Table of Approved Actions by the senior officials

(Compiled from document EMG/SOM19/03/Rev2
For the work of the technical segment of the senior officials)
19.09.2013

Suggested Action I: Directions for the Issue Management Group (IMG) on Biodiversity

The senior officials decide to continue the IMG for another year to undertake and coordinate the following tasks:

1. Present the online biodiversity mapping tool to CBD SBSTTA 17, transfer it to the CBD for future maintenance and make it available to Member States and other stakeholders.

2. Contribute, as appropriate, to the NBSAPs Forum for the review and implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

3. Contribute to the mid-term review process of the Aichi Targets including by providing indicators and data, in particular those relevant to the national level implementation of the targets; also, further consider ways to integrate the Aichi Targets into other country level planning tools such as the UNDAFs.

4. Prepare a progress report by the EMG on contribution of the UN system to the Strategic Framework for Biodiversity, for consideration of the 12th COP of the CBD.

Suggested Action II: the Issue Management Group (IMG) on Land

In view of the time-bound and issue-focused nature of the IMG and accomplishment of its tasks, the senior officials decided to conclude the work of the IMG on land by submitting the UN Action Plan on drylands to the 11th COP of the UNCCD.

Suggested Action III: The Issue Management Group (IMG) on Green Economy

The senior officials welcome the draft stocktaking report and guide on inclusive green economy knowledge products in the UN system and take note of the IMG's discussion on the coordination of inclusive green economy activities in the UN system.

They decide to extend the IMG for one year to:

1. Finalize the stocktaking report and identify options on how the information gathered can be maintained, including through web-based tools for accessing these products.

2. Prepare a paper on institutional options for enhanced UN system wide support for inclusive green economy work, using the options paper on the UN sustainability framework as one model to draw on.

3. As one of the areas of coordination that could derive from the proposed options paper, facilitate information sharing on existing and emerging policy options, methodologies and technical advice on inclusive green economy to enhance a coherent approach among UN entities.

***Suggested Actions IV*: Consultations on Advancing the Framework for Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN system.**

The senior officials:

1. Welcome the report of the retreat of the Consultative Process, the draft Interim Guide for Implementation of the Sustainability Framework by each UN agency and the draft Options Paper on the system-wide issues in the follow up of the Framework in the UN system;

2 Encourage UN entities to move ahead in implementing the Sustainability Framework by benefiting from the Interim Guide;

3. Request the Chair of the EMG to take the necessary action in pursuing the recommendations on follow up to the Framework in the UN system as provided in the draft Options Paper, including sharing the Options Paper with other inter-agency mechanisms for comments.

4. Decide to continue the Consultative Process for one more year to finalize the Interim Guide and the Options Paper based on the feed-back received from UN system entities and inter-agency mechanisms, and report on progress made at the next Senior Officials' meeting.

***Suggested Action V*: System-wide commitments on Environmental Sustainability Management**

1. The senior officials welcome the decisions made by the HLCM and CEB to commit the UN system to the "*development and implementation of environmental sustainability management systems in each organization*" and to "*engage to achieve measurable progress to enhance environmental sustainability of UN operations*".
2. The senior officials appreciate the links that have been created between the EMG and the HLCM and commit to report through UNEP to the HLCM on progress towards the development of environmental sustainability management systems on a yearly basis. A report will be sent to HLCM after each EMG SOM in consultation with the HLCM secretariat.
3. Taking into account the IMG experience to date, the voluntary nature of the commitment to environmental sustainability management systems and the potential need to find a longer term platform to support this issue, senior officials agree to recommend to the HLCM that "measurable progress to enhance environmental sustainability of UN operations" be expressed in terms of progress against a series of agreed milestones, at least in the first instance.
4. Senior officials commend UNEP for the efforts made through the EMG in steering progress on internal environmental sustainability and invite UNEP to confirm with the HLCM its intention to continue its work of coordination, technical support and reporting and ;
5. In response to the CEB request to "achieve measurable progress to enhance environmental sustainability of UN operations", senior officials commit to join forces for the development of a common reporting service, based on experience with GHG inventory reporting, to enable the EMG to report to the HLCM on progress against the indicators of the HLCM Results framework.

Suggested Action VI: **Environmental Peer Reviews of the EMG members**

1. Senior officials thank WMO, UNIDO, and UNEP for volunteering to be peer reviewed, as well as other UN entities participating in the peer review expert teams.

2. They welcome the good progress made in the pilot phase of the peer review and preparation of the respective reports and express their interest to participate in the Peer Review Body at its forthcoming meetings in Geneva and New York in 2014.

3. They look forward to the assessment of the pilot phase (2013-2014) at their next meeting in 2014, including the final peer review reports.

4. They welcome the interest expressed by the UPU to be added in the peer-review program and invite other UN entities to join.

Suggested Action VII: Addressing new issues for future work of the EMG

1. The senior officials agree with the importance of raising the profile of sound chemicals management within all relevant organizations of the UN System. Given the IOMC is the established coordinating mechanism among the UN family and OECD, the senior officials agree to invite the IOMC at their forthcoming November meeting to examine the draft issues paper and elaborate the rationale and the draft terms of reference for a potential IMG in this area, bearing in mind any potential duplications with the existing mechanisms. On the basis of this, the EMG will make a decision on whether to establish the IMG.

2. The senior officials also agree on the need for a stock take of financing/funding for environmental issues in the UN system. In light of other relevant processes currently under way, the senior officials agree to revisit this issue at their next meeting.

Suggested Action VIII: **Approval of the work plan for EMG for the period 2014 – 2015**

The senior officials approve the work plan for EMG for the period 2014 – 2015 based on the understanding that the EMG secretariat will revise the plan presented in document EMG/SOM.19/04 to ensure that the plan fully reflects the actions agreed by the 19th senior officials meeting of the EMG. The work plan will be implemented on the basis of in-kind contributions from members and is subject to availability of resources.

Suggested Action IX: **Reporting to the UN Environment Assembly of UNEP**

The senior officials welcome the opportunity to inform the UN Environment Assembly of UNEP and the Assembly to the UN General Assembly, of its work. The meeting appreciates the guidance received from the UNEP governing body and requests the Chair to continue the practice of circulating a draft of the report by EMG on its work to members of the Group for their comments, and submit the final report to the second UN Environment Assembly of UNEP.

Suggested Action X: **Date and venue of the next senior officials meeting**

The senior officials request the EMG secretariat to circulate to the members of the EMG the date and venues for the 20th meeting of the senior officials, and consult with members on its agenda.