Environmental Management Group (EMG)

7th Meeting of the Environmental Management Group
UNEP New York Office, UN Plaza, 20 April 2004
Document EMG 7/2

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 2004

a. environmental capacity-building

At its last meeting on 6 February 2004 in Geneva, the EMG decided to establish an Issue Management Group on capacity-building which would further discuss and define the scope of the EMG's work in this area. As the first step it would undertake a "situation analysis " or a " needs analysis" in the area of environment-related capacity building based on information and data received from the EMG members. The results of such assessment would then help in defining the scope for further work on this issue, including establishing a possible resource library.

The EMG members will be informed by the Secretariat on the status of the EMG's work in the area of environmental capacity building. The Secretariat will present to the meeting the outcome of the two meetings of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on capacity building. The Group will have before it the first drafts of two analytical papers on "needs/situation analysis with regard to UN system-wide cooperation on capacity building in the areas of biodiversity and chemicals". Presentations will be made by UNEP-WCMC and UNITAR.

b. sustainable production and consumption/sustainable procurement

The need to work on the inclusion of sustainable development considerations in procurement practices is recognized in Agenda 21 as well as in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (chapter III, paragraph 19). Furthermore the International Expert Meeting on a 10-year-framework of programmes for sustainable consumption and production in June 2003 recommended that 'the United Nations itself should adopt sustainable procurement and environmental management programmes for is offices and operations' (paragraph 154 of the meeting report). Despite a number of initiatives taken by individual UN organizations and agencies, much remains to be done in order to adopt sustainable procurement policies throughout the UN system. In December 2001, the multilateral development banks, some United Nations organizations, and a variety of non-governmental organizations created the Interagency Sustainable Procurement Group. The representative of the World Bank will give a presentation to the EMG on the objectives and activities of this Group. On the basis of this presentation, the EMG might want to discuss if and how it could best contribute to raising awareness on sustainable procurement throughout the UN system and request the EMG Secretariat to develop a proposal for the EMG's work in this area.

3. Outcomes of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Jeju/Republic of Korea, 29-31 March 2004

UNEP will brief EMG members on the outcomes of the Jeju meeting, in particular on the response of the GC/GMEF to the two EMG documents put before it, "Report of the Work of the Environmental Management Group", and, "Addressing environmental aspects of the water agenda: Activities of the United Nations system".

4. Date and agenda for the next meeting

It is proposed to hold the next meeting of the EMG in September 2004. Dates for further meetings of the IMG on environmental capacity building will be determined by the IMG itself.

5. Any other business

6. Closure of the meeting