

Draft Short Report from Major Groups and Stakeholders from



**The International
Consultation of Major
Groups and Stakeholders**
at the Oslo Act#ForNature
Global Online Forum



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CPR Bureaux and MGS representatives 9th June
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Compiled and produced by the Norwegian Forum for
Development and Environment, based on reports from major
groups and stakeholders. This draft has not been reviewed
by the MGFC.

Introduction

In preparation for the UN Environmental Assembly 5 (UNEA5), an international online consultation for major groups and stakeholders was held on 7th June 2020.

The main themes of the consultation was: Tackling Ocean Pollution, Health and Environment, Ecosystem Restoration, Biodiversity and Development and Involvement and Implementation. Following public panel discussions and closed group discussions, the major groups gathered to develop their concrete key requests on these themes.

This report is compiled and edited by The Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development, the local organiser of this consultation, on the basis of input from the major groups. This report is a draft and has not been reviewed by the Major Groups and Stakeholders Facilitating Committee. A comprehensive report from the consultation will be published in the weeks following the consultation.

Oslo, 8th June 2020

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Tackling ocean pollution

Context

Microplastics and microfibers are found in 80% of fish, posing a great threat to our food-chains. Harmful chemicals are still being used as plastic additives - including those agreed to be phased-out in the Stockholm Convention. Plastic pollution of the ocean has impacts on the fishing industry as well as our health. Women in small-islands (fish-eaters) have a higher average of mercury in hair concentration compared to women in other mercury-polluted areas. Plastic pollution is threatening biodiversity, but also the livelihoods of millions of workers and their families.

Plastic pollution is a truly transboundary and global problem which requires a holistic and global response with a new plastic convention that tackles the entire lifecycle of plastic. UNEA-4 was a lost opportunity, and now is our chance to establish the mandate for a legally binding treaty on plastic pollution.

There is room for behavioural change and innovation towards sustainable consumption. We need to develop programmes that target ocean plastics directly at their source, focusing on rapidly urbanizing areas that contribute significantly to the estimated eight million metric tons of plastic that flow into the ocean each year.

The ocean is under threat by many sources of pollution other than plastic, such as unsustainable agriculture that results in ocean dead zones due to nutrient pollution.

Key requests

The Women's Major Group (WMG)

- UNEA5 to adopt a mandate to negotiate a legally binding instrument to tackle plastic pollution that covers phase-out/reduction of plastic at the up-stream and middle-stream level, and addresses health impacts of plastic pollution;
- Address other kinds of ocean pollution such as geoengineering (i.e. synthetic micro-bubbles, ocean fertilisation, marine cloud brightening), deep-sea mining, chemicals/hazardous wastes dumping to the ocean;
Proposals for implementation of the requests
- Include the impacted communities and vulnerable populations in the plastic negotiation process (i.e. fish-eaters, communities impacted by fracking activities, petrochemicals industry pollution).
- Meaningful engagement with the right-holders to assess new technologies.

The Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY)

- A structural approach for banning single-use plastic through international environmental legislation.
- The protection of the Oceans has to be more systematic including not only plastic pollution, but also contamination through chemical waste.
- Indirect pollution through the effects of climate change (for example oil leakages due to melting permafrost) has to be tackled structurally.

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG)

- Full, meaningful and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities, including women and youth in UNEP's work on tackling ocean pollution, including in the partnerships.
- Recognition of traditional knowledge and practices and innovations of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities, and of women in plans and actions to address ocean pollution.

The NGO Major Group

- A request that many NGOs shared is a clear mandate for negotiations for a new binding instrument to govern plastic across its lifecycle. Several NGOs shared view that the approach must not be singular and also include other ocean pollutants, within a larger holistic approach to chemicals and waste-management.
- Clear mandate for negotiations for a new binding instrument to govern plastic across its lifecycle.
- Plastic pollution has no borders and so tackling it only at the national level doesn't work - we need a treaty that tackles the whole lifecycle.
- Reduce plastic flow in the oceans and clear mandate for life cycle of plastic.
- The need of national and worldwide objective for treaties and inforceable policy and review mechanism.
- Enforceable policy dealing with the majority of world oceans.
- Engage private sector not only for packaging issues but for friendly production and manufacturing plastics and hold private sector accountable and committed to the process.

The Local Authorities Major Group (LAMG)

- Encouraging local governments in leading sustainable consumption, procurement and circular economy practices.
- Enhanced mobilization of national and global financial resources to support coastal zone municipalities.
- The urgent need for a legally binding treaty on plastic pollution. Plastic pollution is threatening biodiversity but also the livelihoods of millions of workers and their families.

The Workers and Trade Unions Major Group

The urgent need for a legally binding treaty on plastic pollution. Plastic pollution is threatening biodiversity but also the livelihoods of millions of workers and their families.

The Business and Industry Major Group

- Legal instrument that would institutionalize incentivising the private sector on investment made on innovation in addressing plastic waste and penalizing unsustainable practice.
- Development of strong implementing guidelines in the local community in waste management both upstream and downstream wastes.

- Identifying Centers of Excellence to build capacity in developing business models for waste management that would generate economic gains on the community and therefore minimize downstream waste by managing it upstream.

Implementation:

- Promote and provide support for strategies to reduce, reuse, recycle, and better manage solid waste;
- Enhance policy and governance for increased effectiveness;
- Influence action through social behavior change; and
- Build partnerships with the private sector for maximal impact and sustainability.

The Scientific and Technological (STC) Major Group

- The most feasible and effective way to minimise marine plastic pollution is through prevention. This can only be achieved through stringent upstream controls, global market restrictions and binding reduction targets. As such, a global response with a legal mandate and a binding implementation mechanism is required. Such global frameworks are also an enabler for better governance that can trigger further innovation.

Implementation:

- UNEA5 should agree on a clear, time bound, mandate to negotiate the adoption of a new, legally binding global convention on plastic pollution.

The Farmers Major Group

- In order to stop the formation of ocean dead zones, eliminate nutrient pollution of oceans mainly caused by fertilizer runoff from agricultural fields by using agroecological production methods and avoiding leaving soils bare and restoring vegetation along river courses and on estuaries and wetlands.

Health and Environment: What a post-pandemic recovery looks like

Context

With the COVID 19 crisis the number of people at extreme hunger is projected to double to 265 million this year. However, with millions out of jobs and livelihoods; this number could be underestimated. The majority of these hungry people are small farmers and fishers who, as we see in Global South, are at the brink of hunger despite a bountiful produce, as they are unable to take their produce to the market. Healthy people need healthy food coming from healthy ecosystems.

The existing agro-industrial model of food production has polluted and degraded our environment and caused negative impacts on health. Such livestock production uses a huge amount of antibiotics, which lead to antimicrobial resistance and pollute water sources.

COVID-19 has a great impact on women and girls, has increased domestic violence and exacerbated the lack of menstrual hygiene. Still, non-communicable diseases caused more death vs communicable diseases. Unhealthy cities and planet is a result of lack of implementation of sustainability practices since their inception at the Earth Summit in 1992. Health and Environment are heavily interlinked and businesses can make a huge impact on the environment both on the positive and negative side.

The COVID-19 pandemic shows that radical change is possible, and responsible business should be our new normal. The new normal is a society where we react quickly to protect lives and tackle climate change. We should act based on sound science, knowledge and evidence - including indigenous knowledge.

Key requests

The Women's Major Group (WGM)

- Stop bailing out polluters (chemicals industry, airlines, agro-industry, etc.) and divesting from dirty technology/industry.
- Admit and emphasize the link between environmental pollution with human health (communicable diseases as well as non-communicable diseases) that affect all populations especially the vulnerable populations (women, children, people with underlying health problems).

Implementation:

- More work towards planetary health, not only environmental health.
- Polluters-pay principle need to be strengthened, no fiscal incentives/subsidies for polluters and dirty business.
- Replace agriculture and food production system with decentralised, localized, biodiverse peasant, and women-led agriculture system with agroecology approach.
- Enforce existing environmental health conventions and agreements (Climate Change, BRS and Minamata Conventions, and SAICM), phase-out harmful chemicals production and use in products and processes, replace with organic and nature-based materials.

The Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY)

- UNEA-5 needs to address and recognize the inter-linkages between biodiversity loss, zoonotic diseases and biodiversity.
- In light of COVID19, member states - through the UNEA 5 outcomes - must make a clear call for stepping up youth involved in decision-making on health issues.
- A holistic approach to health is needed.
- Conventions on migratory species and conventions on bats have to be taken into considerations for approving human health.
- Specifically talking about COVID-19, the impact of the pandemic on food security and safety of children and youth and migrant children should not be forgotten.

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG)

- Provide a crucial foundation for community-based solutions.
- Recognition of Indigenous knowledge of sustainable development which represents an ecological alternative to economic progress which is based on human rights approach that emphasizes universality, equality, participation and accountability.

Implementation

- Granting political and cultural rights ensuring the preservation of traditional practices and lands, indigenous peoples can play a meaningful role in global disaster management process.
- Develop a platform that puts indigenous initiatives nowhere but at the forefront of sustainable development and solution agenda, and enable constructive right-based multi-stakeholder dialogue between indigenous peoples, authorities, the academic and business groups in building and promoting actionable indigenous science.
- Design a roadmap for multi-stakeholder partnership that simultaneously fosters economic development, empowers local actors, and conserves traditional indigenous practices and increase the awareness of interested stakeholders

The NGO Major Group

- Sustainable production & consumption with intersectoral transparency standards for chemicals of concern, to eliminate them from material flows - which would also unlock the circular economy and protect ecosystems from further extractive activities.
- Transitioning out of industrial agriculture and fishing, and into regenerative agriculture/agroecology and artisanal, small-scale fisheries.
- The current and planned stimulus efforts should not be repeating mistakes from the past and no investment that harm the environment and climate should be encouraged.
- Green jobs must be supported and fostered.
- Local food systems and smallholders must be adequately supported and included in the conversation around food systems.
- Transparency on chemicals of concern in material flows + transition to agroecology need to be considered.

- A One Welfare approach is a critical element of the Health and Environment link: broader than just physical health as mental health and all dimensions of welfare must be taken into account and addressed.
- Mainstream human and animal health and welfare and prioritize health care in any decision.
- Develop harmony with nature and change consumer habits and way of living and business industry.
- Access for clean water for all.
- Recovery package should be sustainable.
- There are other pandemic diseases that should be taken care of before they become worldwide spread and before it is too late.
- Stop illegal trade with animals.
- Focus to solve environmental challenges for human health such as air pollution.
- Prioritize health care rather than cure and medicine

The Local Authorities Major Group (LAMG)

- UN and national governments must renew their commitment and mobilize more resources to deliver SDGs, and the Rio Conventions on climate-land-nature through multilevel and collaborative action, so that health of citizens, livelihood and planet are sustained.

The Workers and Trade Unions Major Group

In view of the lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, where most vulnerable people are the hardest hit, the world movement of workers stresses that environmental sustainability will not be possible without social justice. Introducing this crucial element of social justice in the UNEA negotiations will be crucial to provide policy answers that can deliver the changes we urgently need. Implementing these principles should not be difficult. We have already a clear framework for this: the Paris Agreement, the Agenda 2030, the biodiversity convention are clear guidelines for governments.

Build on the work in the Paris Agreement explicitly recognizes “the imperative of a Just Transition for the workforce”. Just Transition measures and policies are needed that combine environmental protection with decent jobs, social protection and social justice. Without these measures, there will never be the necessary support in society for the measures that are urgently needed.

Following up on our request to introduce provisions on Just Transition, we request the integration of a strong Human Rights dimension in the negotiations. It is important to stress that ‘labour rights’ are ‘human rights’.

The Business and Industry Major Group

- Environmental, Social and Governance disclosure in businesses are either mandatory or voluntary. As it is right now, there is no strong regulatory framework that will mandate business disclose environmental impacts. The drive is normally coming from the likes of NGO reporting frameworks. UNEA5 should discuss policies that would institutionalise ESG disclosure on businesses.
- Global reporting frameworks normally caters to large and multi-national corporations. UNEA5 should include in its programme of work mechanisms to

involve and build capacity on MSMEs to disclose environmental impacts. This will eventually bring MSME value by allowing them to integrate to the global value chains.

Implementation:

- Develop networks of key partners for in-country implementation, outreach and roll-out of standard ESG disclosure for business taking the MSME's into consideration.

The Scientific and Technological (STC) Major Group

- The recovery needs a renewed focus on human and ecological wellbeing that requires new infrastructure designs and deep reforms in governance arrangements, corporate accountability and responsibility, financial institutions, sustainable lifestyles, economic models, and business practices to build social capital, equity and trust.

Implementation:

- The solution is evidence-based decision-making and advocacy done in partnership with concerned citizens to increase scale and resolution through the growing field of citizen science - the current pandemic recovery process has shown the importance of citizen science. Citizen science emphasizes collaborative intelligence and co-creation to facilitate scientific and community-based solutions. Citizen science also acts across cultures and worldviews to provide active and meaningful ways to integrate local, traditional and indigenous knowledge.

The Farmers Major Group

- Make the best use of the crisis by restructuring and repurposing food systems by taking concrete action on systemic issues such as poverty, landlessness and lack of land ownership of women farmers, poisoning of land, water and food, destruction of biodiversity by monocropping, corporate control and industrial farming.
- Strengthen local food systems, local markets and short supply chains, small and women farmers, indigenous people and fisherfolk. They are the resilience against any future pandemic, which climate change threatens very potently.
- Encourage the adoption of sustainable, diverse diets by creating nutrition policies linked to a diverse, nutrition-sensitive agriculture based on agroecological principles.

Ecosystem Restoration, Biodiversity, and Development: How can we have development in harmony with nature?

Context

The current model of development is not sustainable. More mining, hydro, and deforestation activities are taking place in biodiversity sensitive areas and indigenous peoples' territory.

“Nature-based solutions” that bring profit to corporations are *not* real solutions, and green development funds are not sufficient to supply the much needed capital for biodiversity business and programs. A mechanism that would invite private capital for this much needed investment is necessary both on the national and sub-national level. Unsustainable agriculture is still a major cause of biodiversity loss and detrimental to many of our precious ecosystems. Agroecological practices such as organic agriculture offer solutions to produce food in harmony with nature. There are many opportunities to innovate in new sustainable practices in agriculture and production.

The scientific and technological community needs to build bridges between local communities and their ancestral and traditional knowledge, while promoting new strategies for development in harmony with nature. The Human Rights approach can be enhanced with strong evidence-based and knowledge-based policy solutions.

The IPBES assessment highlights that at least a quarter of the global land area is traditionally owned, managed, used or occupied by indigenous peoples. These areas include approximately 35 per cent of the area that is formally protected, and approximately 35 per cent of all remaining terrestrial areas with very low human intervention.

Multiple studies have shown that deforestation rates are lower in areas where land rights are secure than in government-managed areas; and local participation in conservation management can improve biodiversity outcomes.

Key requests

The Women's Major Group (WGM)

- End dirty business practices that destroyed the ecosystem and ecosystem services.
- Rethink the development paradigm, and development financing, stop funding false solutions.
- Support interventions using a landscape approach to maintain high biodiversity mix in the ecosystem.

Implementation:

- Promote and support sustainable economic activities especially in the impacted communities in harmony with nature.
- Promote and support more investment in real renewable energy (solar, wind, wave).

- Interventions to restore the ecosystem should be beyond administrative borders and consider ecosystem boundaries.
- Support community-based/women-led initiatives for ecosystems conservation which are the decentralized solutions that can be implemented by indigenous peoples & local communities, including agroecology.

The Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY)

- The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration provides an opportunity for the UN system and diverse range of Stakeholders to join forces to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of our ecosystems. We call upon member states to step up contributions to the multi-partner trust fund under the Decade, with focus on youth engagement and supporting community-led initiatives and reflect the same in the ministerial declaration.
- UNEP as the custodian for CBD process needs to ensure that the post-2020 biodiversity framework does not suffer from its postponement.
- Ecosystem Restoration has to be conducted in a way that structurally includes youth as actors within the implementation process. In order to do so, grassroot organisations, local communities, indigenous peoples and youth groups have to be empowered through capacity building and targeted resource provision.
- New financial mechanisms and contracted work have to first be provided to grass-root organisations, local communities, indigenous communities and youth instead of transnational businesses, whenever possible.

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG)

- Combining traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities, including peasants in all levels of implementation (UNDRIP, UNDROPS, IOL169, CEDAW) and other international HRs agreements should be taken into account.
- Synergies with other Rio Conventions (CBD and UNFCCC) including the work of CBD on WG8j on Traditional Knowledge and other MEAs.
- Address the main drivers of biodiversity loss, including unsustainable production and consumptions models (big agribusiness, mining, infrastructure, energy - as these are also part of mainstreaming biodiversity into sectors in the CBD discussions) and recognise agroecology and other alternatives to addressing holistic approaches to restoration
- Address perverse incentives model and ensure that ecosystem restoration is based on well-being and living in Harmony with Nature.
- Have a clear global agreement on the term on NBS
- addressing the systemic barriers, stronger political will as it would need to be nested in the human rights based approach if it is to leave no one behind.

Implementation

- Increase participation in decision-making processes of projects, including EIAs and SEIAs.
- Environmental impact assessments (EIA) and strategic environmental impact assessments (SEIA), if implemented adequately, are mechanisms through which human rights-based approaches can directly support the protection of ecosystems

and biodiversity. However, participation processes and compliance with EIAs are at best uneven across the globe.

- Reference and take into account the reports and recommendations prepared by the SR on Human Rights and the Environment report on healthy ecosystems and human rights: sustaining the foundations of life that will be presented to the GA in October 2020.
- Link this work with the ongoing discussions of the CBD Post2020 discussions, that might also need to address synergies in reporting including in the NBSAP systems to assess the achievements and identifying challenges.
- The work on indicators becomes very much crucial in this regard as so far those that are listed in the CBD Post2020 do not take into account any indicators that reflect on the rights to land and territories of IPLC, including gender responsive indicators are missing and hope that UNEPs work would address this gap including in the work on the Decade.
- Support creating an Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group, as GEF.
- Implementation mechanism of the UNEPs Environmental Defenders Policy.

The NGO Major Group

- Some existing institutional arrangements and instruments need to have far more of a concern around environmental justice, verified impacts and good value for local communities and the most vulnerable.
- Recognition of the legal rights of indigenous peoples to the lands, territories, and resources that they have traditionally owned or occupied.
- Major work is needed to train, build capacity, and raise awareness to educate different groups especially young people for transformation and change.
- New paradigm for the economic system.
- Focus on renewable energy and regenerative agriculture and Ecosystem restoration and protection.
- More resources allocated for more research, experts and consultants.
- Putting the rights of nature on the agenda (legal framework for nature, human rights and environment rights).
- Achieve SDGs for environmental protection and climate action.

The Local Authorities Major Group (LAMG)

- Post2020 deal for nature should advance the engagement of local and subnational governments into a new level and invite other UN processes to be inspired with this experience.

The Business and Industry Major Group

- UNEA5 should tackle programs and policies that support scaling-up investment on biodiversity protection on the national and subnational level. That supports innovation on agri, fisheries and others that supports the AICHI biodiversity targets and the SDGs.
- Identify and build a network of partners that would speed up sharing of best practices and technology transfer from developed countries to emerging economies and vice versa.

Implementation:

- Build and support establishment of Impact Investing networks for Biodiversity related investments. Green development funds are not sufficient to supply investments needed in all areas of AICHI biodiversity targets. A mechanism that would capture private investment capital to scale up innovative and sustainable biodiversity related investments.

The Scientific and Technological (STC) Major Group

- We emphasize the value of scientific exchange and rapid technology transfer from the global North to South and use of traditional and indigenous knowledge. The latter is now well established through Convention on Biological Diversity decisions and Inter-Governmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services deliberations. We need to find a way to protect the indigenous and local communities in sustainable practices but also new ways of using science and technology including ancestral knowledge.
- We have to build bridges between legal rights and indigenous knowledge – how can scientific community help protect indigenous rights but also biodiversity.

Implementation:

- We need to promote the idea of a new strategy for development integrating science and nature based solutions.
- In addition, South-South mobility of scientists and engineers is vital to promote the exchange of experience and capacity that will benefit all parties and work toward gender parity in science and technology fields. As a rule, capacity building should be request-driven by demands from the South.

The Farmers Major Group

- A new international framework to halt biodiversity loss in the context of the CBD should put adequate emphasis on win-win solutions for food security and nature conservation.
- The transformation of our food systems should be a key target for the new deal on nature.

Road to Stockholm+50, UNEP@50 and achieving the SDGs: Involvement and Implementation

Context

If well planned, the delay of all UN negotiations for about one year can be turned into an opportunity. 2020 will be recognized as the year there will be no COPs or UN Summits (except UN Biodiversity Summit). And 2021 will be the year where UNCC, CBD and UNFCCC will have their COPs as well as UNEA5.

In 2020, the first G20 Environmental Ministerial should be used as an important opportunity to engage ahead of UNEA-5. 2021 is also the year where G7 and G20 will be led by governments that have better track record on sustainability which can be an additional opportunity.

The 2030 Agenda won't be achieved without a radical transformation of our food systems towards agroecology and more sustainable and inclusive food policies.

Key requests

The Women's Major Group (WMG)

- We are the right-holders. UNEA should recognise the devastating impact of business stakeholder (profit-focused) on rights-holders and the environment. UNEA needs to recognize the conflict of interest of UNEP partnerships with polluters (#nodirtybusiness).
- Gender-digital divide. UNEA should recognize the gender-digital-divide: fewer women than men have smartphones /access to the internet (OECD) and are affected by the environmental and social impacts of digital tech (energy use, emissions, scammer, etc.).
- More meaningful engagement. We are upset that we have no voice in the town halls next week, this lack of meaningful engagement, limited participations, never facilitates meaningful stakeholders engagement/dialogues with higher delegates.
- Business stakeholders should also include sustainable solutions providers (recycling industry, alternative delivery system providers, biomaterials packaging manufactures. etc.).
- Meaningful engagement and dialogues with high levels delegates, not only between the major groups.
- Provide more support for sustainable community-led solutions.
- UNEA should support/facilitate rights-holders to meaningful participation, incl. to assess/evaluate the impact of new technologies.

The Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY)

As we move toward Stockholm+50, there are three key areas we want to draw focus on. First is the political declaration mandated for UNEA-5, the follow-up to GA res 73/333 and Stockholm+50 process need to be addressed in conjunction and not on different tracks:

- Focus must be laid on how to increase the relevance of the UNEP system as a whole. From laying foundations for SDG12, mainstreaming green economy, success in chemicals and waste agenda, to being an institution that continues to find “a place” for itself in the evolving environmental context, we have a lot to reflect.
- Mainstreaming MEAs of UNEP - the CMS convention, the chemicals and waste process, the process on marine litter, the flagship work on UN Decade, and range of themes that are incredibly important, instead of only pushing for climate change, biodiversity and topics that are covered through different UN bodies.

Second is the engagement with Major Groups and Stakeholder constituencies :

- MGCY supports expanding the outreach to bring a diverse range of groups on the table, however, this outreach and engagement need to be done together with the right-holder Major Groups and Stakeholders, which should have early and structured engagement in the lead-up to and at the Stockholm+50 commemoration.
- This includes suggestions such as hosting a large MGOS Forum (similar to ones in UNEA) in lead-up to Stockholm+50, providing space for regional and thematic consultations self-organised by constituencies, including virtual ones
- Engagement of different actors needs to be inclusive and right-based by design, and not by chance, so the government of Sweden and Kenya must work together with MGS to step up support and their involvement

Thirdly, on youth engagement,

- We note with much disappointment that the UNEP Mid Term Strategy (MTS) does not include a reference to youth/youth organisations. We suggest addition of a new section, which MGCY is happy to provide a draft of, for reflection in MTS
- MGCY, through its diverse range of member organisations, would like to host youth preparatory consultations/conferences in the preparation for Stockholm+50
- Evolving narrative of engagement of young people from just being a stakeholder group, to being agents of change and group that needs to be empowered and included in the implementation process early and in a structured way.

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG)

- Strengthen the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant stakeholders.
- Bring in the dimension of Human Rights approach to a well-being and living in harmony with nature, including provision for the recognition of rights.
- Legal empowerment of indigenous peoples and local communities
- Recognize and Supporting community lead initiatives, including recognition of Biocultural Community Protocols.
- Indicators for the processes to also acknowledge and address traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of IPLCs and of women.

The NGO Major Group

Implementation:

- Resources: Adequately support the agenda going forward, particularly in terms of finance, capacity building and awareness raising.

- Agility for UNEP Secretariat that is adequate given the large breadth of work required.
- Highlight that there is a very positive story coming out of UNEP's achievements but one that must be linked to ambition as well as monitoring and reporting.

Involvement

- More seats at the table for additional involvement keeping in mind that the best way to get more seats is to fill adequately the ones that are already available.
- Rise against the disconnect with the grassroots including by taking into account issues around information and access (technical and language barriers, etc.).

Complexity linking both implementation and involvement

- Intergovernmental process is a challenging multi stepped process that requires strategic coalition building to link inputs to outputs and outcomes.
- Need to know and learn the process and all of us need to work together and there seems to be a lack of that.

The Local Authorities Major Group (LAMG)

In 2020, most of the work will focus at the national level for the preparations of NDCs for the Paris Agreement. UNEP, in collaboration with other UN agencies should encourage national governments and support stakeholders so that these national processes engage local and regional governments building on the spirit of the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda.

- The practice of multilevel and collaborative governance should also be proposed as the new normal in the deliberations for the UN75. Ministerial-Mayoral Dialogue held on 28 May 2020 could be used as a good practice and can be replicated at the G20 Environment Ministerial planned for September 2020.
- UNEA-5 should provide a better visibility and engagement for the Cities and Regions Summit, including specific invitation to Ministers of Urbanization.

The Business and Industry Major Group

- We welcome the development of GEO for Business in communicating the outcomes and recommendation of the Global Environment Outlook 6. We support the inclusion of business networks in the GEO for business process but would like to request inclusion MSMEs in the outreach–translating what GEO for Business means to MSMEs.
- We recommend developing a fundamental linkage between Science, Policy and MSMEs.

Implementation:

- Strengthen partnerships with MSMEs networks and develop mechanisms that would scope the needs of MSMEs in building capacity and scaling up responsible business.

The Scientific and Technological (STC) Major Group

- Building Back Greener - Science and technology are fundamental in avoiding returning to an unsustainable way of production and consumption.
- The Science- Policy Interface, which is fundamental to UNEP's mission, is more important than ever.

Implementation:

- We demand continued engagement in GEO and other related processes, and the Science-Business-Policy Forums.
- The S&T MG (the scientific and technological community) has an important role to play in Stockholm+50 in connection with the Science-Policy Interface and the Green Recovery.

The Farmers Major Group

- Adopt a human rights-based framework of governance and underlying accountability to improve resilience of food systems by strengthening local food systems, which implies improving the conditions of rural people, advancing genuine agrarian reform, and strengthening agroecological approaches anchored on principles of food sovereignty, and putting appropriate regulatory measures to protect farmers from predatory trade practices, land grabs, and adverse impacts of technology including genetic engineering, gene editing and geoengineering. Empower women farmers and strengthen extension services, particularly in the field of sustainable techniques such as organic agriculture and agroecology.
- UNEA-5 needs to send a clear message to the Food Systems Summit planned for 2021: if we don't put our food systems on a path of transformation towards agroecology, we will face further mass extinction of animal and plant species, severe impacts of climate change hitting the most vulnerable, and a growing number of hungry people in the world.