

Second Joint Preparatory Retreat of the Bureaux
of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives
9 to 10 June 2017
Hotel Villa Caletas (Pacifico Central)
Puntarenas, Costa Rica
Agenda item 2

Note by the Secretariat on Grouping of Draft Resolutions

The Secretariat is pleased to present a table indicating grouping of draft resolutions and their summaries as of 2 June 2017. It will support discussion under Agenda item 2: Stocktaking on Preparations for the Assembly, at the Second Joint Preparatory Retreat of the bureau of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to be held on 9 to 10 June 2017.

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

Summaries as of 2 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

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.