Discussion Note 2

Contributions to the International Meeting “Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity”

Pursuant to the resolution A/RES/75/280 of 24 May 2021, the UN General Assembly has decided to convene an international meeting entitled, “Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity” in Stockholm, Sweden, from 2-3 June 2022.

The international meeting, which commemorates 50 years since the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and its outcome documents, will contribute to the environmental dimension of sustainable development to accelerate the implementation of commitments in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, including a sustainable recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (see operative paragraph 1 of A/RES/75/280). The Resolution requested UNEP to serve as the focal point for providing support to the organization of the meeting, with support from the UN Secretariat and other relevant UN entities.

The high-level international meeting will link the notion of responsibility towards the human environment in the 1972 declaration with the challenges the world faces today, as well as the opportunity and responsibility to implement the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and a call for greater action towards a healthy planet and prosperity for all.
The international meeting intends to look at the following sub themes:

1) Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all; 2) Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic; and 3) Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

The UN is a stakeholder in this meeting. In this regard, the Senior Officials are invited to share their views and perspectives to help shape the EMG contribution to the meeting.

Possible questions to help shape the discussion:

➢ What urgent measures can Stockholm+50 highlight to support Member States and other stakeholders to accelerate action towards a healthy planet for the prosperity of all?
➢ What commitments and outcomes from the ongoing global processes in 2021/22 can/should feed into the Stockholm+50?
➢ What can the UN do more of, or differently, to contribute to the environmental dimension of sustainable development to accelerate the implementation of commitments in the context of the Decade of Action and delivery for sustainable development?
➢ What innovative means of implementation and policies could UN support to enable countries to increase fiscal space, invest in sustainable infrastructure, rebuild key sectors to be greener and more inclusive, and ensure a safer, healthier, resilient, and more equitable world?

The outcome of the Senior Officials discussion will guide the development of a short report by the EMG as its contribution to Stockholm+50.

The process of preparing an EMG report to Stockholm+50 was initiated following a proposal by UNEP to the EMG mid-term meeting on 30 June 2021. A Task Team of EMG focal points has been created to support the EMG Secretariat in preparation for the EMG contributions.

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1 According to the resolution A/RES/75/326