Environmental Management Group (EMG)
8th Meeting of the Environmental Management Group
UNEP Headquarters, Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya, 01 September 2004
Document EMG 8/2

Provisional Annotated Agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda

The Executive Director of UNEP, Dr. Klaus Töpfer, as the chairman of the EMG will open the meeting and invite the members to adopt the meeting's provisional agenda.

2. The EMG's programme of work for 2004

a. Environmental capacity building

At its last meeting on 20 April 2004 in New York, the EMG decided that the existing Issue Management Group (IMG) continue its work on the two studies in the areas of capacity building for biological diversity and chemicals management, respectively. Both studies would provide a very useful input for the intergovernmental process on the Intergovernmental Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building (ISP). The study in the area of chemicals management should also feed into the next SAICM meeting. At the same time a second Issue Management Group, jointly chaired by UNEP and UNDP, should focus more specifically on the overall contribution of EMG members to the ISP.

In the meantime, both studies have advanced well, and progress reports with an overview of the main capacity building activities of EMG members in the two areas addressed will be submitted as an input into the second meeting of the ISP process which is due to take place from 2 to 4 September 2004 in Nairobi.

UNEP-WCMC and UNITAR will present the two draft studies in their current state. EMG members are expected to discuss and agree upon the next steps required for the finalisation of the two studies, including options and possible tools for the EMG to facilitate the further exchange of experiences between EMG members in these two areas.

The EMG might also want to consider if further areas of environmental capacity building (eg. climate change, desertification) should be explored in a similar way.

Furthermore, the EMG will be briefed about the work of the second Issue Management Group, which is supposed to provide an abridged inventory of UN activities in technology support and capacity building for sustainable development to the ISP process.

b. Sustainable procurement and environmental management programmes for the UN system

The last EMG meeting decided that the EMG Secretariat should collect information on the current situation in terms of UN System procurement regulations and operations as well as environmental management programmes for compounds and offices. This information should be brought back to the next meeting of the EMG.

The EMG Secretariat, with the help of UNEP/DTIE, the World Bank and IAPSO, has collected the requested information. The paper will be circulated to all EMG members in due time before the meeting. The Group is expected to discuss on the basis of this information how the EMG can best contribute to advancing sustainable procurement practices and environmental management of compounds and offices throughout the UN system and what the next concrete steps should be. The Group may wish to establish an Issue Management Group to develop a concrete proposal.

3. Reporting requirements for the 59th session of the UNGA, September/October 2004, and the 23rd session of the UNEP Governing Council, Nairobi, 21-25 February 2005

The EMG Secretariat will inform about the requirements and timelines for the EMG to report to the 59th session of the UNGA and to the 23rd session of the UNEP Governing Council.

4. Date and agenda for the next meeting

It is proposed to hold the next meeting of the EMG in late November 2004 in Geneva. Dates for further meetings of the IMGs on environmental capacity building will be determined by the IMGs themselves.

5. Any other business

6. Closure of the meeting