

Marine Pollution –

“The Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (the Program)”

Briefing; ahead of the 4th Intergovernmental Review Meeting, Bali Indonesia

The Global Ocean Agenda since 2017

- SDG 14 on Ocean
- Fast track for Ocean; 1st UN Ocean Conference 2017 New York– 2nd UN Ocean Conference 2020 Portugal
- Community Action Hubs – under SDG14
- UN Decade of Ocean Science adopted December 2017 (2021-2030)
- UN Global Compact Ocean Business Leadership
- MoU between UN and “La Maisons des Oceans” in Paris with office of UN Secretary General’s Envoy for Ocean, working with Friends of Ocean Action to support the SDG14;
- PROG - Partnership for Regional Ocean Governance

UN Environment – the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda incl Ocean – need to relate to the global ocean context

The Global Ocean Agenda Ctd.

- Our Ocean Summit (since 14) Bali 2018; Norway 2019; Palau 2020
- Heads of State and Government From Panel to Support Sustainable Ocean Economy (High Level Panel on Ocean Prime Minister of Norway)
- World Economic Forum on Ocean
- Commonwealth Ocean Agenda
- G7 and G20 Blue Agenda and Plastic Charter
- Conventions including but not limited to; Convention Biological Diversity; IPCC Ocean Report Ocean/COP23 Ocean-Climate Partnership Pathway, Basel Convention, Regional Conventions
- Sustainable Blue Economy Conference Nairobi

UN Environment – the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda incl Ocean – need to relate to the global ocean context

The Marine Pollution – a key issue on the global ocean agenda

Work have been done since address the issue Plastic Pollution; 1995 (GPA) Still plastic pollution will be doubling in 10-15 years.

Global Consens – the sense of urgency

UN Environment

- Ad-hoc Open-Ended Expert Group
- Clean Seas Campaign Education and awareness activities
- Marine Litter Partnership
- Subprogrammes incl Chemical and Waste
- Regional Conventions Protocol and Partnerships
- International resource panel,
- Life cycle analysis, corporate responsibility;
- New Plastics Economy commitments
- Global Plastic Partnership
- UNEA Pollution Implementation Plan

Global Initiativ

- G7 Plastic Charter
- Global Marine Plastic Partnership (World economic Forum) @UNGA
- Commonwealth - Plastic Charter
- UN Global Compact Business Leadership on Plastics
- Big Campaigns and outreach activities

Background GPA

- **1995; Initial mandate** Established to address nine sources of marine pollution: (sewage, persistent organic, radioactive, heavy metals, oils, nutrients, sediment mobilization, litter and physical alteration)
- **"Graduated"** – persistent organic pollutants/heavy metals (Basel Convention)
- **Current Mandate**
 - The Global Partnership on Marine Litter
 - The Global Partnership on Nutrient Management
 - The Global Wastewater Initiative

Challenges of the Global Programme of Action



- Limited country engagement between Inter Governmental Reviews – 5 years
- Weak inter-agency cooperation framework

- Limited awareness, engagement and impact at a global and national level
- Limited country implementation oversight – particular for countries without targeted national support

- No funding for Secretariat since 2012
- 1million USD/year plus IGR 600,000USD

New Context since 1995

- Agenda 2030- ocean related targets and indicators (2015)
- UN Environment Assembly (decision 2012)– Theme Towards a Pollution Free planet including marine pollution (2017)
- UN Environment Assembly Resolutions on marine litter and waste water,
- UN Environment Assembly’s Ministerial Outcome Document and the “Implementation Plan” to address pollution
- Regional Seas Programmes, incl regional Protocols and Partnership
- Basel Convention et al

Reflections on the future of the Global Programme of Action

- 
1. Option: Business as usual
 2. Option : Full Integration
 3. Option: Evolving

Business as usual

Governance

- Intergovernmental Review – set programme mandate
- 5 Year IGR cycle
- Secretariat in UN Environment

Implementation

- Intergovernmental Review Declarations
- Country priorities
- Work plan adopted by countries

Financing

- Need for funding GPA Trust Fund plus intergovernmental meetings

Fully Integrated

Governance

- Use UN Environment Assembly as the intergovernmental body
- Guide work by *relevant* UNEA resolutions, (waste water, litter, chemicals, waste etc)
- UN Implementation Plan for Pollution

Implementation

- Fully integrate marine pollution and the implementation from the UN Environment Assembly's Ministerial Outcome Document and the Implementation Plan to address Pollution.
- National action plans are fully in line with SDG14.1 targets and 6.3
- Strengthen the regional seas to develop or establish regional protocols and/or partnerships to target pollutants of crucial importance in their region
- The 3 partnerships fully integrated within UN Environment Programme of Work, to be scaled up with relevant partners and fully integrated in the global agenda as to set out a global path lead by UN Environment

Evolving

Governance

- Keep an intergovernmental Meeting to be held every two year

Implementation

- Mainstreaming the UN Environment Programme of Work
- Based on UNEA Resolutions

Financing

- GPA Trust Fund to finance projects
- UN Environment to finance Secretariat

Fundamental issues

- Decision making body
 - UNEA as a global environmental framework
 - Regional Seas – as regional framework

Do we need for a separate governmental mechanism for marine pollution
- Scale up and enhance interlinkages and synergies
- Strengthen partnership and multistakeholder engagement
 - Stronger Partnership Agenda
- Link to UN Environment's work – GPA vs. UNEA Resolution (yet separate – still integrated)
- Outcome from "Ad-hoc Open-Ended Expert Group"

Expected outcome of Bali

- How to address marine pollution
- Discussion and input from member State
- Link to UNEA – SDG14 – land ocean connection initiatives (source-to-seas platform)

Outcome from IGR to be presented to UNEA4

Thank you

