



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

Distr.: General  
14 December 2011

Original: English



**Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the  
Implementation of the Global Programme of Action  
for the Protection of the Marine Environment  
from Land-based Activities  
Third session  
Manila, 25–27 January 2012**

**Annotations to the provisional agenda**

**I. Technical segment**

**Item 1: Opening of the technical segment**

1. The third session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities is being held pursuant to United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council decision 26/6 of 24 February 2011, by which the Governing Council requested the Executive Director to proceed with organizing the third session, working to ensure that participation was as broad as possible and, to that end, urged all Governments to be actively involved in the intergovernmental review process and, where possible, to make financial contributions to defray the costs associated with that meeting.

2. The third session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting will be opened at the Edsa Shangri-la Hotel, Manila, at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 25 January 2012, by a representative of the host Government, and by the Executive Director of UNEP or, in his absence, by his representative. The session will be preceded by a global conference on land-ocean connections, on 23 and 24 January 2012, at the same venue.

**Item 2: Organizational matters**

3. Since the session is convened under the auspices of the Governing Council of UNEP, the rules of procedure of the Governing Council will apply, mutatis mutandis, to the proceedings.

**(a) Election of officers**

4. In accordance with the rules of procedure, a chair and four vice-chairs, one of whom will serve as rapporteur, will be elected from among the representatives of Governments. The principle of equal geographical representation from the five United Nations regions will be duly followed when electing those officers, who will constitute the Bureau of the meeting.

**(b) Adoption of the agenda**

5. Subject to the rules of procedure, the representatives may wish to adopt the agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda set out in document UNEP/GPA/IGR.3/1, as proposed by the Executive Director.

(c) **Organization of work**

6. The Executive Director recommends that the session be divided into a technical segment, to be held on Wednesday, 25 January 2012, and a high-level segment, to be held on Thursday, 26 January, and Friday, 27 January 2012.

7. It is proposed that discussions at the technical segment take the form of plenary meetings to be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. For those meetings, simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the six official languages of the United Nations. The representatives may wish to establish working groups as they deem necessary.

8. The list of documents for the session will be circulated as document UNEP/GPA/IGR.3/INF/2. The working documents for the session will be available in the six official languages of the United Nations and information documents in English only.

**Item 3: Credentials of representatives**

9. The credentials of representatives, issued by a Head of State or Government or minister for foreign affairs, should be submitted to the secretariat no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. Such credentials are required to enable representatives to take necessary decisions during the session. Relevant United Nations bodies, funds, programmes and agencies, and other relevant organizations, may participate in the meeting as observers.

10. In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives of Governments at the meeting will be examined by the Bureau, which will report thereon in plenary meeting. It should be noted that, under rule 16, each Government is to be represented by one accredited representative, who may be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers.

**Item 4: Global conference on land-ocean connections**

11. The global conference on land-ocean connections is intended to provide an opportunity to review policy and implementation frameworks for key marine and coastal issues. Participants will consider the need for an enhanced approach to integrated coastal management with a view to achieving economic growth without compromising the environment and efforts to combat climate change.

12. The Chair will request one of the co-chairs of the global conference to present a report on its key outcomes, to be followed by a brief discussion. It is expected that a report on the global conference and the discussions thereon during the technical segment will be forwarded to the high-level segment for consideration.

**Item 5: Review of implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities at the international, regional and national levels**

13. In accordance with paragraph 77 (a) of the Global Programme of Action, the secretariat will present a progress report on the implementation of the Programme and the activities of the Coordination Office since 2007 (UNEP/GPA/IGR.3/2) with a view to deciding on the way forward in that regard.

**Item 6: Policy issues in relation to the further implementation of the Global Programme of Action**

14. The third session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting affords a key opportunity and forum for Governments to consider a way forward for a more effective management of marine and coastal ecosystems over the coming years and greater recognition of the contribution that such ecosystems can make to sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels.

15. The secretariat will introduce policy guidance for implementing the Global Programme of Action over the period 2012–2016 (UNEP/GPA/IGR.3/3). In the guidance, it is proposed that the Programme serve as a strategic policy platform aimed at accelerating national implementation, possibly through integrated coastal management or other environment management initiatives, enabling countries better to understand the contribution of marine and coastal ecosystems to sustainable development. Governments are requested to consider the guidance and discuss the approach proposed therein with a view, among other things, to agreeing on a programme of work based on such an approach, to be forwarded to the high-level segment for consideration.

## **Item 7: Programme of work of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office for 2012–2016**

16. The secretariat will present the draft programme of work of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office for 2012–2016 (UNEP/GPA/IGR.3/4), highlighting the Office's contribution to international cross-cutting objectives, its main activities at the international, regional and national levels, and the human and financial resources required to mainstream and implement the programme of work for 2012–2016.

17. The representatives will be invited to consider the proposed programme of work with a view to, among other things, recommending it for adoption by the high-level segment and forwarding it to the Governing Council of UNEP for endorsement.

18. Discussion on the draft Manila Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (UNEP/GPA/IGR.3/5) will follow. The representatives will be invited to consider the draft declaration with a view, among other things, to forwarding it to the high-level segment for adoption.

### **Item 8: Other matters**

19. The representatives may decide to consider any other relevant matters, such as the date and venue of the fourth session of the Meeting and possible intersessional activities.

### **Item 9: Closure of the technical segment**

20. The Chair is expected to close the technical segment upon completion of the agenda items.

## **II. High-level segment**

### **Item 1: Opening of the high-level segment**

21. The high-level segment will be opened by the Chair of the Meeting or his representative. An opening statement will be made by the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Philippines.

22. The Executive Director or, in his absence, his representative, will make a statement highlighting the importance and contribution of the Global Programme of Action to the protection of the marine and coastal environment and to sustainable development.

23. It is proposed that discussions at the high-level segment take the form of round tables, with simultaneous interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations. The representatives may decide to establish working groups as they deem necessary.

### **Item 2: Credentials of representatives**

24. The credentials of representatives, issued by a Head of State or Government or minister for foreign affairs, should be submitted to the secretariat no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. Such credentials are required to enable representatives to take necessary decisions during the session. Relevant United Nations bodies, funds, programmes and agencies, and other relevant organizations, may participate in the meeting as observers.

25. In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives of Governments at the meeting will be examined by the Bureau, which will report thereon to the representatives. It should be noted that, under rule 16, each Government is to be represented by one accredited representative, who may be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers.

### **Item 3: Policy issues in relation to the further implementation of the Global Programme of Action**

26. The Executive Director of UNEP, or his representative, will make a policy statement to be followed by a round-table discussion on the importance of oceans, coasts, islands and their associated watersheds in the attainment of sustainable development and poverty reduction, and the way forward in implementing the Global Programme of Action as a means of highlighting the importance of these ecosystems.

27. The Chair will invite the rapporteur to provide a report on the main outcomes of the technical segment of relevance to this item.

28. The representatives will be invited to consider the role of the United Nations and other organizations and stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, in the implementation of

the Global Programme of Action. Based on the outcomes of the technical segment and consideration of the policy guidance for implementing the Programme, the representatives may wish to discuss and make recommendations on the way forward for the Programme as a catalytic, participatory and flexible instrument for the sustainable development of oceans, coasts, islands and their associated watersheds, with particular focus on:

(a) Linkages between the implementation of the Programme at the national level with the sustainable use of resources and coastal, marine and associated watershed ecosystem services and sustained economic development;

(b) Means of strengthening the implementation of the Programme at the regional level, including through the regional seas conventions and action plans, and other related regional mechanisms and partnerships;

(c) Further refined partnership approaches at the global level to respond to priority issues of relevance to the Programme, enabling broader stakeholder involvement and engagement.

#### **Item 4: Programme of work of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office for 2012–2016**

29. The Chair will invite the rapporteur to provide a report on the main outcomes of the technical segment of relevance to this item.

30. The representatives will be invited to consider those outcomes and to consider and adopt, as appropriate, the proposed programme of work of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office for the period 2012–2016, for onward transmission to the Governing Council for its consideration and possible endorsement.

#### **Item 5: Adoption of the ministerial declaration**

31. The Chair will invite the rapporteur to provide a report on the main outcomes of the technical segment of relevance to this item.

32. The representatives will be invited to adopt the draft Manila Declaration.

#### **Item 6: Adoption of the report of the session**

33. The representatives will be invited to consider and adopt the report of the meeting on the basis of the draft report prepared and presented by the rapporteur.

#### **Item 7: Closure of the session**

34. It is expected that the high-level segment will conclude its work by 6 p.m. on Friday, 27 January 2012.

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