
- c. Extend the Consultative Process to support the continued implementation of the Framework, including the preparation of the third edition of the SWFS Synthesis Report, and the facilitation of information sharing via the SWFS Knowledge Exchange Network.

Action VI: Issue Management Group on Environmental Sustainability Management

The Senior Officials:

- a. Endorse the above report on activities of the IMG on environmental sustainability management and invite the EMG to continue its joint work, to ensure progressive implementation of the UN Roadmap for Climate Neutrality by 2020 including the new streams of work related to waste management, water management and staff awareness;
- b. Welcome the new tools at the disposal of the UN system to reduce the environmental footprint of facilities and operations, in particular the "Say Yes to Less" waste management guidance and campaign materials; the online Environmental Management Systems tool kit and the Environmental Management software;
- c. Commit to expand existing efforts to bring environmental sustainability management to UN offices in the field, including Common Premises and UN country offices;
- d. Renew their commitment to Climate Neutrality by 2020, requesting the EMG to boost its efforts to assist the UN system in reaching this vision within the agreed timeframe;
- e. Establish a task team composed of interested members of the IMG and the Consultative Process on Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN system to propose a draft UN corporate sustainability vision and strategy beyond 2020 for consideration of the EMG Senior Officials at their next meeting (see Suggested Action III b. vii). For facilities and operations, the strategy should build on the Climate Neutral Strategy, taking into consideration the progress achieved over the past 10 years, the existing Chief Executive Board Decisions of 2007, 2013 and 2015, the call of Member States made to the UN system in the 2012 Rio+20 Outcome document to integrate sustainable development considerations in facilities and operations with the goal to achieve resource efficiencies, and the renewed ambitions for UN walking the talk on the Sustainable Development Goals that the UN reform has brought about.

Action VII: Environmental Management Peer Reviews of United Nations Entities

The Senior Officials:

- a. Welcome the continued interest by UN agencies in being reviewed and the usefulness of the Peer Review Process for improving the environmental management, including on waste, as well as energy and cost efficiency of agencies' facilities and operations;
- b. Take note of the concluded Peer Review reports of UNICEF, UN Compound, WHO and UN Women in Beijing, and the Kakuma refugee camp of UNHCR in Kenya;
- c. Welcome the continuation of the Peer Review Process, including the peer review of the UN in Ethiopia and Colombia in 2019-2020, and the UN Department of Field Support in 2020, as part of the next phases of the Peer Review Process;
- d. Invite reviewed agencies to consider the Peer Review reports as a guidance and baseline for improving environmental sustainability measures and developing environmental management systems, as well as encourage other agencies to reference the reports in development of their own environmental sustainability measures and program development.