

GEO-6 Summary for Policy Makers Drafting Meeting



In cooperation with the Government of Mexico, the sixth Global Environment Outlook Summary for Policy Makers drafting meeting will be held at the Hotel Xcaret Cancun, Mexico from 24-27 September 2018. The meeting will last 4 days, with a detailed agenda to ensure that all portions of the Summary for Policy Makers are fully reviewed and commented.

Members of the High-level Group will be expected to have fully reviewed the first-order draft of the Summary for Policy Makers and have prepared their initial interventions ahead of time. To have an effective drafting meeting for

the drafting of the Summary for Policy Makers in Cancun, Mexico some basic guidance will be developed. Some of the proposed guidance includes the following:

The co-chairs of the meeting would be Mr. Paolo Soprano (Italy) and Prof. Yi Huang (China) with assistance of the vice-chairs Prof. Pascal Houenou (Côte d'Ivoire) and Ms. Paula Brand (Canada). The co-chairs will receive guidance on their roles before the meeting.

The meeting is not a negotiation meeting and will not follow traditional United Nations rules for negotiation meetings. The meeting will be a drafting meeting with the sole purpose of developing an improved draft of the Summary for Policy Makers. Suggestions to modify the text of the author's first-order draft of the Summary for Policy Makers would be made by members of the High-level Group, following basic rules of order (e.g. Robert's rules) and the guidance of the co-chairs.

Members of the High-level Group who are stakeholders will have the same standing as members from governments. A group of up to 25 Authors and the assessment Co-chairs and vice-chairs of the assessment, as well as the co-chairs of the Scientific Advisory Panel, will be present at the meeting to offer support to the High-level Group members during the drafting process. Only those authors that are needed for a particular section of the drafting of the Summary for Policy Makers should be present in the plenary. Authors should rotate through the plenary room as their sections of the Summary for Policy Makers are presented for discussion.



Some members of the High-Level Group

Authors and Co-chairs of the assessment may request to take the floor at the meeting during the drafting process to offer points of clarification on specific wording in the draft, in particular to ensure that messaging in the Summary for Policy Makers respects the findings in the main report. Interventions from the Authors should be passed on to the meeting Co-chairs who will then grant the opportunity. The timing of addressing the Author's interventions will be decided upon by the meeting Co-chairs.

The creation of breakout groups will be decided upon by the meeting Co-chairs. These smaller groups would be formed if there are areas of disagreement among the High-level Group members regarding the drafting of a particular section of the draft Summary for Policy Makers. The smaller groups would report back to plenary on the proposals for revising the draft. The smaller groups would only be formed when necessary.

When plastic pollution destroys your favorite places; it's time to #BeatPlasticPollution!

By Adele Roccato

Every day, an enormous amount of single use plastic is used around the world; plastic bags, plastic cups, plastic take away containers, plastic cutlery, everything we buy at the grocery store is also packed in plastic. We have gotten used to all the plastic we use that it's difficult to realize how much we consume every day until you see it piled up on the side of the roads, in a corner of a park or covering the sand of a beach. I know about the issue, having read about it and seen images about it, but I remember the first moment that I acknowledged how plastic pollution can accumulate in places of extreme beauty with the result of ruining them. In 2016,



I visited Myanmar and I loved the place, the nature, the art and the people of the country. The valley of Bagan, with all its wonderful temples is probably the most stunning place I have visited in my entire life. From the 9th to the 13th century, Bagan was the capital of the Pagan Kingdom, which was the first to unify the regions that would later constitute modern Myanmar. Today, Bagan is one of the world's greatest archaeological sites. The setting is wonderful, a 67 square-mile valley, partly covered with palms and tamarind, crossed by the Irrawaddy river. Of the original 4,450 temples, 2,230 still survive today. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization restored and still preserves most of them, trying to maintain the different examples of temples and stupas found in the valley. Most of the tourists visit the valley riding a bike or a motorbike, which allows them to explore the area without following the main road, just following the sand paths which brings them to the smallest temples or next to the cultivated lands.

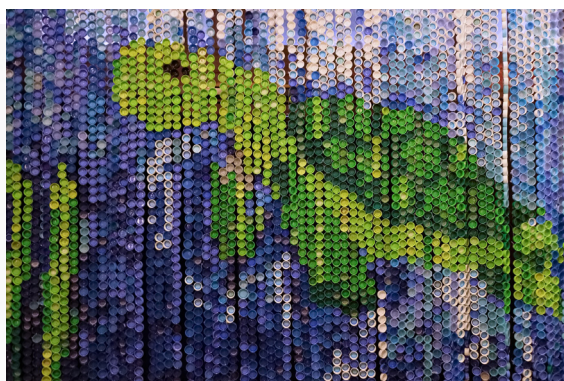


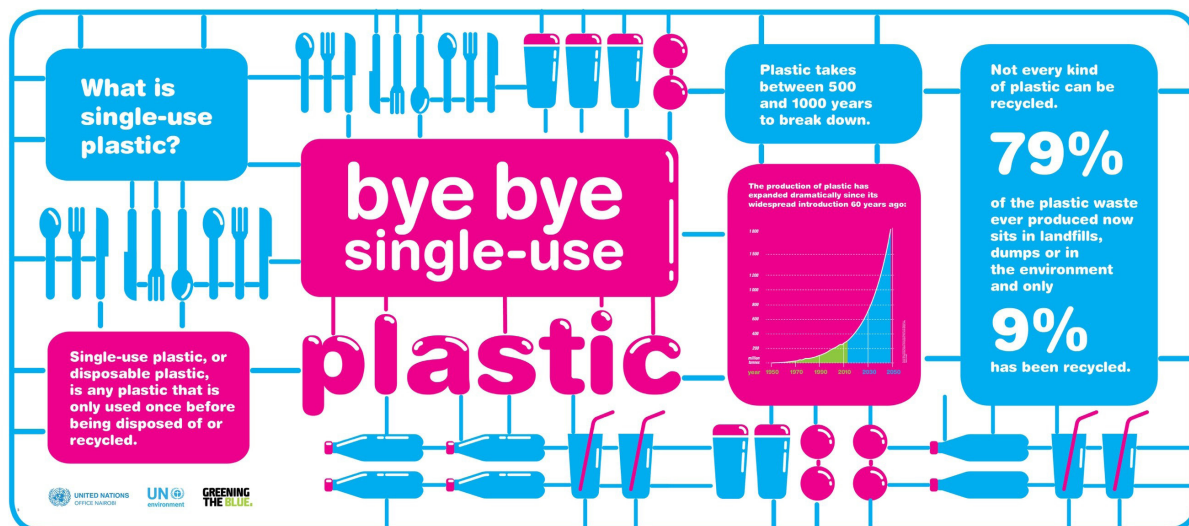
The practice of simply throwing waste on the ground is something we must find ways to change now. Photo - Thant Myanmar/ Hkun Lat

When I was there, I decided to hire a motorbike so I could explore the most hidden spots of the valley. But as soon as I left the main paths, I found piles of plastic laying on the red dunes. Most of the plastic was being burnt by locals just metres away from the main landmarks. While the plants were being melted with plastic, the smell was all around ruining the peacefulness of the place.

This is only one example of how the problem of plastic pollution and the ineffective management of plastic waste is affecting our planet. Not only does plastic pollution affects the oceans, endanger biodiversity and species, but it accumulates in the

most beautiful corners of the world. Plastic has many uses, but the world has become addicted to single-use or disposable plastic which has serious environmental consequences. To raise awareness about the several impacts of plastic pollution, it is crucial to acknowledge the different spaces that are affected. Showing images of beautiful places and landscapes covered by plastic is painful, but it helps raising awareness about this important topic.





Plastic pollution is one of the main challenges of our time and it is crucial that we all act to fight the issue. This is why I am proud of the United Nations Compound in Nairobi, which banned every kind of single-use plastic in August 2018. No more single-use plastic cups, cutlery, coffee lids and takeaway containers will be sold in the premises. Thanks to the #BeatPlasticPollution campaign and UN Environment, we are working on make this planet a better place to live, starting right here, in our workplace.

Know an Expert: Global Environment Outlook Fellow Profile



Mandy van den Ende obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in General Social Sciences at the University of Amsterdam. This was followed by a Master of Science degree in Sustainable Development at Utrecht University where she specialized in policy-oriented Earth System Governance track, where she was able to apply her social skills on environmental issues. Her interdisciplinary background has provided Mandy the ability to apply a broader systems-thinking in analysing environmental issues.

For her thesis project, Mandy compared two Global Environmental Assessments; the sixth edition of the Global Environment Outlook and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services global assessment where she explored the influence of governance factors on their use of bottom-up scenarios.

This grounded her involvement in the Global Environment Outlook process as a Fellow where she has written several pieces of texts for the bottom-up Outlooks chapter.

One of the most unique aspects of the sixth edition of the Global Environment Outlook according to Mandy, has been the attempt to develop future scenarios that consider the potential of existing local practices (i.e. 'seeds') to be scaled, in order to broaden their influence. Within the physical boundaries given by the global pathways, these seeds can help envision transformations toward sustainability. As such, the sixth edition of the Global Environment

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_14396

