



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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FEB 08 2017

The Secretariat of Governing Bodies
and Stakeholders
United Nations Environment Programme
unep@sgb@unep.org

Sir/Madame:

With reference to the letter the letter of H.E. Edgar Gutierrez-Espeleta, Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica and President of the UN Environment Assembly requesting inputs on the theme chosen for the 2017 Environment Assembly (UNEA-3), may we provide you the following inputs:

- As part of the strategic measures on sustainability, it is recommended to include a dialogue on pollution caused by improper management and dumping of solid and hazardous waste, i.e., soil, water and air pollution. Along with globalization and population explosion, waste generation has increased rapidly, endangering the environment and posing threat to human health.

The assembly should re-echo the importance of environmentally sound management of both solid and hazardous waste through exchange of information on waste reduction and promotion of recycling and recovery of wastes more effectively.

- The types of outcomes document to be expected are: (1) Assessment and highlighting the current situation/ problems involving improper disposal and illegal transboundary traffic of solid and hazardous wastes; (2) Existing initiatives, programs and progress in relation to addressing pollution caused by improper wastes disposal; (3) inventory and categorization of existing documents related to transboundary movement of hazardous wastes; and (4) Strengthening cooperation among parties with the goal of implementing environmentally sound waste management consistent to international agreements.

Relative to the possible contributions to fill the funding gap for the UNEA-3 session in December 2017, we shall inform you soonest should we have identified possible funding source.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES
Undersecretary for International Affairs
and Foreign Assisted Programs



ASRMD-2017-267

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JAN 30 2017

WIS

MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Director**
Environmental Management Bureau

FROM : **The Head**
UNEA Support Staff
Office of the Undersecretary for International Affairs
and Foreign Assisted Programs

SUBJECT : **2017 Environment Assembly (UNEA-3)**

DATE : January 27, 2016

This pertains to the herein letter dated December 27, 2016 of Assistant Secretary Bayani S. Mercado, Office of United Nations and International Organizations, Department of Foreign Affairs forwarding the letter of H.E. Edgar Gutierrez-Espeleta, Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica and President of the UN Environment Assembly relative to the theme chosen for the 2017 Environment Assembly (UNEA-3), which is pollution. The latter is particularly requesting inputs on the: (1) framing of the theme of pollution; (2) types of outcome documents to be expected; and (3) wording of the title.

Relative thereto, we are forwarding the same to your end for appropriate action. May we also request for your recommendation on the request to help address the funding gap for the UNEA-3 in December 2017.

We will appreciate receiving your inputs and recommendation on or before February 10, 2017.

DIR. WILLIAM T. RAGOS



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

00032

OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

VERY URGENT

27 December 2016

Madam:

Respectfully enclosed is a copy of a letter, dated 20 December 2016, of H.E. Edgar Gutierrez-Espeleta, Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica and President of the UN Environment Assembly, addressed to environment ministers informing them that the theme chosen for the 2017 Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) is **pollution** and requesting their inputs on the following:

- a. Framing of the theme of pollution
- b. Types of outcome documents to be expected
- c. Wording of the title

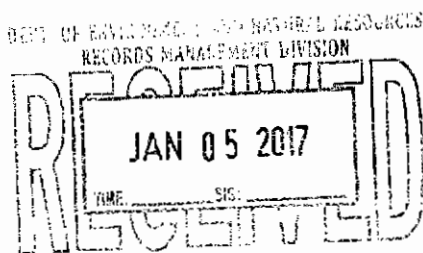
Furthermore, the UNEA President is inviting member states to help address the funding gap for the forthcoming session of the UNEA-3 in December 2017.

Said inputs may be sent to unep.sob@unep.org, copy furnished this office at unio.div2@gmail.com.

UNEP Executive Director Erik Solheim is expected to present the first outline of the report on the theme of the UNEA-3, taking into account inputs that it will receive from member states during the Fourth Annual Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on 6-9 March 2017.

Further inquiries may be referred to Mr. Fritz Gerald Fernandez at 834-4896.

With my best regards.



Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of Foreign Affairs:

BAYANI S. MERCADO
Assistant Secretary

MS. REGINA PAZ L. LOPEZ

Secretary

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Ave., Quezon City

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UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Ref: 2016/SGB/JL-C/kt

20 December 2016

Dear Minister,

I have the distinct pleasure of informing you that the 2017 Environment Assembly which will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 4 to 6 December, 2017 will focus the international attention on the opportunities for achieving a pollution free planet.

This critical theme has been decided through an unparalleled consultative process called by the Bureau of the UNEA involving contributions from several Member States. This process was undertaken under the leadership of the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, H.E. Julia Pataki, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Romania and through the active support of the rest of the members states and UNEP's regional offices.

Now its our time to start a dialogue on which actionable outcomes can be part of an international action agenda involving political leaders, citizens, companies and United Nations organizations and treaties all committed to address some of the most pervasive forms of pollution.

I therefore invite you to continue submitting through the Secretariat, to the email address unep.sgb@unep.org, additional inputs on how to frame the theme of pollution and what type of outcomes could be expected. I further urge you to include in your submissions any preference on the wording of the title. These inputs will assist the UN Environment Executive Director in preparing a first outline of the report on the theme of the 2017 Environment Assembly which will be discussed during the next preparatory meeting for the Assembly to be held in Nairobi from March 6 to 9, 2017 during the Fourth Annual Subcommittee Meeting.

Given the short time available during this exceptional three-day Environment Assembly, I wish to inform you that in partnership with the Committee of Permanent Representatives we advocate for resolutions to be linked with the theme of pollution and to set out clear deadlines for submissions of proposals which we will kindly request that you maintain.

To: Ministers of the Environment

Secretariat of Governing Bodies and Stakeholders

P.O. Box 30552, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

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In closing, I wish to respectfully remind you that we must be cognizant of the fact that as per our decision, this 2017 Environment Assembly will depend exclusively on extra-budgetary contributions. We must therefore all rely on each other as Member States to contribute to fill the funding gap that shall cater for interpretation, translation, documentation, as well as the participation of members representing developing countries. I thank those Members that have generously contributed so far and kindly request you to reach out to see what your government is in the position to contribute. For any further information with reference to funding please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary of Governing Bodies, Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis (unep.sgb@unep.org).

I look forward to providing you with regular updates on the preparations for this historic Assembly and seize the opportunity to express to you my best wishes for this year to come.

Yours sincerely,



H.E. Dr. Edgar Gutiérrez-Espeleta
Minister of Environment and Energy of the Republic of Costa Rica
President of the UN Environment Assembly

Secretariat of Governing Bodies and Stakeholders

P.O. Box 30552, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

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