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**Implementation of the resolutions of the Second Session of the  
United Nations Environment Assembly, which are relevant to the  
Regional Seas programmes**

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## **Implementation of the resolutions of the Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, which are relevant to the Regional Seas programmes**

1. The second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)<sup>1</sup> was held at the UN Environment Programme headquarters in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016.
2. The United Nations Environment Assembly Member States adopted twenty five resolutions at the session. Among several resolutions that are related to the work of the Regional Seas programmes, four resolutions are considered to particularly important: (1) 2/10: Oceans and seas; (2) 2/11: Marine plastic litter and microplastics; (3) 2/12: Sustainable coral reefs management; and (4) 2/18: Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariats.
3. For those Regional Seas programmes in which Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are participating, it is encouraged to pay attention to the resolutions 2/4: Role, functions and modalities for United Nations Environment Programme implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
4. These resolutions are included in UNEP/WBRS.18/Inf.XXX. The strategy for the implementation of the four resolutions (2/10, 2/11, 2/12, and 2/18) is described in Annex. Responding to the requests by Member States, UNEP will bring the resolutions to the attentions of the governing bodies of the Regional Seas programmes accordingly. The UNEP secretariat underscores the importance of several paragraphs in these resolutions and these are indicated by underlined sentences.
5. Regional Seas secretariats are requested to bring necessary action to their own governing bodies, and as necessary request necessary action or decision by the parties/member states at the next session of these governing bodies

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<sup>1</sup> <http://web.unep.org/unea>

## Annex: 2/10 Oceans and Seas

Number	Operational Paragraph	UNEP Action	Regional Seas Action
1.	Requests the Executive Director to include oceans-related aspects regarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets in United Nations Environment Programme activities, in cooperation and coordination with relevant global and regional fora, agreements and organization, consistent with international law, and to report to the next Environment Assembly;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporation of activities within the PoW projects (321.1, 321.2 and 322.1);</li> <li>• UNEP moving towards the implementation of the RSSD;</li> <li>• Synergies discussion should be organized between UNEP and CBD/CMS/IWC;</li> <li>• Mapping of UNEP contribution to ocean-related SDGs; and</li> <li>• Synergies with Global Coral Reef Partnership activities responding to EA/2/12 OP 6, 12).</li> </ul>	Coordination with the Regional Fisheries Bodies through the Seoul Meeting.
2.	Calls for continued cooperation and coordination among all relevant global and regional fora and organizations on marine issues, including the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the International Seabed Authority, the International Whaling Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme, to deliver coherently on Sustainable Development Goal 14 and its interrelated targets;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in UN-Ocean;</li> <li>• Participation in the Advisory Panel for the Fiji-led Conference through convening and participation in the informal working groups;</li> <li>• Implementation of the MOU with FAO, IMO, UNESCO, WMU, IAEA;</li> <li>• Collaboration in ICRI and GCRMN (particularly project 321.2 activities responding to EA/2/12 OP 4 on private sector collaboration in relation to coral reef fisheries in consultation with FAO);</li> <li>• Collaboration with CBD (MSP, mainstreaming and marine debris), CMS (marine debris and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation of UN organisations in the global meeting of the regional seas; and</li> <li>• Regional seas and regional fisheries bodies cooperation</li> </ul>

		<p>connectivity) and IWC (marine debris); and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and presentation of partnerships for the Fiji-led conference, including ongoing partnerships such as GCRP</li> </ul>	
3.	<p>Invites the Executive Director to provide the necessary input for the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development to be organized in June 2017, as appropriate;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of an official paper to the Prepcom and the main conference;</li> <li>• Leading/participating in IPWGs of the Advisory Panel;</li> <li>• Development of and presentation of partnerships, including ongoing partnerships such as GCRP, GPML, GPNM, GWI, GPA, Regional Seas, 10YFP, UNEP-Live</li> </ul>	<p>Prepare input based on the discussion at the GMRS18.</p>
4.	<p>Calls on Member States who have not yet done so to consider acceding to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, to promote its rapid entry into force;</p>	<p>No action needed</p>	<p>No action</p>
5.	<p>Invites Member States and regional seas conventions and action plans, in cooperation, as appropriate, with other relevant organizations and fora, such as regional fisheries management organizations, to work towards the implementation of, and reporting on, the different ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See also activities responding to EA/2/12 OP 6, 12</li> <li>• Development of regional seas indicators in association with the SDG indicators</li> <li>• Regional coordination mechanisms of SDG14 implementation (under the EC project)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Cooperation between regional fisheries bodies and regional seas, as highlighted in the Seoul meeting;</u></li> <li>• <u>Dialogues will be further developed in the specific regions: OSPAR, Med, Black Sea, Western Indian Ocean, West Africa, PERSGA; and</u></li> <li>• <u>Starting dialogues: Pacific, Bay of Bengal, ROPME.</u></li> </ul>

6.	Requests the United Nations Environment Programme to step up its work, including through its Regional Seas Programme, on assisting countries and regions in the application of the ecosystem approach to managing the marine and coastal environment, including through enabling inter-sectoral cooperation in integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MSP guidelines to be published;</li> <li>• MSP experience sharing platform possibly combined with Blue Solution platform</li> <li>• ICZM and governance work;</li> <li>• EbM pilot activities (Mekong Delta);</li> <li>• MSP pilots (Western Indian Ocean, Adriatic, West Africa); and</li> <li>• activities responding to EA/2/12 OP 11, 12.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Regional Seas; and</li> <li>• Pilot regional ecosystem approach work (Mediterranean, ROPME).</li> </ul>
7.	Also requests the United Nations Environment Programme to provide, upon request from the Member States, technical advice on the designation, establishment and active management of marine protected areas and on the application of other spatial management measures in cooperation with competent international and regional forums and organizations, including, as appropriate, multilateral environmental agreements, and regional fisheries bodies; regional forums and organizations, including, as appropriate, multilateral environmental agreements, and regional fisheries bodies;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MPA governance work</li> <li>• MPA tool in the regional ocean governance (Caribbean decision support system) under the 10x20 initiative</li> <li>• MPA database under the World Database of Protected Areas and SDG indicator on MPAs (14.5)</li> <li>• Support to the countries in establishing MPAs (Dominican Republic, Haiti, some Mediterranean countries)</li> <li>• activities responding to EA/2/12 OP 4 (private sector MPA management), 6 (Aichi 10), 7 (MPAs), 11 (planning tools), 12 (national or regional measures or action plans )</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application of tools in the Caribbean and the Pacific; and</li> <li>• Advancing Regional MPA network.</li> </ul>

8.	Encourages member States, individually and jointly and also within regional bodies, to designate and actively manage marine protected areas and take other effective area-based conservation measures, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information, with a view to achieving the related global targets, in particular where significantly less than 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas are so far being conserved, or where protected areas lack effective and equitable management, connectedness or ecological representativeness;	Same as 7	Same as 7
9.	Encourages the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to participate in the process initiated by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 69/292 on the negotiations on the development of an international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An official Regional seas paper to be submitted to Prepcom;</li> <li>• A side event on the regional seas to be organized; and</li> <li>• Area-based management tools review.</li> </ul>	Different regional seas to participate in the discussion and side event.
10.	Notes the document on the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2017–2020 and requests the Executive Director to communicate the Strategic Directions to conferences of the parties, intergovernmental meetings or other governing bodies of the relevant regional seas conventions and action plans;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bringing the RSSD to the COP and other regional seas governing bodies;</b> and</li> <li>• Inclusion of specific UNEP action in the PoW</li> </ul>	<u>Submit the RSSD to their respective governing bodies.</u>
11.	Requests the Executive Director, through the United Nations Environment Programme’s Regional Seas Programme, to reinforce cooperation, coordination, communication and sharing of best practices and information among the existing regional seas conventions and action plans across different geographical areas, in line with the United Nations Environment Programme’s Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2017–2020;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of an experience sharing platform;</li> <li>• InforMEA pilot activities to be completed; and</li> <li>• GCRP: exchange of tools and approaches for coral reef planning and management (e.g. replication of Green Fins, regional approach to GCRMN reporting, economic</li> </ul>	<u>Regional seas information sharing platform, starting with the SIDS information sharing platform (blue economy and marine litter).</u>

		instruments); sharing of CC resilience data and planning tools through coral reef theme on UNEP-Live	
12.	Invites member States that have not done so to consider becoming Parties and/or Members to regional seas conventions and action plans, and encourages the United Nations Environment Programme, through its Regional Seas Programme, to support initiatives of such Member States in that regard;	UNEP sending notes and as necessary mission to those states that have not participated in the regional seas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revitalisation of the NEP;</li> <li>• Resuming the discussion of SWAT; and</li> <li>• <u>Each regional seas to invite non members to join (Timor Leste, Burunei darsalaam, DPRK, Myanmar, Honduras, Suriname, EU, Equatorial Guinea, Angola, Sao Tome i Principe, etc.)</u></li> </ul>
13.	Encourages the contracting parties to existing regional seas conventions to consider the possibility of increasing the regional coverage of those instruments in accordance with international law	Through the PROG, CPPS and Abidjan Convention are supported for the process of the parties on this issue	<u>Each regional seas is to bring this issue to the discussion of the Parties.</u>
14.	Acknowledges and expresses support for the strategic partnership between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization in the context of the 2030 Agenda, particularly for the implementation of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the MOU between UNEP and FAO;</li> <li>• Incorporation of the ocean related items in the MOU.</li> <li>• 10YFP sustainable food systems programme</li> </ul>	Regional seas and regional fishery bodies cooperation
15.	Supports the United Nations Environment Programme's contribution to the activities of marine ecosystem restoration, and in particular to ecosystem management and restoration in coastal regions, nature-based solutions to climate adaptation and the creation of sustainable jobs and livelihoods in coastal regions, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships;	<p>Mangrove restoration and associated livelihood programme (Djibouti, Kenya, Madagascar, Abu Dhabi, Ecuador)</p> <p>Implementation of the blue carbon project manual</p> <p>Linkage with the GEF restoration</p>	

		programme.	
16.	Encourages the United Nations Environment Programme to provide scientific support, in cooperation with relevant organizations, programmes and forums, to increase understanding of – and thus help in avoiding – abrupt, accelerating, or irreversible environmental changes with potentially significant global consequences, for example through thawing of the permafrost of the seabed and melting of sea ice and glaciers;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ocean acidification monitoring;</li> <li>• Coral reef indicators through GCRMN 2/12 OP 14; consultation /collaboration with IOC-UNESCO and IAEA, including through SDG 14 Conference IPWG;</li> <li>• Impacts of coastal permafrost melting in coastal ecosystems in polar seas;</li> <li>• Downscaled climate model projections for coral bleaching conditions (PoW 321.2, 2/12 OP 11)</li> </ul>	
17.	Requests the Executive Director to assess the effectiveness of the United Nations Environment Programme’s 2011 marine and coastal strategy and, on the basis of that assessment, submit a proposal for its update, revision or replacement for consideration by the Environment Assembly at its next session.	Internal process for review to be started	

## 2/11 Marine plastic litter and microplastics

Number	Operational Paragraph	Activities	PoW, Other resolutions etc.	Regional Seas	Countries
1	<i>Encognizes</i> that the presence of plastic litter and microplastics <sup>2</sup> in the marine environment is a rapidly		<i>PoW:</i>		

<sup>2</sup> Plastic particles less than 5 millimetres in diameter, including nano-sized particles.



	increasing serious issue of global concern that needs an urgent global response taking into account a product life-cycle approach, and <i>acknowledging</i> that the levels and sources of marine plastic litter and microplastics, and the resources available to tackle the issue, can vary between regions, and that measures need to be taken and adapted as appropriate to local, national and regional situations;		<b>ORES:</b> Sound Mgmt of Chemicals and Waste. II. Waste OP. 11		
2	<i>Recalls</i> its resolution 1/6, “Marine plastic debris and microplastics”, and urges all States that have not yet done so to implement fully all its relevant recommendations and decisions, including through national measures and regional, international and cross-sectoral cooperation;		<b>PoW:</b>  <b>ORES:</b> Coral Reefs OP. 9		
3	<i>Welcomes</i> the activities of the relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, which act in coordination with the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection and the Global Partnership on Marine Litter to prevent and reduce marine litter and microplastics; encourages the active contribution of all stakeholders to their work; and acknowledges the importance of cooperation and information sharing between the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Maritime Organization, as well as the cooperation under the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, on this matter;	GPML activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members webinars, publications;</li> <li>• New GPML Nodes in MAP &amp; SPREP</li> <li>• WCR &amp; Nowpap Nodes</li> <li>• Members meeting</li> <li>• FAO/IMO activities</li> <li>• GEF project – GPML framework</li> <li>• Indicators</li> <li>• Upgraded marine litter network with BAT/BEP database</li> <li>• G7: Outreach plan ML link with UNEP Campaign on ML</li> <li>• UNEA-3 side event with Norway</li> </ul>	<b>PoW:</b> C 1.8, C 1.9, C 2.1 to 2.6		
4	<i>Acknowledges</i> the regional action plans on marine litter under the Convention for the Protection of the Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Black Sea (awaiting sign off by COP)</u></li> <li>• <u>SACEP (+ national in Maldives)</u></li> </ul>	<b>PoW:</b> C 1.12		

	Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic, the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region and the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region; welcomes the ongoing development of such plans for the Black Sea, the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the Kuwait Regional Convention for Cooperation on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Pollution; welcomes the Group of Seven <sup>3</sup> action plan to combat marine litter; and urges other Governments and regions to collaborate to establish such action plans where relevant;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>COBSEA (+ national in Indonesia)</u></li> <li>• <u>Abidjan (+ national in Sierra Leone)</u></li> <li>• <u>Nairobi (+ national in Seychelles)</u></li> <li>• <u>SPREP (+ national in Fiji)</u></li> <li>• <u>Nigeria (finalization)</u></li> <li>• <u>Panama (national)</u></li> <li>• <u>South Africa (network)</u></li> <li>• <u>Jamaica</u></li> </ul>	<p><b>ORES:</b> Coral Reefs OP. 6</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital... OP. 5</p>		
5	<i>Welcomes</i> the work under the aegis of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Whaling Commission and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals on impacts of marine debris on marine biological diversity, and under the aegis of the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region on pollution from vessels and from land-based sources, and calls for the coordination of that work with other relevant work in the framework of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination call</li> <li>• Side event for ICP (done)</li> <li>• Side event for COP CBD December Mexico (Accepted)</li> </ul>	<b>PoW:</b> C 2.1, 2.2		
6	<i>Also welcomes</i> the report <sup>4</sup> of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ID what UNEP can lead on</li> <li>• Prepare roadmaps in collaboration</li> </ul>	<b>PoW:</b> C 2.5, 2.9		

<sup>3</sup> Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/EA.2/5.

	implementation of the Assembly’s resolution 1/6 on marine plastic debris and microplastics, takes note of the Executive Director’s recommendations, and urges that they be evaluated, and possibly implemented as relevant and appropriate, including through strengthened national, regional and international measures, cooperation and action plans, prioritizing important sources and impacts and cost-effective measures, cooperation with industry, civil society and other stakeholders to reduce the input, level and impact of plastic debris and microplastics in the oceans;	<p>with relevant partners and fundraise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOOC II with focus on covering some aspects including 1) hotspot analysis; 2) Risk based assessment 3) Business case/financing/Life cycle</li> <li>• Side event WCC September – ID other relevant events</li> </ul>	<p><b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP. 5 c.)</p>		
7	<i>Stresses</i> that prevention and environmentally sound management of waste are keys to long-term success in combating marine pollution, including marine plastic debris and microplastics, calls on Member States to establish and implement necessary policies, regulatory frameworks and measures consistent with the waste hierarchy, and in this context stresses the importance of providing capacity-building and that Member States should consider financial assistance to developing countries, least developed countries and in particular small island developing States for the realization of these objectives;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short papers with DTIE Paris and DTIE/IETC Japan (Business case for waste reduction, pro/con incineration, case studies, BATs)</li> <li>• Plastics Management Strategy for SIDS and islands (including tailoring for Fiji, Seychelles and Jamaica)</li> </ul>	<p><b>PoW:</b> C 1.11, 3.2,</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sound Mgmt of Chemicals and Waste. II. Waste OP. 11, 12, 13, 14 c.)</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP. 5</p>		
8	<i>Welcomes</i> the United Nations Environment Programme massive open online course on marine litter; the United Nations World Ocean Day 2016 with the theme “Healthy Oceans, Healthy Planet”; and the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNICPOLOS activities</li> <li>• MOOC revision</li> </ul>	<p><b>PoW:</b> A 1</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> MOOC:</p>		

	Oceans and the Law of the Sea, which in 2016 will focus on marine debris, plastics and microplastics, and notes, in this regard, the report of the Secretary-General prepared for the meeting; <sup>5</sup>		Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP.5 d.)		
9	<i>Recognizes</i> that surface runoff, rivers and sewage outfalls are important pathways for litter transfer from land to the sea; also recognizes the need for measures to combat the littering of freshwater courses, including measures to adapt to extreme storms, flooding and other relevant effects of climate change; and encourages international cooperation on transboundary watercourses in that regard, where relevant;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disasters/Storms/ Migration – planning to prevent ML</li> <li>• Innovation challenge – ML CSI/forensics (origin)</li> </ul>	<b>PoW:</b> C 3.3		
10	<i>Also recognizes</i> that education, capacity-building, knowledge transfer and awareness-raising regarding sources and negative effects of and measures to reduce and prevent marine plastic debris and microplastics, as well as environmentally sound waste management systems and clean-up actions, are crucial;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOOC II</li> <li>• BATs/BEPs database</li> <li>• Campaign ML</li> <li>• ML in coral related campaign activities as well as awareness raising (e.g. 2018 is proposed as the third International Year of the Reef; also ML related outreach through Green Fins (See below))</li> </ul>	<b>PoW:</b> C 1.11, 1.13, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.11  <b>ORES:</b> SAMOA Pathway OP. 4 a.), c.)  <b>ORES:</b> Sound Mgmt of Chemicals and Waste OP. 18 a.), b.), c.), d.), e.)		

<sup>5</sup> A/71/74.

			<p><b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP. 5 a.), b.)</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Coral reefs OP 3, 10, 11</p>		
11	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Director, within available resources, to assist Member States, especially developing countries, with emphasis on small island developing States and least developed countries, upon their request, in the <b>development and implementation of national or regional measures and action plans</b>; invites those in a position to do so to support such action; and recognizes that targeted measures in regions that are the largest sources of marine litter are especially important for the global reduction of marine plastic debris and microplastics;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COBSEA, SACEP, Abidjan, SPREP, NBO RAPLi</li> <li>• SA, Nigeria SSFAs</li> <li>• EU proposal</li> <li>• Technical working group RAPMaLi's</li> <li>• Online toolkit</li> <li>• ROPME</li> <li>• G7 activity: IMO &amp; UNEP on port reception facilities</li> <li>• G7: Outreach plan ML link with UNEP Campaign on ML</li> </ul>	<p><b>PoW:</b> C 1.12</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> SAMOA Pathway OP. 4 a.), c.)</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sound Mgmt of Chemicals and Waste OP. 18 a.), b.), c.), d.), e.)</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP. 5</p>		
12	<p><i>Recognizes</i> the need to identify transport and distribution pathways and hotspots of marine litter, to cooperate regionally and internationally to clean up</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOOC II</li> <li>• Monitoring/modeling</li> </ul>	<p><b>PoW:</b> C 3.4</p>		

	such hotspots where appropriate, and to develop environmentally sound systems and methods for removal and sound disposal of marine litter; stresses that removal is urgent in areas where it poses an immediate threat to sensitive marine and coastal ecosystems or marine-based livelihoods or local societies; and recognizes that removal actions should, as far as possible, be risk-based and cost-effective, following best available techniques and environmental practices and the polluter pays approach;		<b>ORES:</b> Sustainable production and Consumption OP. 9		
13	<i>Encourages</i> Governments at all levels to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society and establish public-private partnerships, including with regard to environmentally friendly alternatives to plastic packaging and deposit refund systems; to raise awareness of the sources and negative effects of and possible measures for reducing marine plastic debris and microplastics; to promote change in individual and corporate behaviour; and to cooperate in the prevention and clean-up of marine plastic debris; and, in that regard, invites initiatives for the development of sustainable tourism, including through the Sustainable Tourism Programme of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;	Innovation challenge 6IMDC (March 2018)  ML activities through Green Fins: waste management and reduction by SME through implementing the GF code of conduct (= corporate behavior change); awareness raising; cleanups.	<b>PoW:</b> C 2.10,3.3, 3.4, 3.5  <b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP. 5 c.)  <b>ORES:</b> Coral reefs OP 4		
14	<i>Recognizes</i> the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and regional fisheries bodies and management organizations to mitigate and clean up abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear, and encourages Member States and Governments at all levels to include such measures in	TBD with FAO – ongoing work	<b>PoW:</b> C 1.8		

	national and regional action plans to combat marine litter, as relevant, noting that cost-effective technologies and practices are available;				
15	<i>Underlines</i> the need for the sharing of knowledge and experience on the best available techniques and environmental practices for reducing littering from the fishing industry and aquaculture, and for implementation of pilot projects where appropriate, including in respect of deposit schemes, voluntary agreements and recovery, in particular through prevention and, reduction, reuse and recycling (the “three Rs”);	Marking of fishing gear – consultations Innovation challenge	<b>PoW:</b> C 1.8, 3.4, 3.5  <b>ORES:</b> Sound Mgmt of Chemicals and Waste OP 14. c.)		
16	<i>Recognizes</i> the role of the International Maritime Organization in mitigating marine litter; recalls annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships; and agrees on the need to reduce illegal dumping of litter in the sea, including through the establishment and use of effective port reception facilities, the identification and, as appropriate, recovery of costs related to the disposal of garbage and waste, including through harbour fees, and consideration of other incentives and innovative approaches;	Port reception facilities WCR as per G7	<b>PoW:</b> C 1.9		
17	<i>Acknowledges</i> the findings of the 2016 study of the United Nations Environment Programme on marine plastic debris and microplastics <sup>6</sup> on the most important global sources of and possible measures for avoiding microplastics entering the marine environment, and recognizes that Governments need to further identify the most significant sources, as well as important and cost-effective preventive measures at the national and		<b>PoW:</b>  <b>ORES:</b> Sound Mgmt of Chemicals and Wastes OP 24 B.)		

<sup>6</sup> *Marine Plastic Debris and Microplastics: Global Lessons and Research to Inspire Action and Guide Policy Change*, UNEP, 2016.

	<p>regional levels; invites Governments to undertake such prioritized measures nationally and through regional and international cooperation and in cooperation with industry, as appropriate, and to share their experiences; and <b>urges the phasing out of the use of primary microplastic particles in products</b>, including, wherever possible, products such as personal care products, industrial abrasives and printing products, and their replacement with organic or mineral non-hazardous compounds;</p>		<p>OP. 12 OP. 14 c.) OP. 18. a.) to e.)</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Consumption and Production OP 2 b.), c.), e.)</p>		
18	<p><i>Encourages</i> product manufacturers and others to consider the life cycle environmental impacts of products containing microbeads and compostable polymers, including possible downstream impacts that may compromise the recycling of plastic waste; to eliminate or reduce the use of primary microplastic particles in products, including, wherever possible, products such as personal care products, industrial abrasives and printing products; to ensure that any replacement products are environmentally sound; and to cooperate in the environmentally sound management of such plastic waste;</p>	<p>Part of campaign – get WED 2017</p>	<p><b>PoW:</b></p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Consumption and Production OP 2 b.) c.) e.)</p>		
19	<p><i>Also encourages</i> the establishment of harmonized international definitions and terminology concerning the size of, and compatible standards and methods for the monitoring and assessment of, marine plastic debris and microplastics, as well as the establishment of and cooperation on cost-effective monitoring, building as far as possible on ongoing related monitoring programmes and considering alternative</p>	<p>GESAMP + others – harmonization of approaches</p> <p>University of Hawai'i and NASA</p> <p>6IMDC</p>	<p><b>PoW:</b> C 3.3</p> <p><b>ORES:</b> Sound Mgmt of Chemicals and Waste OP 13.</p>		



	automated and remote sensing technology where possible and relevant;		<b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP. 5		
20	<i>Underlines</i> that, while research already undertaken provides sufficient evidence of the need for immediate action, more research is needed on marine plastic debris and microplastics, including associated chemicals, and especially on environmental and social impacts – including on human health – and on pathways, fluxes and fate, including fragmentation and degradation rates, in all marine compartments and especially in water bodies and sediment deposits of the coastal and open ocean, as well as on impacts on fisheries, aquaculture and economy; and urges Governments at all levels and Member States in a position to do so to support such research;	Innovation challenge  Thematic study on marine litter on coral reefs: synthesize the status of knowledge on marine litter and plastic impacts on reef health, with particular attention to microplastics and microfibers; and provide key recommendations with respect to management and mitigation of marine plastic litter on coral reefs. As possible this will consider potential risks to reef biota associated with uptake of microplastics and microfibers and associated toxins (additives, adsorbed compounds etc.) and potential risks to human health.	<b>PoW:</b> C 2.10  <b>ORES:</b> Sustainable Mgmt of Natural Capital OP. 5 d.)  <b>ORES:</b> Coral reefs OP 3, 10, 11		
21	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Director, in close cooperation with other relevant bodies and organizations, to undertake an assessment of the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and subregional governance strategies and approaches to combat marine plastic litter and microplastics, taking into consideration the relevant international, regional and subregional regulatory frameworks and identifying possible gaps and options for addressing them, including through regional cooperation and coordination, and to present the assessment to the Environment Assembly at its next session, within	Establish new Advisory Group (by September 2016)  Structure and approach signed off in October-16 by AG  Contracts signed upon receipt of Norwegian funds in September 2016 (TBD – University of Wollongong, Uni. Of Cape Town)  3 Webinars AG TBD (October-16, January-			

	available resources for this purpose;	17, June-17) 1 AG face-to-face meeting (TBD March-17) in Nairobi Final assessment in July – 17 Layout, translation etc. by October-17			
22	<i>Invites</i> States, in cooperation with industry and other stakeholders, at the national, subregional, regional and international levels, to organize and/or participate in annual campaigns for awareness-raising, prevention and environmentally sound clean-up of marine litter, including in coastal areas and oceans, to support and supplement the civil-society-driven beach clean-up days;	Part of campaign	<b>PoW:</b> C 2.7		
23	<i>Invites</i> those in a position to do so to provide financial and other support for follow-up to the present resolution;				
24	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Director to report to the Environment Assembly at its third session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.				

## 2/12 Sustainable coral reefs management

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
1	Calls for national, regional and international initiatives, cooperation and commitments, to conserve and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Coral Reef Partnership of UNEP and the Regional Seas: continued</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>participation in advisory committee</li> <li>partnership info/decisions at CoPs or</li> </ul>

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
	sustainably manage coral reefs, including cold-water coral ecosystems, and mangrove forests, that contribute to food security and nutrition for peoples' livelihoods;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>development and implementation;</li> <li>• Revision of project 321.2;</li> <li>• Provide update on Partnership and Manado meeting to global meeting of RS (meeting/inf document)</li> <li>• Convene 'open-ended advisory committee' on implementation of resolution EA/2/12, for regular direct engagement and liaison between UNEP and MS (prepare brief ToR and invite nominations from MS as well as relevant regional and global entities (through letter from ED or SGB).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>meetings of subsidiary bodies</li> <li>• partnership tools in project design</li> </ul>
2	Stresses the need for developing environmentally sustainable economic opportunities and inclusive sustainable growth to improve the livelihoods of the local community-level beneficiaries of coral reefs;	Relevant ongoing UNEP activities include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• livelihood development, diversification and related support under GEF projects (e.g. IW TDA-SAP projects in SCS, WIO)</li> <li>• economic instruments for reef management (Bluefinance);</li> <li>• partnerships for private sector reef stewardship (Green Fins);</li> </ul> See 4, 10, 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GEF projects;</li> <li>• blue economy work in coral reef areas/sectors</li> </ul>
3	Recognizes that education, capacity-building and knowledge transfer on the importance of coral reefs and related ecosystems, including cold-water coral ecosystems and mangrove forests, the threats to these ecosystems and recommended measures to ensure their protection and sustainable use, are crucial and invites Governments in a position to do so to support	See 10, 11	

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
	such action;		
4	Encourages Governments to further develop partnerships with industry, including fisheries, aquaculture and tourism, and civil society, and the establishment of public-private partnerships, to raise awareness of the importance of coral reefs and related ecosystems, including cold-water coral ecosystems and mangrove forests, the threats to these ecosystems and recommended measures to ensure their protection and sustainable use; and encourages Governments to cooperate on the protection and sustainable management of these ecosystems; and invites in this regard initiatives for the development of sustainable tourism, including through the United Nations Environment Programme Global Programme on Sustainable Tourism.	<p>Relevant Ongoing UNEP activities include public-private partnership approaches for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coral reef stress reduction through sustainable business practices (Green Fins, ongoing in Asia, replication in other regions being pursued);</li> <li>• reef management financing and implementation (Bluefinance, ongoing in Caribbean);</li> <li>• Provide information to MS on preconditions for replication of Green Fins and Bluefinance, including financial and other requirements (through letter from ED or SGB);</li> <li>• Exchange information with FAO on ongoing initiatives and opportunities for partnerships with companies in the coral reef fisheries value chain as well as sustainability labels for coral reef fisheries; identify potential areas for collaborative actions (under existing MoU, based on SSF guidelines);</li> <li>• Provide further guidance or information on governance arrangements for marine spatial management by the private sector, based on past and ongoing work in relation to MPA governance, through ongoing MPA governance work;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replication/scaling up of Green Fins, Bluefinance through RSCAP projects</li> <li>• Identify opportunities for private sector collaboration on reef fisheries</li> <li>• MPA governance needs identification</li> </ul>

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
		EA/2/10 OP 7	
5	Also encourages Governments to formulate, adopt and implement integrated, ecosystem-based and comprehensive approaches for the sustainable management of coral reefs, cold-water coral ecosystems, mangrove forests and related ecosystems;	None / See 10 and 11 and 12	
6	Calls, in this context, for countries to undertake the priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 on coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems;	None / See 10 and 11 and 12	
7	Encourages Governments to prioritize coral reefs conservation and sustainable management, including through the establishment and active management of marine protected areas, as well as through other spatial and relevant sectoral approaches, consistent with national and international law and based on best available scientific information with a view to enhancing climate change resilience and securing continued coral reef ecosystem service provision;	See 12, also EA/2/10 OP 7	
8	Invites Governments and donors to provide technical and financial support for the conservation and management of coral reefs, including in developing countries;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite MS to provide financial support towards implementation of the resolution / action requested of UNEP (through letter from ED)</li> </ul>	

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
9	Recognizes the vital role that women play in the conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs and affirms the need for the full participation of women at all levels of policymaking and implementation for the conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primarily through 'Framework for gender in ICZM' tool/guidance (in prep, 321.1)</li> <li>• Coral reef related outreach based on GGEO products/process (with GGEO team, see also 10);</li> <li>• South-South and Triangular cooperation event and information for exchange mechanism on gender and social dimensions of coral reef management, to identify potential needs with respect to additional tools and guidance (with RSO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration on development and testing of gender in ICZM tool</li> <li>• SSC input/ participation</li> </ul>
10	Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular through the Coral Reef Unit and in cooperation with other relevant international organizations and initiatives, within the programme of work and available resources, to contribute to raise awareness through public outreach campaigns as well as the Global Environment Outlook assessment processes on the importance of the sustainable management of coral reefs and related ecosystems, including cold-water coral ecosystems;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan outreach strategy on oceans across 3 EA resolutions and for SDG 14, coral theme/content</li> <li>• Conduct coral reefs outreach based on existing GEO-6 and Blue Solutions materials and outreach channels</li> <li>• Incorporation into global GEO-6 report of information on the 3<sup>rd</sup> global coral bleaching event, downscaling of climate model projections for coral reef bleaching conditions, and mesophotic reefs</li> <li>• Organization of International Year of the Reef 2018 (draft ICRI resolution, support preparation of strategic and outreach plan; support coordination);</li> <li>• Public behavioural change to support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint or linked outreach</li> <li>• Active participation in IYOR 2018</li> </ul>

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
		coral ecosystem conservation project with UNEP-WCMC, Cousteau Divers and Reef World	
11	Also requests the Executive Director, within available resources and in cooperation with Governments and stakeholders in a position to do so, to strengthen capacity-building, knowledge transfer and the development of relevant planning tools to avoid, minimize and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change and human-based threats on coral reefs and related ecosystems as well as to support the improvement and maintaining of resilience of coral reefs and related ecosystems;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalization and use of coral tools, where possible through GEF projects and in combination with relevant tools from 321.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Downscaled climate model projections for bleaching conditions (advanced draft)</li> <li>○ Guidance on resilience assessment for decision support (in prep)</li> <li>○ WW and coral reefs science-to-policy brief (advanced draft)</li> <li>○ Mesophotic reefs report (published 2016)</li> <li>○ MPA and MSP related guidance</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Participation in Advisory Panel IPWG on CC and OA for the UN Conference on SDG 14, 2017;</li> <li>• Participation in / event at UN Conference on SDG 14, 2017;</li> <li>• Thematic study on cold-water coral ecosystems</li> <li>• Thematic study on marine litter on coral reefs, with particular attention to marine plastic litter and microplastics</li> <li>• Consult IMO/Globallast and others on snowflake coral in Asia and possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration of UNEP tools in relevant projects, capacity building and outreach</li> <li>• Input to/review of thematic studies</li> </ul>

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
		<p>responses (Done =&gt; prepare brief advisory on native range and pertinent scientific (and management?) questions)</p>	
12	<p>Further requests the Executive Director, in particular through the Coral Reef Unit and in cooperation with other relevant international organizations, fora and initiatives, to within available resources assist Governments, including those of small island developing States, least developed countries and other developing coastal states, upon their request, in the development and implementation of national or regional measures and action plans in this regard;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coral reef plans and measures prepared and implemented under GEF projects (SCS, WIO-SAP etc)</li> <li>• Further develop coral component of South Asia Regional Marine Biodiversity Strategy (SACEP), revitalize regional CR Task Force</li> <li>• Communicate to MS: what support UNEP can provide, including support for national or regional coral reef measures and action plans through new GEF projects, based on ongoing coral reef and other relevant marine work (e.g. ROG, EBM, MSP, MPAs); call for expressions of interest/requests for assistance implementing action requested in the resolution (letter from ED/SGB);</li> <li>• Prepare guidance on the formulation of measures, action plans or strategies in the context of the 2030 development agenda and SDGs</li> <li>• Where relevant, support revision of RS Action Plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation/adoption of coral reef action plans under GEF projects</li> <li>• Collaboration on regional/national measures and action plans</li> <li>• Revision of RS APs?</li> </ul>
13	<p>Requests the Executive Director, in cooperation with the International Coral Reef Initiative, other relevant international organizations and other relevant partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with ICRI Secretariat on inclusion of the analysis in the Secretariat Action Plan and on the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Participate in advisory committee, review, implementation of relevant recommendations</u></li> </ul>



Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
	to prepare, by 2018, an analysis of global and regional policy instruments and governance mechanisms related to the protection and sustainable management of coral reefs;	<p>agenda of ICRI GM 31 (ICRI resolution on implementation of the analysis?);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop detailed terms of reference;</li> <li>• Prepare study (establish a technical team/consultant(s); conduct workshop; prepare, review and publish report)</li> </ul>	
14	Also requests the Executive Director to support the further development of coral reef indicators, regional coral reef assessments as well as the preparation of a global report on coral reef status and trends through the International Coral Reef Initiative's Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, in collaboration with existing regional initiatives and taking into consideration ongoing regional and global assessments;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in/support GCRMN working group on indicators (strengthen GCRMN as a data network while ensuring indicators that connect to the sustainable development agenda and the top level SDG indicator framework);</li> <li>• GCRMN regional report processes in WIO, ETP, Pacific (ongoing)</li> <li>• Follow up on tentative expressions of interest for the development of regional GCRMN reports for the South Asian Seas and East Asian Seas ( incl. brief document for relevant RSCAP meetings), seek implementation through regional GEF projects</li> <li>• Prepare a description of the process for development of a global GCRMN report including costs/fundraising needs</li> <li>• Support development of Global GCRMN Report (Lead editor, one meeting with regional reps)</li> <li>• (UNEP ongoing engagement in ICRI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in GCRMN indicator working group, interfacing between regional initiatives and WG</li> <li>• Pursue regional GCRMN reports through GEF projects</li> </ul>

Number	Operative Paragraph	UNEP Action (PoW + action requested at Manado meeting 2016)	Regional Seas Action
		and GCRMN, seek re-constitution of GCRMN Management Group)	
15	Also requests the Executive Director to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its third session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting on progress in implementing the resolution to the CPR and to UNEA-3</li> </ul>	

## 2/18 Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariat

Number	Operational Paragraph	UNEP Action	Regional Seas Action
1	Requests the Executive Director, in consultation with the secretariats of the UNEP-administered multilateral environmental agreements, to develop a	Provide inputs to the development of the template	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Provide inputs to the template</u></li> <li><b><u>Bring the issue to COPs</u></b></li> </ul>

	flexible draft template of options for the provision of secretariat services in an appropriate form, such as a memorandum of understanding between the Executive Director and the conferences of the parties or other relevant governing bodies of the UNEP-administered multilateral environmental agreements, for their consideration;		
2	Encourages the Executive Director, in establishing the delegations of authority to the heads of the multilateral environment agreement secretariats, to maintain the flexibility required on a case-by-case basis, including to reflect the size of the multilateral environmental agreement secretariats;	Provide inputs to the delegation of authority scheme	<u>Enforce the delegation of authority</u>
3	Invites the governing bodies of the UNEP-administered multilateral environmental agreements to bring to the attention of the Executive Director any administrative or financial challenges they face as a result of the practical implementation of their memorandums of understanding;	<b>Bring this paragraph to the attention of each governing body</b> of the UNEP-administered Regional Seas programmes	<b><u>Invite the governing body to provide a report to ED on administrative and financial challenges</u></b>
4	Also invites the governing bodies of UNEP-administered multilateral environmental agreements to share among themselves good practices in respect of their budget and human resource management;	<b>Bring this paragraph to the attention of each governing body</b> of the UNEP-administered Regional Seas programmes	<b><u>Invite the governing body to provide a report to ED on good practices of budget and human resource management</u></b>

5	Requests UNEP to waive Programme Support Costs on voluntary contributions for participation costs when arranging participation is done by administrative staff financed by the Programme Support Costs on the operating budget;	UNEP will prepare a report on its implementation	N/A
6	Requests the Executive Director to prepare information for the governing bodies of the multilateral environmental agreements on the implications of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards on their operational budgets,	UNEP will prepare a report on the implication of international public sector accounting standards	<b><u>Bring the ED's report to the attention of its governing body</u></b>
7	Requests the Executive Director, when invited by the governing bodies of the UNEP-administered MEAs, to foster mutually supportive programs of work between UNEP and the MEAs in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and make available relevant scientific information important to their work,	<b>Bring this paragraph to the attention of each governing body</b> of the UNEP-administered Regional Seas Conventions  Identify potential synergies between UNEP PoW and Regional Seas PoW	<b><u>Invite the governing body to consider developing a mutually supportive programme of work</u></b>
8	Requests the Executive Director to continue his efforts in these matters in an open and transparent manner, and to report on progress made to the UN Environment Assembly of UNEP.	Prepare a progress report	N/A