



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**



UNEP (DEPI)/RS.13 /WP.4.RS

Original: ENGLISH

13th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas
Conventions and Action Plans
Busan, Korea, 3 – 5 October 2011

***WORK PROGRAMME FOR IMPLEMENTING
THE GPA FROM 2012-2016***

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PRELIMINARY DRAFT

WORK PROGRAMME FOR IMPLEMENTING THE GPA FROM 2012-2016

Introduction

In the light of the review of progress of GPA Implementation 2007-2011 – Document ...and the Policy Guidance to Implementation of the GPA – Document, this Document sets out a draft work programme for implementing the GPA from 2012-2017.

The proposed programme entails four main elements.

- (i) a set of commitments to be made by governments at the Manila IGR to adopt and implement various policies and measures, along with the mechanisms to implement those policies and measures
- (ii) a set of actions to be agreed by governments and UNEP at the Manila IGR as to how UNEP would support governments in meeting the various commitments referred to at (i) above
- (iii) a process, over a 5 year cycle and thus in between the formal IGR reviews, by which UNEP would maintain the strategic, inter-governmental platform that the GPA offers. This element is set out at Component D of the work programme
- (iv) Resource implications for UNEP

Overall, the work programme would serve to contribute to the achievement of internationally agreed goals and targets as they relate to the sustainable development of coasts, oceans and islands, and their associated watersheds, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration; the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. The activities will also facilitate the integration of the Global Programme of Action into the cooperative frameworks of the 18 regional seas programmes and other regional mechanisms, taking into account the need for regionally differentiated approaches

The programme would also serve as a management tool for the UNEP Global Programme of Action Coordination Office enabling it consolidate its role as a catalyst for change, consistent with the commitments desired by governments and UNEP's objectives, including UNEP's Freshwater, Marine and Ecosystem Branch, of which the Office is an integral part.

WORK PLAN FOR 2012-2016

The following work plan is divided into various component themes, following the proposed approach set out in Document.. Policy Guidance to Implementation of the GPA.... It sets out the component theme, and then proposed commitments by governments, along with the support to be provided by UNEP.

Component theme A

Using the GPA as a policy forum for catalyzing an acceleration of integrated coastal management (ICM) schemes around the world

Government commitments:

Governments would endorse the use of the GPA in this way by committing:-

- *to the development and implementation of integrated coastal management schemes in all significant coastal areas as the effective enabling approach to realizing the full potential and sustainable use of the goods and services provided by coastal ecosystems*
- *to the incorporation byof the higher resource efficiency and lower carbon footprint approaches to water quality set out at Component B below into their integrated coastal management (ICM) schemes*
- *to the incorporation of the approaches at Component B byinto existing GPA national programmes of action (NPAs) where they do not have existing ICM schemes with a view to developing those existing programmes into integrated coastal management schemes, and*
- *the development of ICM Protocols across the regional seas programmes*

UNEP's role:-

- *the development of a package of policy tools clarifying and setting out the higher resource efficiency and lower carbon footprint approaches, in conjunction with the Global Partnerships on Nutrients, Wastewater, and Marine Litter at Component B, for effective and timely incorporation into ICM schemes and NPAs by governments as set out above*

Component Theme B

A Partnership platform for water quality dialogue and management through higher resource efficiency and lower carbon footprints with a focus on nutrients, wastewater, and marine debris.

Overall government commitments on water quality:-

To put in place necessary policies and measures over the next 5 years capable of securing significant improvements in coastal water quality in the regional seas of the world through:-

- *a new focus on higher resource efficiency and lower carbon footprints through the ecosystem based management of wastewater, nutrients and marine litter, including through agreement on targets to limit, treat and recycle discharges of wastewater, nutrients and marine debris*

- *the establishment of global stakeholder partnerships as detailed below on nutrients, marine litter and wastewater, including the use of the partnerships to establish targets and indicators for the reduction of discharges, treatment, and re-cycling*

UNEP's role

To provide support for each Partnership as detailed below.

Overall terms of reference and modalities for the Partnerships

The commitments from governments as to aims, objectives and targets in relation to each of the Partnerships, along with the work to be assigned to UNEP in practice constitute the terms of reference of each Partnership. Additionally, each Partnership would have a steering committee with representatives of governments and other key stakeholders. It would be for each Partnership to establish such a steering committee and agree on particular and day to day modalities and organization. This could be done at the Manila IGR, or subsequently. All partnerships would be subject to the overall working arrangement established at Component D below – servicing the GPA platform.

(a) Global Stakeholder Partnership on Nutrient Management

Government commitments:-

- *to the sustainable use of nutrients – nitrogen and phosphorous – through lower nitrogen and phosphorous inputs to human activities, to be achieved specifically by agreeing targets through the partnership mechanisms on targets to limit, treat and recycle discharges of nutrients*
- *to the development [and adoption] by 2017 of cost effective, environmentally beneficial nutrient reduction strategies*
- *to supporting the development of the multi-stakeholder Global Partnership on Nutrient Management as a mechanism for engagement in international and regional fora on nutrient management issues,*
- *and to instigating and supporting the development of analogous (to the global partnership) of regional [and national] multi-stakeholder nutrient management partnerships*

UNEP's actions and role

- instigating with partners a network of experts, institutions and Governments, as well as private sectors, along with a supportive on-line information management system, in order to facilitate the sharing of lessons learned, good practices and available and acceptable technologies among governments and other stakeholders

- drawing up in conjunction with partners demonstration projects, which pilot test innovative approaches and technologies, embodying the higher resource efficiency and lower carbon footprint approaches
- providing institutional support through UNEP mechanisms and programmes to help mobilize financial resources, notably teaming with governments and other stakeholders to support projects and donor support around implementation of partnership commitments
- the production of a global overview and assessment of nitrogen and phosphorous

(b) Global Partnership on Wastewater

Government commitments:-

- *To use the Partnership to:-*
- *promote and demonstrate pro-poor, environmentally-friendly and resource-recycling approaches to wastewater, while maintaining hygienic and health aspects of wastewater management*
- *collect and disseminate good practices linking wastewater management with climate change mitigation, agricultural production, poverty alleviation and water use efficiency*
- *demonstrate [and adopt] measures enabling at least 80% nutrient removal and 70% nutrient recycling rates*

UNEP's actions and role

- *instigating with partners a network of experts, institutions and Governments, as well as private sectors, along with an on-line information management system, in order to facilitate the sharing lessons learned, good practices and available and acceptable technologies among governments and other stakeholders*
- *drawing up in conjunction with partners, demonstration projects, which pilot test innovative approaches and technologies, embodying the higher resource efficiency and lower carbon footprint*
- *providing institutional support through UNEP mechanisms and programmes to help mobilize financial resources, notably teaming with governments and other stakeholders to support projects and donor support around implementation of partnership commitments*
- *the establishment of a technology matrix for wastewater related technologies, and an agreed guidance document on the re-use of wastewater among concerned UN agencies; and*

(c) Global Partnership on Marine Litter

Government commitments

To use the Partnership to:-

- *establish initiatives that turn marine litter into a resource in an environmentally sustainable manner*
- *develop and adopt global, regional, national and local targets to reduce marine litter*
- *monitor the scale, nature, source and impact of marine debris, and its impact on public health, biodiversity and economic development*
- *collaborate with global, regional and sub-regional organisations, to enhance the effectiveness of multi-lateral initiatives aimed at preventing, reducing and managing marine debris*

UNEP's role

- *instigating with partners a network of experts, institutions and Governments, as well as private sectors, along with an on-line information management system, in order to facilitate the sharing lessons learned, good practices and available and acceptable technologies among governments and other stakeholders*
- *drawing up in conjunction with partners, demonstration projects, which pilot test innovative approaches and technologies, embodying the higher resource efficiency and lower carbon footprint*
- *providing institutional support through UNEP mechanisms and programmes to help mobilize financial resources, notably teaming with governments and other stakeholders to support projects and donor support around implementation of partnership commitments*

Component theme C: a platform for a coherent, shared approach to ecosystem services valuation

Government commitments:-

- *to the adoption of ecosystem management and ecosystem services valuation by agreeing to incorporate the value and benefits of the services provided by key marine and coastal ecosystems into the planning and management of and investment in coastal areas and associated river basins, including the carbon valuation of coastal ecosystems*

UNEP's role

- *develop trade-off analyses among the ecosystem services and user sectors*
- *develop methodologies for carbon accounting and coastal ecosystem valuation;*
- *develop the use of carbon related funding*

Component Theme D: Servicing the GPA platform

Government commitment:-

- *to agree to the establishment of a process as set out below under UNEP's role which would maintain an effective inter-governmental role between formal GPA IGR reviews every 5 years. This would help ensure that the GPA provides an effective platform for agreeing and monitoring the work of the Partnerships set out at Component Theme B, and monitoring progress on the other Component commitments*

UNEP's role

The instigation and secretarial support for

- *Inter-Governmental Review meetings*
- *The establishment of GPA Bureau elected with regional representation at the forthcoming IGR in Manila, which would provide an overall conduit between the partnerships and the inter IGR mechanism(s) set out below*
- *the use of the regional seas programmes and/or UNEP Governing Council as inter GPA IGR mechanisms to ensure all governments can contribute to agreeing and monitoring recommendations, including targets from the Partnerships*