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United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

**139th meeting of the Committee of Permanent
Representatives to the United Nations Environment
Programme**

Nairobi, 19 June 2017, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Conference Room 1

Agenda Item 5

Subject Matter to be Considered for Draft Resolutions during the 2017 Environment Assembly

Summaries as of 15 June 2017

AIR POLLUTION	
Subject Matter:	Air Pollution
Possible issues to address under air pollution include: data and information / awareness gaps; promote action to improve air quality monitoring and assessment and to develop air quality policies and strategies (at the sub-national, national, or regional level); enhance international cooperation and multi-stakeholder engagement including synergies between institutions working on air pollution; promote actions to facilitate the implementation of air quality monitoring networks and capacity to develop air quality management plans; facilitate sharing of best-practices; maximise synergies between policies on air, climate mitigation, SDG's, health, transport, energy and agriculture; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes to advance the discussion on a shared global response to air pollution.	

FRESHWATER POLLUTION	
Subject Matter:	(Fresh) Water Pollution
Possible issues to address under freshwater pollution may include: data and information gaps, i.e. keeping emerging pollutants, including pesticides, and sources under review; improving water quality monitoring and assessment including through GEMS/GEMI and other initiatives; enhance international water governance, international cooperation and multi-stakeholder engagement; promote integrated water resource management; facilitate sharing of best-practices; link to different SDGs; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes.	
Subject Matter:	Water Quality Monitoring
As UNEP reported in 2016, pollution is affecting water bodies across several continents yet global capacity to collect and analyze data on water quality remains poor. Severe pathogenic pollution is found	

in around one-third of all rivers and severe organic pollution in about 15 percent of all rivers. Severe and moderate salinity pollution is a growing concern, affecting around one-tenth of all rivers.

MARINE POLLUTION

Subject Matter: Marine Pollution

Possible issues to address under the topic of marine pollution include: marine litter/(micro)plastics; promote a broader approach to marine pollution, including issues such as eutrophication, acidification, hazardous materials; comprehensive approaches for related sources, such as a plastic value chain approach to address marine litter/(micro) plastics; data and information gaps (including on marine litter); the importance of bringing together and scaling up existing actions; identify and promote concrete implementation approaches and partnerships under relevant international initiatives; link to different SDGs; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes.

Subject Matter: Marine Litter and Micro-plastics

Marine litter is one of the largest environmental problems of our time and we are pleased with the increased awareness and action that has taken place since UNEA-1 when the first resolution was adopted. We see scope for further urgent action to be taken by UNEA-3. This Input will build on and add value to the action taken by UNEA-1 and UNEA-2.

LAND POLLUTION

Subject Matter: Soil Pollution

Possible issues to address under soil pollution include: knowledge gap on soil pollution and related environment, health, social and economic impact of contaminated soils (considering both point source contamination and diffuse pollution, including pesticides and fertilizers); facilitate the sharing of best practices; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes; building from existing work at other UN-agencies such as UNCCD, FAO, including Revised World Soil Charter and the Global Soil Partnership; link to different SDGs including land degradation.

SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

Subject Matter: Lead in Paint

Despite general agreement that lead in paint causes serious health problems and adverse economic impacts and that there are specific legal solutions that most countries can implement, only 30 percent of countries currently have lead in paint laws.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Subject Matter: An Environment and Health Nexus

Building on the UNEA2 debates and reports relevant to pollution, the environment and health nexus has gained credence. Possible issues to address include: potential benefits for human health and of protecting and restoring ecosystems; sound management of chemicals and waste, including pesticides and endocrine disruptors; noise pollution; antimicrobial resistance; promote preventive, "One health" approaches, taking into account gender impacts of pollution; provide specific guidance to UNEP's collaboration with other international organizations, in particular WHO and WMO.

Subject Matter: Innovative Solution Partnerships Platforms

Innovative solution partnership platforms are needed to promote the sharing of best practices and development of solution oriented innovation to address concrete (cross-cutting) issues of pollution (s.a. plastics, nitrogen, fertilizers, pesticides, e.g. through integrated lifecycle approaches, sustainable

consumption and production approaches, value chain approaches, etc) building on proven collaboration platforms and voluntary action on specific issues at the regional and country level.

Subject Matter:	Urban Pollution
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Following rapid urbanization globally, cities are increasingly relevant, both in generating pollution and finding synergetic solutions – this is the basis of urban pollution. The New Urban Agenda identified pollution as one of the main urban challenges. Possible issues to address: the role of local authorities to tackle pollution, facilitate sharing of best practices; smart city and innovative partnership approaches to address concrete issues related to water, soil and air pollution, including from transport, (solid) waste and the building and construction sector in an integrated manner.

Subject Matter:	Pollution in areas affected by armed conflict
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It is important to table this draft resolution as the subject of environment and security becomes increasingly significant over the past decade, and as a result of the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a number of resolutions in this regard, in addition to assigning the Special Rapporteur appointed by ILC (International Law Commission) for the topic entitled “Protection of the Environment in relation to Armed conflicts”. This subject also attracted attention when the terrorists groups like the so called “The Islamic State in Iraq and Levant” (Da’esh) targeted the environment and caused massive pollution as part of their strategy to disperse terror among innocent people.

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U.S. Proposal on Third UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) Resolution Topics

In the spirit of increasing public awareness and mobilizing concrete actions on pollution, the United States would like to propose UNEA-3 resolutions on the issues of water quality monitoring and lead paint. As UNEP reported in 2016, pollution is affecting water bodies across several continents yet global capacity to collect and analyze data on water quality remains poor. Severe pathogenic pollution is found in around one-third of all rivers and severe organic pollution in about 15 percent of all rivers. Severe and moderate salinity pollution is a growing concern, affecting around one-tenth of all rivers. Despite general agreement that lead in paint causes serious health problems and adverse economic impacts and that there are specific legal solutions that most countries can implement, only 30 percent of countries currently have lead paint laws.

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ROYAL NORWEGIAN EMBASSY

UN Environment
Secretary of Governing Bodies
Jorge Laguna-Celis

Your ref.:

Our ref.:

Date: 30 April 2017

Excellencies,

The Kingdom of Norway hereby expresses our intention to put forward a draft resolution on marine litter and microplastics for the consideration of the Third United Nations Environment Assembly.

Marine litter is one of the largest environmental problems of our time and we are pleased with the increased awareness and action that has taken place since UNEA-1 when the first resolution was adopted. We see scope for further urgent action to be taken by UNEA-3.

This draft resolution will build on and add value to the action taken by UNEA-1 and UNEA-2.

In order to ensure the best possible draft, Norway welcomes working together with others and invites interested delegations to contact the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Nairobi.

Yours sincerely,

Victor Conrad Rønneberg
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

CC: H.E. Ms. Julia Pataki, Ambassador and Permanent
Representative of Romania
Chair, Committee of Permanent Representatives

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UNEA-3

Ideas for topics to be addressed by draft UNEA-3 resolutions

EU+MS Submission to UNEP

- EU and its Member States welcome the opportunity provided to UNMS to signal their intentions to submit resolutions to be addressed at UNEA-3.
- We would also like to express appreciation that the timelines have been adjusted to allow UNMS to take into account the background document on Pollution in preparing for the outcomes of UNEA-3.
- With regard to the resolutions at UNEA-3, we would like to reiterate that proposals for resolutions must have a clear link with the UNEA-3 theme ‘Towards a Pollution free Planet’ and should:
 - ✓ Contribute to an appealing and meaningful result at UNEA-3;
 - ✓ Have a global relevance;
 - ✓ Address the link with SDGs, in particular those to be reviewed in 2018, including the relevance of addressing pollution to achieve the environmental, social and economic targets;
 - ✓ Demonstrate added value of the Environment Assembly and UN Environment Programme to take action and provide solutions on specific pollution issues;
 - ✓ Build on existing programmes/initiatives in the international arena and strengthen international cooperation where relevant;
 - ✓ Result in meaningful and tangible action, partnership or initiatives, useful directions to UNEP or concrete steps to be taken in the multilateral arena for addressing pollution;
 - ✓ Be helpful to regroup sub-topics of pollution to avoid duplication and limit the total number of resolutions.
- The EU plans to submit one or more resolutions for UNEA-3. Pending the key issues identified in the background document, we have not yet finalized our views on the best way of clustering different subtopics of pollution. At this stage, we would like to submit a preliminary list of priority topics the EU and its MS are interested to cooperate with other UNMS to work towards (joint) submission of resolution proposals, either by the EU and its Member States, by non EU member states or jointly:

Marine pollution: possible issues to address: marine litter/(micro)plastics; promote a broader approach to marine pollution, including issues such as eutrophication, acidification, hazardous materials; comprehensive approaches for related sources, such as a plastic value chain approach to address marine litter/(micro) plastics; data and information gaps (including on marine litter); the importance of bringing together and scaling up existing actions; identify and promote concrete implementation approaches and partnerships under relevant international initiatives; link to different SDGs; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes.

(Fresh) water pollution: possible issues to address: data and information gaps, i.e. keeping emerging pollutants, including pesticides, and sources under review; improving water quality monitoring and

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assessment including through GEMS/GEMI and other initiatives; enhance international water governance, international cooperation and multi-stakeholder engagement; promote integrated water resource management; facilitate sharing of best-practices; link to different SDGs; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes.

Air pollution: possible issues to address: data and information / awareness gaps; promote action to improve air quality monitoring and assessment and to develop air quality policies and strategies (at the sub-national, national, or regional level); enhance international cooperation and multi-stakeholder engagement including synergies between institutions working on air pollution; promote actions to facilitate the implementation of air quality monitoring networks and capacity to develop air quality management plans; facilitate sharing of best-practices; maximise synergies between policies on air, climate mitigation, SDG's, health, transport, energy and agriculture; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes to advance the discussion on a shared global response to air pollution.

Soil pollution: possible issues to address: knowledge gap on soil pollution and related environment, health, social and economic impact of contaminated soils (considering both point source contamination and diffuse pollution, including pesticides and fertilizers); facilitate the sharing of best practices; provide guidance to UNEP in light of relevant activities and programmes; building from existing work at other UN-agencies such as UNCCD, FAO, including Revised World Soil Charter and the Global Soil Partnership; link to different SDGs including land degradation.

- In addition, the EU and its MS believe that some issues cannot be properly tackled by addressing pollution through the lens of separate compartments of the environment.
- The EU and its MS are therefore considering how a cross-cutting approach to pollution could best be reflected by resolutions taking into account cross-cutting issues, such as health, social and economic impacts, gender, cross-media and cross-sector impacts and solutions and the role of the new urban agenda. Resolutions should also highlight key principles and policy approaches to pollution sources, such as prevention, reduction, solution oriented innovation, integrated lifecycle approaches, sound management of chemicals and waste, sustainable consumption and production approaches (such as guidelines on consumer information under the 10YFP), as well as innovative approaches to cooperation, including platforms for sharing of best practices and involvement of the private sector. Finally, a cross-cutting resolution may help to limit the total number of resolutions.
- Relevant cross-cutting approaches to pollution for a UNEA resolution may include:

an environment and health nexus, building on the UNEA2 debates and reports relevant to pollution. Possible issues to address: potential benefits for human health and of protecting and restoring ecosystems; sound management of chemicals and waste, including pesticides and endocrine disruptors; noise pollution; antimicrobial resistance; promote preventive, “One health” approaches, taking into account gender impacts of pollution; provide specific guidance to UNEP’s collaboration with other international organizations, in particular WHO and WMO.

urban pollution - following rapid urbanization globally, cities are increasingly relevant, both in generating pollution and finding synergetic solutions. The New Urban Agenda identified pollution as one of the main urban challenges. Possible issues to address: the role of local authorities to tackle pollution, facilitate sharing of best practices; smart city and innovative partnership approaches to address concrete

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issues related to water, soil and air pollution, including from transport, (solid) waste and the building and construction sector in an integrated manner.

innovative solution partnerships platforms, to promote the sharing of best practices and development of solution oriented innovation to address concrete (cross-cutting) issues of pollution (s.a. plastics, nitrogen, fertilizers, pesticides, e.g. through integrated lifecycle approaches, sustainable consumption and production approaches, value chain approaches, etc) building on proven collaboration platforms and voluntary action on specific issues at the regional and country level.

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سفارة جمهورية العراق
EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

نairobi
NAIROBI



No: ERI-N/168/06/17
Date: 14 June 2017

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to UNEP present its compliments to the United Nations Environment and has the honor to refer to our NV No. ERI-N/141/04/17 dated 28 April 2017 regarding the intention to table a draft resolution during the third session of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3).

The proposed title of the draft resolution will be

(Pollution control in areas affected by terrorist operations and armed conflicts)

The Government of the Republic of Iraq believe that the importance of tabling this draft resolution as the subject of environment and security becomes increasingly significant over the past decade, and as a result the General Assembly of the United nations issued number of resolutions in this regard, in addition to assigning the Special Rapporteur appointed by ILC (International Law Commission) for the topic entitled "Protection of the Environment in relation to Armed conflicts". This subject also attracted attention when the terrorists groups like the so called "The Islamic State in Iraq and Levant" (Da'esh) targeted the environment and caused massive pollution as part of their strategy to disperse terror among innocent people.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to UNEP avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Environment, the assurance of its highest consideration.

United Nations Environment
(UNEP)
Nairobi

Cc: Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis
Secretary of Governing Bodies
UN Environment



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