



UNITED NATIONS

ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

EMG

Mid-Term Technical Segment of the 28th Senior Officials Meeting

18th May 2022

Video-audio conference

15:00-17:00 CEST

Meeting Report

Introduction:

The mid-term meeting of the technical segment of the EMG Senior Officials was held virtually on 18th May 2022. The meeting's agenda and list of participants are annexed to this report.

1. Opening of the meeting and agenda

EMG Head of Secretariat Mr. Hossein Fadaei opened the meeting. Mr. Fadaei highlighted the purpose of the meeting: to update the EMG members on the progress of the various working areas of the EMG, and to prepare for the upcoming 28th Meeting of the Senior Officials of the EMG to be held in the autumn.

The agenda was adopted as presented.

2. Overview of progress made by EMG Issue Management Groups and Consultative Processes

(a) IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management (presented by Isabella Marras, SUN)

Ms. Marras notified attendees that the full scope of the work of the IMG is available in the attached documents and highlighted a few key areas of progress. The IMG is accelerating the implementation of the sustainability strategy and working with the connection between the work of the IMG and the UN Reforms. It is working to improve the "Greening the Blue" reporting and data collection system, especially ensuring that these align with best practice and the UN sustainability strategy. Letters from the Executive Director of UNEP have been sent to the Heads of Agencies, showing a more in-depth commitment to internal sustainability at the highest level. In the future, these letters will be sent biannually. Collaboration is ongoing with colleagues in UNEP and the DCO to connect the work of the IMG to the work of UN Country Teams (UNCTs). Part of the UN Reform relates to management, and in this context the Business Operation Strategy defines how UNCTs operate on the ground. The IMG is working with the Task Team on Common Premises to understand how to do more in terms of data collection at country level and support the UNCTs. These and other issues will be discussed in the upcoming IMG meeting in June.

(b) Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (presented by Meriem Bouamrane, UNESCO)

In 2021, the UN endorsed the Common Approach on Biodiversity which commits all programs and UN agencies to mainstream biodiversity and catalyze collective action to address the drivers of biodiversity loss and restore biodiversity. The 27th SOM established this IMG with its Terms of Reference confirmed in 2021.

In conjunction with updates by Tim Scott (UNEP) and Corli Pretorius (UNEP), Ms. Bouamrane shared that the IMG has organized its work into three streams: 1) Awareness raising and knowledge sharing led by UNESCO and UNDP; 2) Accountability and global-level reporting led by UNEP; and 3) the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration led by FAO. An inventory of knowledge products used among UN agencies and UN partners in support of the Common Approach on Biodiversity has been prepared, which will be shared more broadly. An outline for a monitoring and reporting framework for the common approach has been shared with EMG members for comments. This work should be finished before the upcoming Senior Officials Meeting. In March, the working group discussed how to contribute to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Finally, with the support of UNEP, a web tool is being developed to communicate about the UN Common Approach called United for Nature. This is being finalized and will be launched this year. This IMG will have its next meeting in June.

The CBD Secretariat thanked the IMG and the Working Groups for their contribution and expressed thanks to the co-chairs. Next steps include developing a strategy for the IMG and an extension to its mandate, which will be brought to the next meeting of the Senior Officials.

IAEA requested that any document to be presented for endorsements of the Senior Officials be distributed prior to the meeting for review.

(c) Consultative Process on a Pollution-Free Planet

a. Core Working Group on Plastic Pollution (Brenda Koekkoek, UNEP)

At the last SOM in 2021, the Senior Officials agreed to establish the Consultative Process, which seeks to strengthen coordination across the UN system to support Member States to deliver on a pollution-free planet. As a first task, the consultative process addresses plastic pollution through a core Working Group, established in response to the Secretary-General's call to unite efforts across the UN system on this issue. The Core Working Group met on the 16th of March to agree on its terms of reference. There are several expected deliverables, including joint messages for communication and advocacy, an overview of how the UN system and its stakeholders can provide solutions to plastic pollution, and a common offer to support an inclusive and just transition towards a plastic pollution-free planet. Finally, targets and indicators will be set to capture internal performance of UN entities. So far, key messages are being finalized for submission to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. Work has started to prepare an overview of the role of the UN system and stakeholders in solutions, which will build on the [EMG report on marine litter and microplastics](#). UNEP also recently convened 30 UN agencies to brief them on the open-ended working group that is set up to support the work of the Inter-governmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. The meeting of this ad hoc working group will take place on 30 May – 01 June in Dakar, Senegal.

b. Task Team on Marine Litter and Microplastics (Patrycja Enet, EMG)

Over the past three years, the Task Team members have collaborated to map activities, initiatives and other sources of expertise in relevant UN entities related to marine litter and microplastics in the UN system. The aim of this work has been to provide a complete picture of the system-wide expertise and interlinkages in this area. A total of 45 UN entities contributed to this exercise. In January, a report presenting the outcomes of this work was launched as part of a high-level panel discussion on a UN system response to marine litter and microplastics. The launch showcased how UN agencies are

working collaboratively to help countries address the issue systematically across the lifecycle. The purpose of the report was to raise awareness of UN efforts and strengthen the base for improved collaboration within the UN system. The [EMG report on marine litter and microplastics](#) is available on the EMG website and the executive summary has been translated into all UN languages. The report has been presented at an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) event in March and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) within the UN Office of Legal Affairs at the United Nations Nippon Foundation session on marine environmental protection and marine plastics in May. The Task Team met last November to discuss the report outreach and the future of the Task Team. Currently, it serves a sub-group of the Consultative Process on a Pollution-Free Planet and provides input when needed.

The Marine Litter Working Group of the Children and Youth Major Group shared comments regarding the UN Resolution to convene an Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee to develop the legally binding agreement on plastic pollution, which they stated must include children and youth. Furthermore, the agreement must be tailored to specific needs at the community level. They requested for the EMG to include in the key messages for UNSC to address grassroots and ground-level implementation and request support from Member States to define enforcement at country level. Secondly, they requested for the Core Working Group and Task Team to invite participation by youth from their marine litter working group.

(d) Consultative Process on Sustainable Infrastructure (presented by Joseph Price, UNEP)

This is in the second phase of the Consultative Process, moving from the high-level normative work to implementation issues. The second edition of the [International Good Practice Principles for Sustainable Infrastructures](#) was finalized and released following the inputs and endorsement of EMG members and the last SOM. It includes a forward by the UN Secretary-General and reflects recent developments on nature-based solutions and recommendations for implementation principles in national policies. These principles are being translated into all UN languages. In this phase, the Consultative Process is working with UNU FLORES to conduct an analysis of barriers to implementing sustainable infrastructure and the 10 principles and to identify opportunities to overcome them in a specific country context. This study is being conducted with Chile and its Ministry of Public Works as a pilot. The current stage is a stakeholder mapping exercise with future work including stakeholder workshops and questionnaires. Two key outputs will include a policy roadmap and scientific publication.

An [EMG Nexus Dialogue on Investing in Natural Infrastructure](#) will be held on 07 June. The Dialogue is organized in close collaboration with UNDP, the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), and various panelists. This event will focus on principle four, which is on avoiding environmental impacts and investing in nature. The discussion aims to identify policy and financing mechanisms that can be scaled up. Mr. Price welcomed all attendees to join the Dialogue.

(e) Issue Management Group on Human Rights and Environment (presented by Angela Kariuki, UNEP)

This IMG was extended up until the 2022 SOM. Recent activities have been to complete a draft common narrative on advancing the human right to a healthy environment to address the triple planetary crisis. This report has gone through a consultation process with the IMG and the Secretary-General's Call to Action Group. It is being copy-edited and will be disseminated in June. Related to this, there is a companion draft checklist that will assist UN Country Teams with their work. UNDP is leading this effort with 12 other entities. The methodology for the checklist is being developed and will be circulated for comments.

An analysis of human rights strategies for engagements with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention to Combat Desertification have been prepared. A public briefing note that contains key messages on human rights and desertification, land degradation, and drought was circulated for comments and has been finalized. The IMG and UNEP have prepared a concept note for three webinar trainings on human rights and the triple planetary crisis. Speakers and moderators are being identified.

Finally, pending activities include preparation of a joint guidance and support for integrating human rights into national programmes of action for pollution prevention—but this has not yet been done due to lack of capacity. Another postponed activity includes the preparation of guidance and support materials on integrating human rights into NDCs. The next steps prior to the SOM will be to finalize the common narrative and checklists and to prepare country-level guidance on human rights into national biodiversity strategies and action plans under the CBD. This IMG also plans to hold discussions on its long-term strategy and consider an extension of its mandate.

Mr. Fadaei added that in addition to promoting the integration of human rights into environmental conventions and processes, the IMG should also give visibility to the integration of the environmental agenda in human rights sectors and instruments.

The SUN secretariat raised that the issue of human trafficking and forced labor within the UN procurement system was discussed by the UN Procurement Network in connection with human rights. As soon as the document is approved, this will be shared with the IMG.

Ms. Kariuki invited all attendees to participate in the IMG's side event at Stockholm+50 which will take place on the 02 of June at 03:45pm.

**(f) Consultations on Environmental and Social Sustainability in the United Nations System
(presented by Jannica Pitkanen, EMG Secretariat)**

This Consultative Process was granted another year by the Senior Officials at their last meeting to establish a governance structure for the sustainability strategy. It also facilitates knowledge management or knowledge sharing on the application of the Model Approach to Environmental and Social Standards for UN programming. The Sustainability Strategy Task Team has made progress on defining helpful and functional options for a governance structure for the implementation of the strategy. It has drawn examples from other UN-wide strategies, such as the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy and the UN System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. There is general agreement that there should be one governance structure for both phases (phase I and II) and that it should include both representation of entities and thematic sustainability areas. A key event has been the ongoing “roadshow” which has raised awareness about the sustainability strategy in the UN system. So far there has been eight meetings with many interagency processes and bodies. An additional working group has been set up to develop a monitoring and reporting framework to enable progress towards the 2030 vision. This group will meet in Geneva at the end of June for a workshop. The Model Approach working group is preparing a concept note to outline alternatives for knowledge sharing online on environmental and social standards. It is also starting a process to interview agencies, together with the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, to understand the needs of UN agencies for support and training necessary to role out environmental and social standards for programming. Based on this analysis, the EMG will be able to offer support. Finally, the Model Approach working group is developing an overview of the role of safeguards in operationalizing principles at the country level.

Mr. Fadaei added that the future challenge is to effectively implement the strategy and govern it. He invited all meeting attendees to share thoughts on these areas. The work of the EMG is to develop recommendations to the Senior Officials based on the input from all UN agencies.

**(g) Consultative Process on a UN System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment
(Presented by Amira Kheir, UN EMG Consultant)**

Mr. Fadaei provided background to this topic. The objective is for the UN system to have a framework for showing how it aligns with the environmental dimensions of the SDGs and to report on this regularly to Members States. So far, two reports have been published. The third edition, a synthesis report, is forthcoming, which will build on previous reports to give an update on the overall achievements of the UN system with regards to the SDGs. It will also present the results of various EMG workstreams.

Ms. Kheir gave an update on the development of the synthesis report. The report will not have a single thematic focus but will be a synthesis similar to prior reports. The intent is to build on existing material as much as possible. A draft outline will be shared with EMG members shortly to solicit feedback.

UNDP suggested that since the upcoming UNSG report on sustainable development will focus on SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production), we should look for synergies to leverage that work and include it in the report while still ensuring that this report is new and different. He also asked about the timeline for when the report will be finished.

Mr. Fadaei responded that the timeline is not firm but the intention is to complete the report within the year. This depends on the amount of data obtained for analysis, which will largely draw on existing material.

**(h) Task Team on a UN System Contribution to the Stockholm+50 International Meeting
(presented by Hossein Fadaei, EMG Secretariat)**

The EMG has organized two nexus dialogues to facilitate discussions within the UN system on their expectations of Stockholm+50. The Stockholm+50 Task Team has prepared two reports that have been shared as background documents for the preparatory meeting for Stockholm+50 in New York. The reports have been organized into three sections: the learnings since Stockholm 1972, key messages of major intergovernmental processes in the last 10 years, and opportunities for the next 50 years. Video clips have been prepared based on the interviews with heads of agencies. The EMG will organize a roundtable at Stockholm+50 that will involve several heads of agencies. Finally, a table of key messages from the EMG reports, mapping them against the Leadership Dialogue themes has been compiled for consideration of the informal working groups.

The Children and Youth Media Group of UNEP commented that youth engagement is becoming a high priority in the multilateral system with references made towards youth and future generations in the Secretary General's Common Agenda in September last year. A Global Youth Task Force was established in 2021, which has created a youth Stockholm+ 50 handbook, and has drafted a policy paper that captures youth voices that will be finalized before Stockholm+ 50. The Task Force convened a Stockholm+50 talk in Nairobi in February 2022 that included high engagement of young people and led to several youth representatives presenting at the New York meeting in March in preparation for Stockholm+50. The task force is finalizing plans for two-day Youth Assembly in Stockholm to be held 31st of May and 1st of June. Members are invited to join work of Youth Assembly in Stockholm.

Mr. Fadaei responded that there should also be a youth representative as a part of the round table discussions in Stockholm to create an intergenerational exchange.

OCHA commented that their head of entity cannot attend Stockholm+50 and sought confirmation that their appointed delegate will be welcomed to attend the roundtable and leadership dialogues.

ILO commented their Director General will also be absent and they will have a delegate representative attending instead.

Mr. Fadaei responded that this information should be shared with the EMG to be included in roundtable and the same information will be passed onto the Coordinator of Stockholm+50 for the leadership dialogues.

IFAD questioned whether table of key EMG messages is the same as the summary for policy makers.

Mr. Fadaei clarified that the table is a different document that will be circulated soon after meeting. It does not contain new substance but summarises work of the reports for ease of the informal working groups.

3. Presentation of new topics for the future work of the EMG: concept notes

(a) Strengthening UN System-wide Support to RCOs/UNCTs for Triple Planetary Crisis Response (presented by Tim Scott, UNDP)

The objective of this proposed work stream would be to leverage the full potential of the UN system through the EMG, to strengthen UN system wide support to governments and national stakeholders to tackle the triple planetary crisis. This work would imply to strengthen capacities of Resident Coordinators, UN Country Teams and regional issue-based coalitions. Following the UNSDG Core Group meeting last year and the QCPR recommendations, UNEP, UNDP and DCO colleagues were requested to prepare an initial one -year plan to help strengthen the UN system wide response to the triple planetary crisis. The overall plan, of which this EMG proposal is a part, is designed to strengthen how the crisis is addressed in UN Common Country Analysis and cooperation frameworks, strengthen awareness on key entry points for integrated UN policy and programming to the crisis, test and operationalize this support in select UN Country Teams, and lastly, to strengthen interagency collaboration. The proposed EMG workstream, aligned with the broader UNSDG Core Group workplan, will include a focus on the following proposed activities.

The first activity is a simple mapping exercise of UN initiatives and knowledge products relevant to the triple planetary crisis. This mapping will identify opportunities to strengthen the knowledge base from the perspective of Resident Coordinators, and UN Country Team needs. This mapping will leverage the existing work of EMG work streams as well as other UN system work relating to climate change and other important topics.

The second activity is to strengthen the awareness, knowledge and capacity of our RC offices and UN Country Teams. This relates to curating existing UN system knowledge, including EMG guidance, and translating it into more user-friendly formats and platforms for use by UN Country Teams. This would include integrating this knowledge into EMG Nexus Dialogues.

The third activity is to test and operationalise this type of support to a subset of Resident Coordinator Offices by facilitating coordinated UN inputs to provide in depth support. This will capture lessons from the process of working with specific UN Country Teams and Resident Coordinator Offices to strengthen the overall knowledge management work of the EMG in the broader UN system.

These activities will help strengthen the value added of all synergies within and across all existing EMG workstreams.

Mr. Fadaei noted that this will be an exciting proposal as it merges the normative work of the EMG with the operations of the UN.

OCHA mentioned that they, in conjunction with the UNEMG, have proposed Nexus Dialogues on the readiness of the UN system of a 1.5 increase of warming. OCHA welcomes further discussion on the Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams preparedness.

The SCBD strongly supported this proposal and thanked UNDP, UNDCO and UNEP for its preparation. This initiative will be strongly supportive of other initiatives under the EMG and the work stream on biodiversity. It will be supportive of the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

The Children and Youth Major Group of UNEP highlighted that young people, their movements and their constituencies are already working together an approach which bridges them. They hope that the UN continues to deliver on the One UN approach on a substantive level. In the context of the UN youth strategy 2030, there has already been a multi stakeholder initiative mapping done about initiatives across the various teams that are within the UN that are youth centric. While this resource of mapping is being developed under this initiative, the new work stream should look at the existing mapping that has been done specifically on the youth side and include them or use these as a basis while further initiatives are being mapped. This initiative should look at emerging issues and how there can be better preparedness built into such Resident Coordinator Offices and UN Country Teams to tackle those. Lastly, coordinating on environment and biodiversity is a priority but strengthened climate change coordination is also needed in the UN system. This should bring together different agencies especially on national level. In previous interventions they have highlighted models such as designating country level focal points which could act as liaisons for the EMG. All three planetary crisis must be addressed on the same or equitable preference within this proposal especially enhancing the climate change coordination and impact on the national level.

IAEA questioned how to ensure this initiative will not be duplicating efforts that are already undertaken under specific task teams.

Mr. Fadaei responded that the initiative would benefit from existing processes and will bring their results and their outputs to the use and benefit of UN Country Teams and regional groups. This structure will make sure the link between existing task teams and UN Country Teams is established.

Mr. Tim Scott thanked all for comments and noted points of proposal that need strengthening. Mr. Tim Scott echoed Mr. Hossein comments on the work stream acting as a linking mechanism of all knowledge across EMG work streams and the UN rather than generating new knowledge.

**(b) Issue Management Group on Environmental Data and Statistics for the SDGs
(presented by Tim Kasten, UNEP)**

The objective of this proposal is to encourage additional EMG engagement on data and statistics for the SDGs, to stimulate further collaboration across the UN Systems, and to analyse and identify emerging tools that can close gaps and issues in this process. The proposal responds to the need to fill gaps in data and statistics particularly related to the SDGs, enhances capacities to use environmental data for monitoring progress, and uses integrated analysis of interventions toward the achievement of SDGs and other globally agreed environmental goals. There is a need to enhance the use of the

environmental data across the system to better inform policymakers and, guide and design interventions to maximise the impact of this work. Current efforts do exist to produce more sophisticated environmental data statistics and indicators to put this environmental knowledge on par with the understanding of economic and social dimensions, but some new tools and methodologies are required to identify these inter linkages and the causal relations across the three pillars from an environmental perspective. As we're moving towards the midpoint review of the SDGs and the 2030 framework, we need improved knowledge and measures to ensure that the environmental dimension is adequately upheld across sustainable development and linking to the economic and social pillars. The EMG can offer a platform to engage collectively around this goal and produce new and improved guidance in this area of data statistics. The proposal puts forth some of the following activities for the IMG. The IMG could engage EMG members in joint efforts to raise awareness on this need particularly for more disaggregated data and to optimise inter linkages across the three pillars of sustainable development. The IMG would look to analyse a current set of environmental related indicators, such as SDG indicators, the global set of climate statistics and indicators, global biodiversity framework indicators and others against those impact and causality questions most requiring attention to guide the further design and effective interventions to achieve the SDGs. This will identify the priority gaps in datasets and national data capacities that need to be filled to produce the indicators and guide effective SDG interventions. The IMG would identify potential capacity development initiatives that could facilitate the use of such analysis and help produce manuals and other guidance for governments and other UN agencies to enhance their use of the analysis. Finally, the IMG would engage in knowledge sharing for innovative methodologies that can enhance analysis of SDG indicators with a preference of methodologies that leverage digital tools. This IMG would support the implementation of the framework for System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the environment, suggesting that the EMG ensures follow up of the environmental dimensions of the SDGs and securing alignment of agency policies and programmes across the system. The IMG would provide practical input to the midpoint review of the SDGs and guidance for the development of a post 2030 framework.

The Children and Youth Major Group of UNEP welcomed the proposed IMG and noted the launch of the UNEP World Environment Situation Room, as well as the data for environment alliance at UNEA 5.2. Big Data poses an extraordinary opportunity for environmental action, but it is essential to address the asymmetric power dynamics between those who collect data and those who are the targets of the data collection process, especially youth. There is a need for co-creation with the governments of least developed countries to build capacity and to give them the tools necessary to turn data into insights. Who is ultimately responsible for the knowledge generated by huge datasets and for its governance? Who should benefit from the insights? Who gets to question them? In a world where data is currency, we are seeing a huge concentration of wealth. Companies hungry for predictive analytics are vacuuming up data about citizens faster than regulatory frameworks can keep up. All governments, especially those in emerging economies, have a duty to work with, not for, the private sector in developing regulations that protect the rights of citizens. Therefore, youth groups and institutions working on these topics request be included in the new EMG workstream.

UNDP noted that they provide financial and technical support to civil society organisations, including community-based organisations targeting especially the poor and vulnerable communities in addressing key environmental issues. For instance, youth, indigenous people and women are their targeted groups. These two issues that have been presented are extremely important to guide us and our work on the ground at the community level. However, there is a gap between the high-level thinking, the data we collected and the impacts on the ground. How do we use these big trends of analysis and data to strengthen the governments or to further their commitments to support those left behind?

Mr. Fadaei echoed sentiments that both these proposals are about connecting the normative frameworks to what is happening on the ground.

UNEP responded that the proposal is not only about big data, but rather all forms of data. The idea is to bring together various people that are working across the system to focus on looking at interlinkages and methodologies for analysing those and, to look at the data gaps that exist around the SDG data.

The CEB Secretariat asked how this proposed IMG will interface with the existing work of the UN statistical division. UNEP commented that the idea of the IMG is to use the platform created by the SDGs and data effectively to monitor and to identify more impactful interventions. There's a long way to go. Of the 93 UNEP identified environment related SDG indicators, 53 are sorely deficient in the amount of data that we have to populate them. There's an enormous amount of work to be done that the UN statistical division is leading on. By working together and looking at what different agencies are doing, we can improve our ability to undertake an analysis of interlinkages and our ability to identify effective mechanisms for populating indicators that haven't been populated. The IMG would work together, through economic conditions primarily, to improve capacity development. There is a lot of work that can be done jointly and that can be expedited by collective action, learning from each other and sharing knowledge to the UN Statistical Division.

UNICEF noted the complementarities between the two concept notes proposed; one understanding where the vulnerabilities of data are and transmitting those in a way that is useful to those they are trying to serve, and another than can use this data to operationalise frameworks across the triple planetary crisis.

(c) Nexus Dialogue on Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals (presented by Tim Kasten, UNEP)

The objective of the proposal is to further engagement from the EMG on the topic of environmental aspects of minerals and metals management, and to strengthen synergies across relevant work streams. There have already been substantial efforts across UN systems to address economic, environmental, and social aspects of the extractive activities, in particular mining. UNEA resolution 4/19 on mineral resource governance brought this issue to a global action map from an environmental perspective and led to several consultations across different stakeholders on exchanging knowledge. The Secretary-General's initiative Financing for Development in the era of COVID-19 and beyond produced recommendations on how to transform the extractive sector into an engine for sustainable development. This Initiative was followed by the establishment of a working group on extractive industries chaired by UNEP, UNDP and the UN regional economic commissions. The objective of this working group is to develop a common narrative to achieve just transitions in the extractive sector and foster greater collaboration and knowledge sharing across stakeholders. In the roadmap for digital cooperation, the Secretary-General recognised that climate change and environmental degradation, and the use and governance of digital technology are two mega trends, where our UN collective response will largely dictate the future of humanity. How do we connect these challenges of minerals management and digital technologies to shift behaviours and incentive structures to drive greater environmental sustainability? This will play a critical role in determining what kind of future will emerge. The new resolution from UNEA 5.2 on the environmental aspects of minerals and metals management further highlighted this issue and called for an intergovernmental regional consultation process with relevant international organisations and Multilateral Environmental Agreements with the aim of developing proposals to enhance environmental sustainability of minerals and metals. The consultations will occur in 2023. Likewise, they are proposing to convene on this nexus dialogue,

following the successful EMG dialogue in 2020 on the issues of minerals management, to further coherence and foster synergies across existing processes. The next dialogue can secure follow up actions across EMG members on the work initiated under these UNEA resolutions, identify a common approach for cooperation on the management of minerals and metals, and further engagement in the SG's Working Group on extractive industries. Mr. Tim Kasten concluded proposal by welcoming collaboration with interested colleagues to further develop the ideas that are outlined in the proposal.

UNDP commented that this proposal fits well within the EMG and questioned what the projected timeline of the dialogue will be as it fits in with other global forums being held.

UNDCO echoed the importance of the minerals and metals management issue and commented that the initiative should look to support the governance of these issues with Resident Coordinators. UNDCO questioned whether the dialogue would allow participation of interested RCs.

ILO commented that the issue of expiration and exportation is very much linked to conflict and instability in many parts of the world. ILO questioned whether this process would look at the root causes of some of these conflicts, particularly in Africa, as this issue does not just pertain to governance of a certain sector but rather there are major implications economy wide beyond those countries concerned.

Mr. Fadaei clarified that this proposal only pertains to a Nexus Dialogue to explore the idea further and not an IMG. This will further diagnose what role the UN system must play in that regard.

UNEP responded to comments clarifying that the timeline will work in parallel to the timeline of the UNEA 5.2 resolution and the expected consultations they are required to undertake in 2023. On the role of the Secretary-General's Working Group on extractives, the goal is to get EMG focal points to join the working group. In relation to the UN Country Team issue, they can look into how to ensure that the common approach is utilised correctly by them as we as we develop it. UNEP is working closely with UNDP and DCO, on how best to support resident coordinators. A priority of the Nexus Dialogue is to build on the outcomes of the mineral resource governance work and how that might have addressed the issues that you've raised.

The idea is to build on the work of the previous Nexus dialogue and issues previously identified. If this proposal is accepted, the Dialogue should be held before the consultations for UNEA resolution 5.12 begin. In response to ILO, UNEP commented that this has come up in the previous consultations, but they did not have the capacity to address it and the issue is outside of the mandate of the previous resolution but flags the issue as something we should think about how to capture going forward.

4. Possible theme for the strategic discussion of the Senior Officials

Mr. Fadaei invited colleagues to share their thoughts for the focus of the 28th Senior Officials Meeting. Some ideas have already been flagged for the strategic discussion of the SOM including the Stockholm+50 outcome and what the UN system should do in its follow up, a pollution-free planet and the issue of connecting the UN EMG's work to addressing the triple planetary crisis at the country level.

The Children and Youth Major Group of UNEP proposed the issue of intergenerational equity for discussion by the SOM. If this proposal is approved the discussion should include young people.

5. Date and time of the 28th meeting of the Senior Officials

The Chair informed the participants that the Senior Officials Meeting will likely take place in November 2022. The letter of invitation will be sent out shortly to book the Heads of Agencies' agenda. The meeting will likely be held virtually.

6. AOB

No other issues were discussed.

7. Closure of the meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 5:06 p.m. Geneva time.

Annex 1: List of participants

1	Aatika Patel	Youth	57	Lorenzo Bosi	WFP
2	Alphonse Muia	CYNESA	58	Lorenzo Gavilli	ICAO
3	Andrea Camponogara	UNFCCC	59	Luca Chinotti	WWF
4	Andrea Rizzo	UNEP	60	Ludgarde Coppens	UNEP
5	Angela Kariuki	UNEP	61	Maikel Lieuw-Kie-Song	ILO
6	Anne Fernqvist	UNDP	62	Maria Cristina Cardenas Fischer	BRS
7	Andrew Rudd	UN-Habitat	63	Marieta Sakalian	UNEP
8	Andy Cole	WFP	64	Markus Woltran	UNOOSA
9	Amira Kheir	EMG	65	Marina Maiero	WHO
10	Alejandro Luque		66	Matilda Dunn	
11	Asa Tynell	SUN	67	Megha Rathi	WHO
12	Audrey Thill	EMG	68	Mel Amancio	UNFPA
13	Benjamin Schachter	OHCHR	69	Melissa Denecke	IAEA
14	Bernard Combes	UNESCO	70	Melissa Villarroel	ECLAC
15	Brenda Koekkoek	UNEP	71	Meriem Bouamrane	UNESCO
16	Brennan VanDyke	UNEP	72	Moustapha Gueye	ILO
17	Carina Forster	UNIDO	73	Mito Tsukamoto	ILO
18	Carla Kraft	UN Women	74	Nadine Azzu	IFAD
19	Cecilia Lopez Royo	UNEP	75	Neil Pratt	CBD
20	Charlotte Ndakorerwa	UNEP	76	Nigel Crawhall	UNESCO
21	Christina Daszkiewicz	IOM	77	Nives Costa	UNOPS
22	Christophe Xerri	IAEA	78	Patrycja Enet	EMG
23	Corli Pretorius	UNEP-WCMC	79	Phillipe Wealer	UNHCR
24	Dirk Glaesser	UNWTO	80	Priya Alvarez	UN Women
25	Eduardo Escobedo	EMG	81	Robin Zuercher	ITU
26	Eduardo Riera		82	Sarah Taravello	UNDRR
27	Emanuele Brancati		83	Shannon Lisa	Youth
28	Ernesto Sanchez-Triana	WBG	84	Sheilagh Henry	OCHA
29	Eva Gurria	UNDP	85	Shoba Sivasankar	IAEA
30	Fatema Johara	EMG	86	Sinead Brophy	UNODC

31	Fatin Tawfig	UNFCCC	87	Smail Alhilali	UNIDO
32	Federica Pietracci	CEB Secretariat	88	Soffa Gutiérrez	UNWTO
33	Felipe Gallo	Youth	89	Sofia Mylona	Ozone Secretariat
34	Florence Decroix- Commanducci	IAEA	90	Sulan Chen	UNDP
35	Francesca Bernadini	UNECE	91	Tanya McGregor	CBD
36	Fredrik Haag	IMO	92	Tarek Sadek	ESCWA
37	Gita Parihar	EMG	93	Tim Kasten	UNEP
38	Guatam Narasimhan	UNICEF	94	Tim Scott	UNDP
39	Gyubin Hwang	Youth	95	Thea Carroll	CITES
40	Hélène Le Brun	UNESCO	96	Theofanis Karayannis	IMO
41	Hillary Green	SUN	97	Therese Arnesen	OHCHR
42	Hossein Fadaei	EMG	98	Richard Roehrl	DESA
43	Inde Halligan	EMG	99	Yasuhiko Kamakura	ILO
44	Isabella Marras	SUN	100	Yewande Awe	WBG
45	Jannica Pitkanen	EMG	101	Yugratna Srivastava	Youth
46	Joseph Price	UNEP	102	Yunae Yi	UNEP
47	Juliane Dziumla	UNU- FLORES	103	Zuhair Kowshik	Youth
48	Julia Gassien	UNICEF			
49	Katarina Kuai	DCO			
50	Kate Newman	WWF			
51	Katherine Clyne	FAO			
52	Katrin Ehlert	WMO			
53	Kei Woodall	BRS			
54	Koko Warner	UNFCCC			
55	Laetitia Sieffert	CBD			
56	Laura Cerasi	CMS			

Annex 2: Agenda

Provisional Agenda

Mid-Term Technical Segment of the 28th Senior Officials Meeting	EMG SOM28/mid-term/02
18 May 2022	
MS Teams	Distribution: EMG members
from 3:00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Geneva time	

Meeting documents:

01. Logistics Note
02. Provisional Agenda
03. Progress Report
04. A) Concept Note - Strengthening UN System-wide Support to RCOs/UNCTs for Triple Planetary Crisis Responses
- B) Concept Note – Issue Management Group on Environmental Data and Statistics for the SDGs
- C) Concept Note – Nexus Dialogue on Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals

3:00 – 3:10 p.m.

Item 1: Opening remarks by Ligia Noronha, EMG Secretary

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

3:10 – 4:10 p.m.

Item 3: Overview of progress made by the EMG Issue Management Groups, Task Teams and Consultative Processes in response to SOM27 decisions and future plans as follows:

- a) Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (presented by UNESCO)
- b) Consultative Process on a Pollution-Free Planet (presented by UNEP)
 - a. Core Working Group on Plastic Pollution
 - b. Task Team on Marine Litter and Microplastics
- c) Consultative Process on Sustainable Infrastructure ((presented by UNEP)
- d) Issue Management Group on Human Rights and Environment (presented by UNEP)
- e) Consultations on Environmental and Social Sustainability in the United Nations System (presented by EMG Secretariat)
 - a. Task Team for the development of a UN sustainability strategy 2020-2030
- f) IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management (presented by SUN)

- g) Consultative Process on a UN System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment (presented by EMG Secretariat)
- h) EMG Nexus Dialogues 2019-2020 (presented by EMG Secretariat)
- i) Task Team on a UN System Contribution to the Stockholm+50 International Meeting (presented by EMG Secretariat)

4:10 – 04:50 p.m.

Item 4: Preparation for the 28th meeting of the EMG Senior Officials

- 1) Presentation of new topics for the future work of the EMG
 - a. Strengthening UN System-wide Support to RCOs/UNCTs for Triple Planetary Crisis Responses (presented by UNDP)
 - b. Issue Management Group on Environmental Data and Statistics for the SDGs (presented by UNEP)
 - c. Nexus Dialogue on Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals (presented by UNEP)
- 2) Possible theme for the strategic discussion of the Senior Officials
- 3) Date and time of the 28th meeting of the Senior Officials

4:50

Item 5: Any other business

5:00 p.m. Closure of the meeting