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ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP EMG

23rd Senior Officials' Meeting of the Environment Management Group Technical Segment, 18 September 2017 (09.00 a.m.-17:00 p.m. NY time) **UN HQ Conference Building, Conference Room 9 (CR9) 1st basement** Senior Segment, 20 September 2017, (09.00 a.m-12.30 p.m. NY time) **UN HQ GA Building, Conference Room F (CR-F) 1st basement**.	25 September 2017 Distribution: EMG Members

Summary of Approved Action Points

Suggested Action I: The Issue Management Group (IMG) on Tackling E-waste

The Senior Officials:

1. Take note of the achievements made by the IMG on Tackling E-waste, including preparation of the E-waste Synthesis Report and the Joint Statement, which outlines the commitments of respective Heads of agencies towards the follow-up of the recommendations listed in the Synthesis Report;

2. Decide to extend the IMG for one more year to:

    a. Undertake a gap analysis for identifying possible long-term programmatic cooperation and collaboration on tackling e-waste;

    b. Establish means for further and systematic sharing of knowledge among UN agencies on e-waste management partnerships and programmes, including developing a repository of project expertise, country level information and related data;

    c. Deepen the liaison between the IMG on Tackling E-waste and the IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management in the UN, through further reciprocal briefings and exchanges of best practices, information and case studies.

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Suggested Action II: Consultative Process on Enhancing Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN System

The Senior Officials:

1. Take note of the progress made in the three work streams as well as of the briefing note and draft brochure prepared to facilitate communication on the importance of UN organizations foreseeing and managing the environmental or social impacts of their own activities and on the relevance of a common approach on ESS measures;

2. Welcome the progress made by UN agencies in introducing and integrating environmental sustainability at the three entry points outlined in the ESS Framework and recognize the utility of the Framework in this regard;

3. Agree to extend the Consultative Process for one more year to:

    a. Complete the comparative analysis and continue the preparation of a common approach to environmental and social safeguards for programming in the UN system and to initiate a voluntary phase of application of the common approach;

    b. Complete the brochure explaining the ESS Framework and its links to the 2030 Agenda;

    c. Building on the Interim Guide, develop a webpage on the EMG website where guidance material and agency examples on the implementation of the ESS Framework and other related information will be shared;

    d. Consider opportunities for knowledge sharing, collective learning and coherence in corporate sustainability reporting in UN entities;

    e. Report on progress to the next Senior Officials' meeting.

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Suggested Action III: System-wide Commitments on Environmental Sustainability Management

The Senior Officials:

1. 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;

2. Request the IMG to collaborate with the appropriate committees within the CEB to ensure that environmental management and the Roadmap for a Climate Neutral UN by 2020 is well integrated in the CEB discussions for internalizing SDGs in the work of the UN system at all levels.

Suggested Action IV: Environmental Management Peer Reviews of United Nations organisations

The Senior Officials:

1. Welcome the continued interest by EMG members to be reviewed on their environmental performances and take note of the usefulness of the Peer Review Process as a means to enhance environmental sustainability in the Headquarters and Field Operations of the UN agencies;

2. Welcome the concluded Peer Review Reports of WFP, UNDP and UNRWA and thank the contributing UN entities for taking part in the review process;

3. Welcome the continuation of the Peer Review Process and the interest expressed by UNFCCC, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNOPS and DFS to engage in the next phase of the peer reviews;

4. Consider developing guidelines and documenting good practices to support agencies that wish to undertake peer reviews independently, as an output of the peer review process.

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Suggested Action V: Consultative Process on a UN System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment

The Senior Officials:

1. Welcome the finalization of the 1st Synthesis Report of the System-Wide Framework of Strategies as a significant contribution to identifying illustrative examples of system-wide cooperation and collaboration on the environment in support of implementing the 2030 Agenda;

2. Extend the Consultative Process to support the implementation of the Framework, including preparation of the second edition of the SWFS Synthesis Report, delineate plans for future Synthesis Reports, and foster ongoing information sharing via the SWFS Knowledge Exchange Network and interagency fora such as the EMG Nexus Dialogues;

3. Request the Consultative Process to provide a report on its progress to the meeting of the Senior Officials.

Suggested Action VI: Maximizing the Effectiveness of the EMG in Enhancing Coordination on the Environment in the UN System in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Senior Officials:

1. Endorse the updated Terms of Reference and new Rules of procedure for the Environment Management Group and mandate the Secretariat to report on progress on the implementation of the recommendations and findings of the effectiveness report to the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in line with its Resolution 2/5;

2. Decide to conclude the work of the Task Team in light of the completion of its mandate.

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Suggested Action VII: EMG Nexus Dialogues

The Senior Officials:

1. Welcome the Nexus Dialogue Series as a new modality under the EMG for continued exchange of knowledge and information and for enhancing cooperation and partnerships between the UN system and other stakeholders on the implementation of the environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda;

2. Invite UN agencies to sponsor and identify themes for dialogues and to provide comments for improving the organization of the future dialogues.

Suggested Action VIII: Integrating the environment into humanitarian action

The Senior Officials:

1. Welcome the organisation of an EMG Nexus Dialogue on the integration of the environment into humanitarian action in Geneva in October 2017;

2. Taking into account the outcome of the Dialogue, request the EMG Secretariat in consultation with interested EMG Members, to prepare Terms of Reference for a possible Issue Management Group in this area, for consideration of the Senior Officials.

Suggested Action IX: Promoting the progressive development of law for environmental sustainability

The Senior Officials:

1. Invite EMG Members to nominate focal points to an informal network of legal practitioners across UN entities and MEA secretariats to start identifying areas of common interest on environmental law;

2. In that regard, welcome the organisation of an EMG Nexus Dialogue on law for environmental sustainability;

3. Taking into account the outcome of the Dialogue, request the EMG Secretariat in consultation with interested EMG Members to identify potential areas for collaboration in the area of law for environmental sustainability, including in capacity building through training and learning on environmental law, especially for public policy officials, and submit a proposal for further consideration of the Senior Officials.

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Suggested Action X: Renewing system-wide collaboration on Biodiversity

The Senior Officials decide to revitalise its work on biodiversity by:

1. Organizing an EMG Nexus Dialogue on biodiversity in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2018 to identify areas for an EMG contribution;

2. Based on the outcome of the Dialogue, requesting the EMG Secretariat in consultation with interested EMG Members, to prepare Terms of Reference for a possible UN system contribution to the post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.