

**EU/MS comments on
The Environment under Review subprogramme
ASC-4**

Background documents:

- 10.2.17, UNEP presentation: *Implementation of UN Environment work on Environment under Review*
- UNEA Resolution 2/5: *Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

Comments:

- Getting the global indicators right is important in order to ensure robust follow up and review of Agenda 2030 and SDGs indicators, therefore EU/MS welcome UNEP's involvement and alignment with the Inter Agency and Expert Group, and their work as custodian agency for 26 indicators to develop methodologies, and to build capacity in developing countries
- EU/MS would also welcome consistent integration of the findings of the Global Gender and Environment Outlook (GGEO) in the GEO-6 process and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, to enhance synergies with regard to the nexus between environment and gender equality
- EU/MS highlight the need for UNEP to stay on track to publish GEO-6 in 2019, so that it can contribute to relevant processes (e.g. follow up and review of the environmental dimension of the SDGs by the HLPF that year, UNEA discussion).
- In order to have a substantial GEO-6 input for UNEA-3, we would like to request UNEP to produce a progress report, which should be concrete enough in its draft findings as for state and trends, and relevant for UNEA 3 policy discussion, to allow for a discussion at UNEA-3 on elements to consider while addressing the outlook part of GEO. The EU/MS take that opportunity to also recall that GEO6 is a flagship product of UNEP and, as a consequence, should have the priority in the core funding that is funding from the Environment Fund and the regular budget, in the subprogram "environment under review" for the 2017-2019 period, including to fund the shortfall in 2017 reported by the Secretariat in the GEO process.
- EU/MS appreciate that UNEP plans to launch the Frontiers report in June 2017 in order to feed in to relevant discussions (such as UNEA-3). Within this context, we would like to express a clear support for UNEP in giving recommendations or proposals for further handling of the emerging environmental issues, including through appropriate consideration of emerging issues by the HLPF.
- EU/MS welcome the UNEP work on UNEP Live, which responds to UNEA resolution 2/5 and provides credible, up-to-date information and data to support the follow-up and review of progress towards the achievement of the SDGs at all levels. We would like to encourage UNEP to work and cooperate with countries to enhance their capacities to utilise UNEP Live i.e. in development of regional or national policies, and work closely with other relevant organisations who work on environmental information in those countries.
- As for the UNEA-3 discussion, the relation between the GEO-6 progress report, the Frontiers 2017 report, IRP progress report and the UNEA3 document to be prepared for the ministers

could be clarified. The discussion at UNEA should seek to achieve synergies in guiding further work (GEO-6 outlook, IRP regular report etc), and should aim to ensure optimal interaction of these efforts with UNEP-Live

- We would like to seek clarification on the mentioned “shortfall of income” and limited funding for outreach, engagement, distribution, information networking, sharing and learning lessons – especially how it affects GEO-6 and UNEP Live processes

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