UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة
联合国环境规划署
UNEP

17th Senior Officials Meeting of the Environment Management Group
19 September 2011
Preparatory technical segment: 9 a.m. – 13:00 p.m.
Senior officials segment: 14:30–17:30 p.m.
Hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Hank Shannon Room, 21st floor, DC 1 building,
1 UN plaza, UN Headquarters, New York

EMG/SOM.17/CRP.1
19 September 2011
Distribution: EMG members

Draft Report of the meeting
for review by EMG members

I. Summary of proceedings

1. The seventeenth meeting of the senior officials of the Environment Management Group was held on the margins of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly in New York on Monday, 19 September 2011. The meeting was hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

2. The meeting was comprised of two segments as presented in the agenda (see annex I to the present report): a technical segment, at which participants considered a progress report on ongoing work and suggested directions for further work; and a senior officials segment, at which participants considered broader policy issues and actions recommended during the technical segment. The meeting was attended by representatives of 33 member agencies (see annex II to the present report). Background documents are available at the EMG website: www.unemg.org.

A. Senior officials segment

3. The senior officials segment was opened at 2.40 p.m. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP and Chair of the Environment Management Group, and Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of UNDP. Participants heard opening remarks from the co-chairs. The Chair of the Group thanked Ms. Grynspan and UNDP for hosting the meeting and thereby furthering a practice that had become a tradition in the Group and underlined its system-wide nature. The group engaged in a strategic discussion based on the opening remarks by Mr. Steiner and Ms. Grynspan followed by an introduction from Mr. Sha Zukang, Under Secretary General for UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (DESA) on the preparations for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. After the adoption of the agenda (see annex I to the present report), the Co-Chairs invited an oral presentation of the recommendations from the technical segment from Ms. Anne Marie Sloth Carlsen, co-facilitator of that segment. The conclusions and actions agreed upon by the senior officials segment of the meeting are presented in part II A below. The seventeenth meeting of the senior officials of the Environment Management Group was declared closed at 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 19 September 2011.

B. Technical segment

4. The technical segment was opened at 9.15 a.m. It was co-facilitated by Ms. Anne Marie Sloth Carlsen, Policy Advisor to UNDP and Mr. Ivar Baste, Senior Advisor to UNEP. After the adoption of the agenda (see annex I to the present report), participants considered the actions suggested under each agenda item based on the note by the Chair titled "Progress report on ongoing work and suggested directions for further work" (EMG/SOM.17/03). The conclusions and actions agreed upon by the senior officials at the technical segment of the meeting are presented in part II B below. The technical segment of the meeting was declared closed at 2.00 p.m. on Monday, 19 September 2011.

II. Conclusions

A. Senior officials segment

1. Opening

5. Mr. Sha Zukang gave a detailed briefing on the progress of the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) (also referred to as the Rio+20 Conference) in his capacity as Secretary General of the Conference. The structure of the conference, the modalities of the submission process and the preparatory process was discussed, as was the still open question of the structure of the draft outcome document for the Conference. Inputs to the compilation document are due on1 November. The compilation document will be presented at the 2nd Intersessional Meeting (15-16 December). The agenda of the second intersessional meeting may include a discussion on the format and structure of the Zero Draft of the outcome document. The Zero draft will be prepared by mid-January 2012 and build on the contributions received from various stakeholders, results and outcomes of Regional Preparatory Meetings and other nationally driven meetings on specific themes and topics. Negotiations on the zero draft will begin in January and are scheduled to take place one week per month until the 3rd PrepCom.

6. Mr. Sha noted that the expectations for Rio+20 are high and that there are varying views of what would constitute a 'good' outcome. He offered possible examples of such an outcome, including a negotiated text with clear directions on a shared vision of the future, a green economy road map with a menu of policy options and a toolkit and a renewed political commitment and effective institutional framework for sustainable development.

7. The role EMG can play in supporting the preparatory process was underlined in particular in support of the theme Green Economy in the context of poverty alleviation and sustainable development. It was felt that the EMG was uniquely placed to demonstrate the multi-sectoral perspectives of the considerations of this theme. The importance of providing inputs to the formal submission process was stressed, as was the need to highlight the EMG report in the preparatory process, perhaps in the form of a side event.

8. The question of whether the preparatory process would consider the development of sustainable development goals was discussed. While it is still a bit early to tell whether this would be considered by Rio+20, it was noted that such an approach potentially could be called for by the Conference as a response to the General Assembly Resolution and in the context of the process for the follow up to the Millennium Development Goals, which come to an end in 2015.

2. Adoption of the recommendations from the technical segment of the meeting on actions related to the ongoing work of the Environment Management Group

9. The senior officials heard an oral report of the recommendations from the technical segment. In considering the report, senior officials congratulated the technical segment participants on their efficient work and concise recommendations and adopted their proposed actions. The conclusions and corresponding actions are reflected below in chapter II B of the present report. In adopting the actions, the senior officials acknowledged the substantive portfolio of the EMG and commended the results achieved since its last meeting (see Section B below).

10. Senior officials recalled the issue-focused, results-based and time-bound working modalities of the EMG and cautioned that IMGs should not be extended without proper scrutiny of their purpose and modalities. In doing so, the senior officials also noted that some of the issue management groups are dealing with issues of a long-standing nature. They constitute work streams under the EMG which perhaps could be pursued through other means such as a networking arrangement. The need for each IMG to consider cooperation with other interagency bodies was stressed. In particular, it was felt that EMG needs to cooperate with the UNDG in areas where the focus is moving towards the UN system providing support to governments for their implementation of the international environmental agenda, such as in the area of biodiversity and land. Members welcomed the idea of consideration by their governing bodies of the outcomes of the IMGs so as to ensure broader buy-in and coherence.

11. Senior officials decided to adopt the recommendation from the technical segment on the condition that no process should be extended for more than one year at a time. It also requested the IMGs and the consultative process to review their work, identify clear outputs, avoid open-endness functions and justify their continuation (if needed) and proposed modalities of work.

12. Senior officials also considered a proposal from the Chair to explore the establishment of an approach for peer review of the environment portfolio and management procedures among members. Such an approach could be inspired by the OECD peer review process. While it was felt that a review from peers could add value, it was also felt that consideration should be given to how such reviews would fit in with the monitoring and evaluation procedures of each institution. The approach could perhaps be tested on a voluntary basis to gain experience. Senior officials requested the EMG secretariat to develop an options paper on such a peer review approach.

3. Strategic directions for the Environment Management Group: - Contributions to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD)

13. Senior officials considered the strategic directions of the EMG in light of the discussion held during the opening session and felt that the EMG is well placed to contribute to the UNCSD, especially in the area of green economy. The Chair was requested to submit the draft executive summary of the report to the Co-chairs of the Bureau of the preparatory committee for UNCSD by 1 November. Members were invited to submit their views on additional contributions for such a submission.

14. Senior officials also felt that the EMG should continue its work in advancing the internal agenda for environmental and social sustainability in the UN, but that the matter should be brought to the attention of the CEB through the appropriate channels. Senior officials confirmed that the statement, framework and report on environmental and social sustainability be brought to the attention of the Secretary General for possible input to the UNCSD process.

15. Senior officials noted that the work and products of the EMG are receiving increased attention in intergovernmental processes. It was noted that the achievements of the EMG are of relevance to the discussions on the institutional framework on sustainable development, especially as regards the future shape of the interagency cooperation structure for sustainable development and its interface with the intergovernmental entities. It was recognised that the achievements of the EMG are due, amongst others, to the following characteristics of its modus operandi:

a) That a focus on the enhancement of human well-being has served as a common denominator of relevance to the mission of all EMG members and as such has functioned as an integration agent;

b) That interaction with relevant intergovernmental bodies has helped the EMG support member states in advancing the international environmental agenda in a balanced manner; and

c) That the issues-focused approach and the jointly owned agenda has helped bring member agencies together.

d) That the EMG Secretariat functions as a facilitator and does not represent any one agency perspective.

16. These features could briefly be referred in the submission by the EMG chair to the UNCSD process.

B. The technical segment

1. The IMG on biodiversity

17. The technical segment was informed on the respective outcomes of the 10th Conference of Parties of the CBD and the CEB Spring session on the report of the EMG “Advancing the Biodiversity Agenda, a UN System-Wide Contribution”. They were also informed on the follow up process of the IMG and its considerations to support implementation of the biodiversity strategic plan including its upcoming 5th meeting in the margins of the Fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice will be held in Montreal, Canada (7 - 11 November 2011).

18. The technical segment while acknowledging the important role of the IMG in providing a One UN support to the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategic Plan, urged the IMG to be focused and results oriented and to cooperate with the UNDG in areas where the focus is moving towards the UN system providing support to governments for their implementation of the Strategic Plan.

19. The technical segment proposed the following action to the senior officials segment:

***Suggested action I*: Directions for the Issue Management Group (IMG) on biodiversity and its support to the implementation of the biodiversity strategic plan and Aichi targets**

1) The senior officials welcome the positive response to the EMG report, *"Advancing the biodiversity agenda –A UN system-wide contribution"*, from the CBD COP10, the UNEP Governing Council and the UN Secretary General's Policy Committee, and note the high expectations raised with respect to the ability of the EMG to deliver results in the area of interagency cooperation on biodiversity;

2) The senior officials note the attempts made by the Issue Management Group on biodiversity to align implementation of the EMG report with support to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 agreed at the CBD COP10, and request the IMG to accelerate its efforts to develop a practical and pragmatic approach to the implementation of the tasks entrusted to the EMG, and to report on progress to the Secretary General, to the UNEP Governing Council and to the CBD bureau and the COP 11 through the Working Group on Review of Implementation and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

3. The senior officials decide to extend the work of the IMG until 2012 and expand its terms of reference to include a wider and longer term coordination role so as to advance synergies and interagency cooperation on biodiversity in close coordination with existing mechanisms such as the Biodiversity Liaison Group and the United Nations Development Group (UNDG). Senior officials also invited the CBD secretariat to serve as a permanent Co-Chair of the IMG with other members serving as Co-Chairs on a rotational basis.

2. The IMG on land

20. The technical segment officials were informed on the progress of the IMG on land in particular the finalization of the report "Global Drylands, a UN System-Wide Response" which will be submitted as information document to the 10th Conference of the Parties of the Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) 10-21 October, in Republic of Korea. The report highlights the importance of global drylands to key emerging issues on the international agenda, including climate change, food security and human settlements, together with options for follow-up action. It provides a One UN response in support of the drylands Agenda and contributes to the 10 year strategic plan of the UNCCD.

21. The UN Habitat presented a proposal for consideration of the IMG focused on development of indicators for security of tenure, and using these as a means of monitoring progress toward delivery of MDGs.

22. The technical segment officials in the technical segment proposed the following action to the senior officials segment:

Suggested action II: Continuation of the work of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on land

1. The senior officials welcome with appreciation the preparation by the IMG of the report "Global Drylands, A UN system-wide Contribution" and decide to approve the Global Drylands report including the statement by the Executive Heads of EMG members.

2. The senior officials decide to continue the work of the IMG on land for another year with a view to:

a) implementing the findings of the report *"Global Drylands, A UN system-wide Contribution"* and the statement by Executive Heads of EMG members; and

b) responding to any requests made to it from the UNGA high-level event on desertification, land degradation and drought, the 10th COP of the UNCCD and the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012 including the possible consideration of other land-related issues which warrant action by the IMG.

c) discuss proposals by member agencies, such as the security of tenure indicators by UN-Habitat, and modalities for cooperation mechanisms such as United Nations Development Group and UN Water.

3. The IMG on green economy

23. The senior segment was informed of the progress on the IMG green economy report, in particular the draft Executive Summary, which highlights the key elements of a green economy approach for delivering sustainable development and poverty eradication. The draft Executive Summary had gone through a number of iterations among the IMG members. A concern was raised about the fact that the Summary should ensure that it reflects the content of the individual chapters which was not yet the case. It could therefore serve as an adequate basis for further refinement, especially by ensuring the consistency between the summary and the underlying full report. Regarding the overall report, some IMG members raised a question of how much space we should give to further comments by IMG members, given the review process that had been completed already for the individual chapters. The consensus was that once the individual chapters are processed into a coherent report, IMG members should have another opportunity to review the report in its entirety. Another main issue discussed was an appropriate title for the report.
A number of IMG members felt the need to accentuate the social dimension in the title and there was no disagreement on this.

24. The technical segment proposed the following action to the senior officials segment:

***Suggested action III**:* **Continuation of the work of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on green economy**

1. The senior officials welcome the progress made by the Issue Management Group on a green economy, including its submission of a preliminary report to the second preparatory meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development.

2. The senior officials welcome the draft report **on green economy**, and request the IMG:

a) to reflect UN system-wide perspectives on the issue in the report, to be titled, *Working Together Towards a Balanced and Inclusive Green Economy: A UN System-wide Perspective*,

b) to prepare a draft Executive Summary consistent with the main findings of the report, as well as with the joint Preamble Statement of the UN Chief Executives Board for appropriate consideration by the Preparatory Process to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development by 1 November, and

c) to finalize the report for approval by EMG members in time for the second Intersessional Meeting of the UN CSD in December 2011.

3. The senior officials decide to extend the work of the IMG for another year for it to finalize and submit the report to the Rio+20 preparatory process, follow up on the recommendations of the report taking into account any follow up work that may be requested by the Conference to the UN system on Green Economy.

4. Consultations on international environmental governance

25. The technical segment was briefed on the latest progress of the international environmental governance reform discussions including the UNEP IEG process (Belgrade-Helsinki Outcome) which was considered by the 26th Session of UNEP Governing Council. The UNEP Governing Council in its decision 26/1 invited the Preparatory Committee for the UNCSD, in its consideration of the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD), to consider the options for broader institutional reform identified in the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome. The UNEP report "Environment in the United Nations System" reviewed and commented by the EMG members was also made available to the 26th session of the UNEP Governing Council for its deliberation on IEG.

26. The technical segment was invited to be kept informed on the international governance reform efforts, especially on issues which are of relevance to the role of EMG in contributing to a balanced integration of the economic, environmental and social pillars in the institutional framework for sustainable development.

27. The technical segment proposed the following action to the senior officials segment:

Suggested action IV: **Consultations on the environmental pillar of the institutional framework on sustainable development (IFSD)**

1. The senior officials welcome the information received on the international environmental governance reform efforts and request to be kept informed especially on issues which are of relevance to the role of EMG in contributing to International Environmental Governance (IEG) in the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development.

2. The senior officials request the ED to submit the views expressed during this meeting on the Institutional Framework on Sustainable Development (IFSD) and the future role of the EMG in advancing the interagency dimension of IEG in the context of the IFSD as part of the submission set out in action VII.

5. Consultations on environmental and social safeguards in the United Nations system

28. The technical segment was updated on progress in the consultations on environmental and social safeguards and welcomed the submission of the report, "Advancing Environmental and Social Sustainability in the United Nations System" and the accompanying Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework and Statement of Support from heads of agencies. Support was given for the proposed name change from Environmental and Social Safeguards to Environmental and Social Sustainability. The latter was found to be more accommodating of the normative and operational dimensions of UN activities, while including traditional safeguards for application where appropriate.

29. Several members raised concerns about committing their organizations to financing the environmental and social sustainability framework and asked for flexibility for each entity to explore with its governing body how to secure such funds. Similarly, a phased approach to implementation was requested, acknowledging that the context will be different for respective organizations based on their activities, such as humanitarian operations. It was recognized that the consultation processes should identify options for ensuring social expertise is engaged comparable to that of the environmental expertise of the EMG. Finally, it was agreed that the Secretary-General will be requested to forward the Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework to UNCSD.

30. The technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

***Suggested actions V*: Consultations on advancing the framework for environmental and social sustainability in the UN system.**

1. Senior officials endorse the report "Advancing the Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN System," including the joint heads of agencies statement and the sustainability framework contained in the report on the understanding that the statement is revised as attached to this report.

2. Senior officials request the Chair of the EMG:

(a) To inform the Secretary-General of the initiative and invite the Secretary-General to provide the foreword to the report, and to then send the report to the preparatory process for the UNCSD.

(b) To bring the issue through appropriate channels to the attention of the spring meeting in 2012 of the CEB.

3. Senior officials agree to continue the ongoing consultative process on environmental and social sustainability for another year under the EMG in order to support the implementation of the statement, including to:

(c) Further develop a Community of Good Practice or Resource Centre to share knowledge and lessons learned;

(d) Further coordinate with the IMG on (Sustainability Management) to ensure synergies;

(e) Explore options for issues under consideration, such as a common support and knowledge sharing function; accountability; and identification of ways to go beyond managing risks and benefits and also "do good";

(f) To identify options to ensure comparable social expertise to complement the environmental competence held by EMG members.

6. IMG on Sustainability Management in the United Nations system

31. The technical segment congratulated the IMG on sustainability management on their progress and
the concrete outputs delivered. The design of the Strategic Plan for Sustainability Management was overall welcomed. Several members expressed concerns about committing their organizations to finance sustainability management systems in their respective organizations and requested that the concept of advocating or prioritizing or doing their utmost to identify resources be inserted into the recommendations. The different levels of readiness for developing and implementing sustainability management systems were also raised and the need for flexibility, as provided for in the Strategic Plan, was agreed and underlined.

32. The concept of the proposed "common sustainability office" was clarified as resembling UNEP's existing Sustainable UN (SUN) facility, but with a wider and stronger mandate because provided by the full EMG membership. Senior officials agreed on the suggested approach of further exploring options for funding the common sustainability office and requested that it be made explicit in the recommendations that the options mentioned in the strategic plan are indicative only. Finally, in light of evolution of the Consultative Process on Safeguards and the recasting of its work as a framework for environmental and social sustainability, it was felt there was potential for confusion between this process and the IMG on Sustainability Management. It was therefore agreed to rename the latter the IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management.

33. The technical segment recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

***Suggested action VI*: Ongoing work of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on sustainability management**

1. Senior officials welcome the progress made by the time-bound Issue Management Group on sustainability management (IMG) and the efforts made in UN organizations for emissions reduction within the limited resources available; senior officials decide to rename the IMG into Environmental Sustainability Management.

2. Senior officials welcome and approve the recommended approach for voluntary offsetting of GHG emissions by EMG members titled *"Carbon Credits - Recommendations for selection and procurement"*.

3. Senior officials also approve the Strategic Plan for Sustainability Management in the UN System, to move the UN system towards a consistent, systematic and cost-effective approach to sustainability management, and acknowledge the importance of a common UN-wide support to the implementation of the Strategic Plan, on the understanding that the funding options presented are indicative and will be subject to further consideration. Senior officials request the EMG Secretariat to identify possible options for a common structure to support implementation of the strategic plan and for resourcing the structure's operation.

4. Senior officials request the Chair to inform the Secretary General and the Chief Executives Board of the Strategic Plan to support the establishment of Sustainability Management Systems in all UN organizations,

5. In line with the Strategic Plan and drawing on existing work, senior officials commit to move towards the introduction of organization-specific sustainability management systems and to endeavour to identify appropriate resources for implementation.

6. Senior officials request the IMG to undertake the following work:

(a) Contribute to the preparation of the third edition of the report "Moving towards Climate Neutrality in the UN System", to be released at the spring meeting of the CEB in April 2012;

(b) Provide inputs to EMG contributions to the preparatory process on the UNCSD by 1November as part of advancing environmental and social sustainability in the UN system;

(c) Continue knowledge sharing, communication, training and awareness-raising activities, in particular based on the Greening the Blue platform, on issues such as sustainable buildings, procurement, sustainable events, travel and e-communications; and to maintain the links created with related interagency networks;

(d) Identify resources and possible partnerships to develop a tutorial for the UN system aimed at enhancing a culture of sustainability and enabling staff in their respective categories to contribute to the success of emissions reduction strategies and sustainability management;

(e) Undertake other activities, as may be needed and possible within existing resources, to maintain the momentum of the UN climate neutral and overall sustainability effort.

7. Support to the preparatory process for the UNCSD

34. The technical segment was informed on possible contribution by the EMG to the preparations of Rio+20 Conference. Several of the outputs prepared by the EMG are of relevance to the preparatory process for the UNCSD. It was proposed that the EMG Chair submit a summary of the strategic discussions to the secretariat for the UNCSD preparatory process in response to the invitation from the Second Preparatory Committee of the UNCSD, highlighting: the work of EMG on the green economy, drylands and biodiversity; the development of a framework for environmental and social sustainability in the UN system and views of EMG members on the institutional framework for sustainable development.

35. The technical segment proposed the following action to the senior officials segment:

Suggested action VII: **Support the preparatory process for the UNCSD**

1. The senior officials request the Chair to submit a summary of EMG strategic discussions to the co-chairs of the preparatory committee for the UNCSD highlighting: the work of EMG on the green economy, land and biodiversity; any views expressed in the 17th Senior Officials Meeting of EMG on IEG in the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development.

8. EMG work plan for 2012–2013

36. The 16th Senior Officials Meeting of EMG adopted the 2011-2012 EMG work plan. The plan has been updated to a 2012-2013 EMG work plan which reflect the suggested action put forward in the current note as presented in document EMG/SOM.17/04.

37. It was proposed that the work plan as was decided last year be given a two year horizon, i.e. be a plan for 2012 to 2013, which is subject to annual approval by the senior officials. The reason for this approach is to capture activities which have a longer time span than one year. The plan gives an overview of forthcoming activities and milestones for the next 24 months. The plan is organized according four main expected accomplishments as they pertain to programmatic, management and operational issues as well as overall cooperation.

38. The work plan remains un-costed as long as there is no common budget for EMG activities. It is recommended that the work plan is implemented through in-kind contribution subject to the availability of resources. The in-kind contribution will be budgeted, programmed and reported on by each member and the UNEP secretariat within their own administrative processes.

39. The technical segment proposed the following action to the senior officials segment:

Suggested action VIII: **Approval of the work plan for EMG for the period 2012 – 2013**

1. The senior officials approve the work plan for EMG for the period 2012 – 2013 based on the understanding that the EMG secretariat will revise the plan presented in document EMG/SOM.17/04 to ensure that the plan fully reflects the actions agreed by the 17th 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.

9. Process for reporting to the UNEP Governing Council

40. The technical segment considered the proposals by the chair on his reporting to UNEP Governing Council and recommended the following action to the senior officials segment:

Suggested action IX: **Reporting to the Governing Council of UNEP**

1. The senior officials welcome the opportunity to inform the UNEP Governing Council, and through the Council the UN General Assembly, of its work. The meeting appreciates the guidance received from the Council and request 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 12th Special Session of the UNEP Governing Council.
2. Senior officials encourage its members to make the report available to the governing bodies as appropriate.

10. Date and venue of the next Senior Officials Meeting

41. The technical segment considered possible options for the 18th Meeting of the Senior Officials meeting and recommended the following action

Suggested action X: **Date and venue of the next Senior Officials Meetings**

1. Senior officials request the EMG secretariat to circulate to the members of the EMG dates and venues for the 18th meeting of the senior officials and consult with members on its agenda.

Annex I

Provisional agenda and proposed organization of work

A. Provisional agenda for the senior officials segment of the 17th Senior Officials Meeting of the Environment Management Group

1. The provisional agenda for the 17th senior officials segment is as follows:

1. Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs:

   Ms. Helen Clark Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and host of the meeting and

   Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and Chair of the Environment Management Group.

   Introductory remarks on the Rio+20 process by Mr. Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (DESA).

2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Adoption of the recommendations from the technical segment of the meeting on actions related to the ongoing work of the Environment Management Group
4. Strategic directions for EMG: - Contributions to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD)
5. Any other business

B. Provisional agenda for the preparatory technical segment of the 17th Senior Officials Meeting of the Environment Management Group

2. The provisional agenda for the preparatory technical segment of the 17th Senior Officials Meeting is as follows:

1. Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Considerations of ongoing work and recommendations to the senior officials segment:
   a) The IMG on green economy;
   b) The IMG on land;
   c) The IMG on biodiversity;
   d) Consultations on international environmental governance;
   e) Consultations on environmental and social safeguards in the United Nations system;
   f) IMG on Sustainable Management in the United Nations system;
   g) Support to the preparatory process of UNCSD.
4. Environment Management Group work plan for 2011–2012
5. Process for reporting to the UNEP Governing Council
6. Date and venue of the next Senior Officials Meeting
7. Any other business

Annex I

List of participants

1. **CBD**
   Ahmed Djoghlaf,
   Executive Secretary

2. **CEB secretariat**
   Phyllis Lee

3. **CITES**
   CMS
   John Scanlon,
   Secretary-General

4. **EMG**
   Hossein Fadaei,
   Acting Secretary
   Ivar Baste,
   Senior Advisor
   Michelle Fanzo,
   Consultant

5. **FAO**
   Alexander Müller,
   Assistant Director-General
   Tina Mittendorf,
   FAO Focal Point for the IMG on Sustainability Management
   Mitchell Hall,
   Sustainability Consultant, CSAI
   FAO of the UN

6. **ICAO**
   Jane Hupe,
   Chief, Environment Branch

7. **IFAD**
   Xenia von Lilien,
   Liaison and Public Information Officer
   IFAD Liaison Office New York

8. **IMF**
   Elliott Harris,
   IMF Special Representative to the UN

9. **IMO**
   Jo Espinoza-Ferrey,
   Director, Marine Environment Division
   Karin Sjolin Frudd,
   Senior Adviser, Marine Environment Division
   Jianxin Zhu,
   Director,Technical Co-operation Division
   Juvenal Shiundu,
   Deputy Director/Head, Programme Management, Technical Co-Operation Division

10. **ITU**
    Gary Fowlie,
    Head of the Liaison Office to the UN in NY

11. **RAMSAR**
    Anada Tiega,
    Secretary-General of Ramsar

12. **SUN**
    Isabella Marras,
    Jacob Kurian

13. **The GEF**
    Gustavo A.B da Fonseca,
    Head, Natural Resources, GEF

14. **UN/DFS**
    Sophie Ravier,
    Environmental Officer

15. **UNCCD**
    Sergio Zelaya-Bonilla,
    Director, Policy advocacy
    Gnacadja Luc,
    Executive Secretary

16. **UNDESA**
    Sha Zukang,
    Under-Secretary-General
    Nikhil Seth,
    Director, DSD
    Robert W. Edwards,
    Inter-Regional Adviser
    Alessandra Alfieri,
    Chief, Environmental-Economic Accounts Section
    David O'Connor
    Marianne Schaper
    Haitian Lu,
    Programme Officer
    Federica Pietracci,
    Division for Sustainable Development, UN-DESA

17. **UNDP**
    Rebeca Grynspan,
    Associate Administrator
    Anne-Marie Carlsen
    Policy Advisor, Environment and Energy Group
    Holly Mergler
    Programme Analyst, Environment and Energy Group

18. **UNECE**
Marco Keiner
Sergiusz Ludwiczak

19. **UNEP**
Fulai Sheng
Senior Programme Officer
Ibrahim Thiaw
Director DEPI
Julie MacKenzie
Advisor

20. **UNEP WCMC**
Maxwell Gomera,
Deputy Director

21. **UNESCO**
Irina Bokova,
Director General
Ana Persic,
Science specialist, NY office
Arico Salvatore

22. **UNFCCC**
Christiana Figueres,
Executive Secretary
Daniele Violetti,
Chief of Staff
Marcela Main,
Senior Liaison Officer

23. **UN-Habitat**
Joan Clos,
UN-HABITAT Executive Director
Yamina Djacta,
Raynold Dhelon
Jakob Krupka
Diana Lopez
Remy Sietchiping
Mr Raf Tuts
Mr. Andrew Rudd

24. **UNICEF**
Richard Morgan,
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Michele Ferenz,
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25. **UNISDR**
Margareta Wahlström,
Assistant Secretary-General

26. **UNRWA**
Robert Stryk,
Coordinator of programme

27. **UNWTO**
Márcio Favilla,
Executive Director for Competitiveness, External Relations and Partnerships
Kazi A. Rahman,
Deputy Special Representative

28. **WFP**
Carlo Scaramella,
Chief for the Office of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
Paul Larsen,
Director of Multilateral & NGO Relations Division
Georgina Stickels,
Climate Neutral Programme Manager
Andy Cole

29. **WHO**
Maria Neira,
Director of the Public Health and Environment Department
Michaela Pfeiffer,
Technical Officer

30. **WIPO**
Sherif Saadallah,
Executive Director, Department of External Relations
Rama Rao Sankurathripati,
OIC, WIPO Coordination Office in New York

31. **WMO**
Christian Blondin,
Director of Cabinet and External Relations Department.

32. **World Bank**
Rachel Kyte,
Vice President for Sustainable Development
Mary Barton Dock,
Director of Environment Department
Irene Leino,
Environment Specialist
Stephen F. Lintner,
Ph.D. Senior Technical Advisor

33. **WTO**
Karsten Steinfatt Ynarra,
Counsellor, Trade and Environment Division

Attachment 1

JOINT STATEMENT BY EXECUTIVE HEADS OF EMG MEMBERS
on
Advancing Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN System

We, the Executive Heads of Agencies, Funds, Programmes and Departments, of the United Nations,

Are convinced that the promotion of human well-being and global sustainability hinges on environmental protection and social and economic development,

Bear in mind the responsibility of the United Nations system to embody the internationally accepted environmental and social principles in its internal management as well as to support their application by partners and stakeholders; and the need to reduce risks and unintended negative impacts, and maximize benefits to people and their environment in a coherent and integrated way within the UN system,

Are conscious of the efforts by those United Nation system entities that have already developed environmental and social safeguards to mitigate the environmental and social impacts and risks of their activities before the adoption of a common approach to advancing environmental and social sustainability in the United Nations system,

Are mindful of the need for the UN system to internalize the internationally agreed norms of the sustainability agenda at the level of policy/strategy, programme/project, and facilities/operations management through a common framework for environmental and social sustainability, including through safeguards, risk management, institutional learning, capacity-building, simplification, coherence, and transparency,

Are recognizing the wealth of experience across the UN system to ensure the environmental and social impacts and risks of activities are well managed, which has informed the development and adoption of this common approach,

We hereby commit ourselves, proceeding in a phased manner, to use the Framework for Advancing the Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN System annexed to this statement as a means of furthering the organization's sustainability performance, including by:

(a) Moving our respective organizations towards strengthening environmental and social sustainability in our activities, and to endeavor to find the necessary resources to realize the increased efficiency and operational safety gains of such a common approach; and

(b) Supporting the further development and implementation of a UN system-wide framework for environmental and social sustainability including environmental and social safeguards; for monitoring collective efforts; and for reporting back to the Governing Bodies of our respective organizations on progress made, good practice, and lessons learned.

We make this commitment with a view to show leadership by increasing institutional accountability for the environmental and social sustainability of our activities. We do this to further enable the UN system to work smarter and safer, respond more effectively to emerging issues and stakeholder needs, and better harness lessons from shared experience.