18th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans

30 September – 1 October 2016, Incheon, the Republic of Korea

UNEA-2 outcome and UNEP plan for the implementation of the ocean-related resolutions
Outline

Background documents:
UNEP/WBRS.18/8, INF13

1. UNEA – 2

2. United Nations Conference on the implementation of SDG 14
   • Other global developments
SECTION 1: UNEA-2
UNEA-2

- The second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEA-2)
  - From 23 to 27 May 2016

- Member States adopted 25 resolutions
Ocean-related resolutions

2/10 Oceans and seas

2/11: Marine plastic litter and microplastics

2/12: Sustainable coral reefs management

2/18: Relationship between UNEP and MEAs
Outcome 2/10

• The role of the Regional Seas programmes for the ocean-related SDG is clearly recognized in the resolution 2/10:

Recognizing the contribution in accordance with international law of the regional seas conventions, regional action plans and regional fisheries management organizations in achieving SDG 14 and relevant related Sustainable Development Goals at the regional level, as well as to their regional follow-up and review, including through the regional monitoring and reporting mechanisms to be developed for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
Outcome 2/10

• Paragraph 5 : Cooperation with RFBs

Invites Member States and **regional seas conventions and action plans, in cooperation**, as appropriate, with other relevant organizations and fora, **such as regional fisheries management** organizations, to work towards the implementation of, and reporting on, the different ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
Outcome 2/10

• Paragraph 11: RSSD (2017-2020)

Notes the document on the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2017–2020 and requests the Executive Director to communicate the Strategic Directions to conferences of the parties, intergovernmental meetings or other governing bodies of the relevant regional seas conventions and action plans;
Outcome 2/10

• Paragraph 13: Geographical Coverage

Encourages the contracting parties to existing regional seas conventions to consider the possibility of increasing the regional coverage of those instruments in accordance with international law.
UNEP plan for the implementation

• Planning implementation activities (UNEP/WBRS.18/9)

• UNEP Marine and Coastal Strategy
  – Paragraph 17
    • Assess the effectiveness of the current one
    • submit a proposal for its update by the next UNEA in 2017
  – Prioritizations of activities is needed

• UNEP’s engagement with the Regional Seas programmes also needs to be strategized (Table 1 of UNEP/WBRS.18/4– current engagement)

More discussion tomorrow during the RSSD (2017-2020) session
SECTION 2: UN CONFERENCE ON SDG 14
SDG 14 conference

• The high-level UN Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14
  – 5-9 June 2017
  – Organised by the Government of Fiji and Sweden, in NY

• Modality resolution adopted at UNGA (A/RES/70/303)
  – Theme: “Our oceans, our future: partnering for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14”
  – 8 plenary meetings and 7 partnership dialogues
  – Special event on World Oceans Day (8 June 2017)
  – Declaration “Call for Action” will be adopted
  – 2-day preparatory meeting in February 2017
SDG 14 Conference

• The Conference will:
  • identify ways and means to support the implementation of SDG 14;
  • build on existing successful partnerships and stimulate innovative and concrete new partnerships to advance the implementation of Goal 14;
  • involve all relevant stakeholders, bringing together governments, the UN system, other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, NGOs, civil society organizations, academic institutions the scientific community, the private sector, philanthropic organizations and other actors to assess challenges and opportunities relating to, as well as actions taken towards, the implementation of Goal 14;
  • share the experiences gained at the national, regional and international levels in the implementation of Goal 14;
  • contribute to the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by providing an input to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) on the implementation of Goal 14
SDG 14 Conference

Partnership Dialogue
• By January 2017 Secretary-General will prepare a background note including a proposal for themes of the partnership dialogues
• SG will prepare concept papers on each of the themes of the partnership dialogues

Side events
• Guideline will be available on the Conference website
Informal Working Group

- Preparatory informal working groups of the Advisory Group
  - UNEP leads
    - Group 1 on 14.1
    - Group 2 on 14.2
    - Group 5 on 14.5
  - UNEP participates as a member in
    - Group 3 on 14.3
    - Group 4 on 14.4, 14.6
    - Group 7 on 14.c
Other Global Process

• UNFCCC COP in November 2016;
• CBD COP 13 in December 2016;
• Second Cycle of the Regular Process (*Session II*)
  • Background document UNEP/WBRS.18/3
• PrepCom 3 of BBNJ
  – Background document UNEP/WBRS.18/6
Thank you!

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