

# Stakeholder Engagement in UNEP

Regional Consultative Meeting for Africa and  
Stakeholders Pre-AMCEN Meeting

13-14 October 2013

Gaborone, Botswana



Presentation by Fatou Ndoye  
Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch  
United Nations Environment Programme

## Content

### Part 1. Current practices in UNEP

- Rule 69
- Stakeholder approach

### Part 2. Review of current practices in multilateral organisations

### Part 3. The Rio+20 Legacy

- Implementation of paragraph 88h
- Expectations from stakeholders
- Principles of engagement
- Levels of engagement

### Part 4. Thematic issues in UNEP

### Part 5. Process and way forward

- Chronological overview
- Questions for discussion



## Part 1

# Current Practices in UNEP



## UNEP's Rule 69

1. **International** non-governmental organizations having an interest in the field of the **environments**, referred to in section IV, paragraph 5, of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), **may** designate representatives to sit as **observers** at **public** meetings of the Governing Council and its subsidiary organs, if any. **The Governing Council shall from time to time adopt and revise when necessary a list of such organizations. Upon the invitation of the President or Chairman, as the case may be, and subject to the approval** of the Governing Council or of the subsidiary organ concerned, **international** non-governmental organizations may make oral statements on matters within the scope of their activities.



## UNEP's Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

- Nine Major Groups *and Stakeholders*
- Accreditation for international Major Groups organizations
- Participation in GC only as observer with opportunity to provide oral statements
- Access to un-edited working documents of the GC and submission of written input
- Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum
- Regional Consultations Meetings
- Major Groups Facilitating Committee



## Part 2 Current Practices in Multilateral Organisations



## Review of multilateral organisations

### Participation in an organized manner through observer status/accreditation

- ✓ UNCCD
- ✓ CSD
- ✓ ECOSOC

### Representative civil society bodies

- ✓ UN-REDD
- ✓ UNDP CSO Advisory Committee

### Participation in governing bodies and their subsidiary organs

- ✓ CFS
- ✓ UN-REDD
- ✓ SAICM/ICCM

### Adoption and implementation of safeguard policies

- ✓ World Bank

### Consultative bodies without decision-making powers

- ✓ UNEP

### Work with Major Groups and Stakeholders through 'organizing partners'

- ✓ UN-DESA/CSD



## Part 3

## The Rio+20 Legacy



## Implementation of Paragraph 88 h

*Decides* that the governing body will ensure the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and will explore new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society in its work and that of its subsidiary bodies, *inter alia* by:

- Developing by 2014 a process for stakeholder accreditation and participation that builds on the existing rules of procedure and takes into account inclusive modalities of the Commission of Sustainable Development and other relevant United Nations bodies;
- Establishing by 2014 mechanisms and rules for stakeholders expert input and advice;
- Enhancing by 2014 working methods and processes for informed discussions and contributions by all relevant stakeholders towards the intergovernmental decision making process;



## Stakeholders Expectations

- New Mechanisms to go beyond current UNEP rules and procedures and practices, no regression
- UNEP to set new standards in the United Nations
- Application of the 11 Principles in the spirit of Principle 10
- Strengthening participation at the regional level
- **Meaningful** participation in Agenda Setting, Decision Making and Implementation
- Use of new communication and information technologies
- Full Transparency



## Part 4

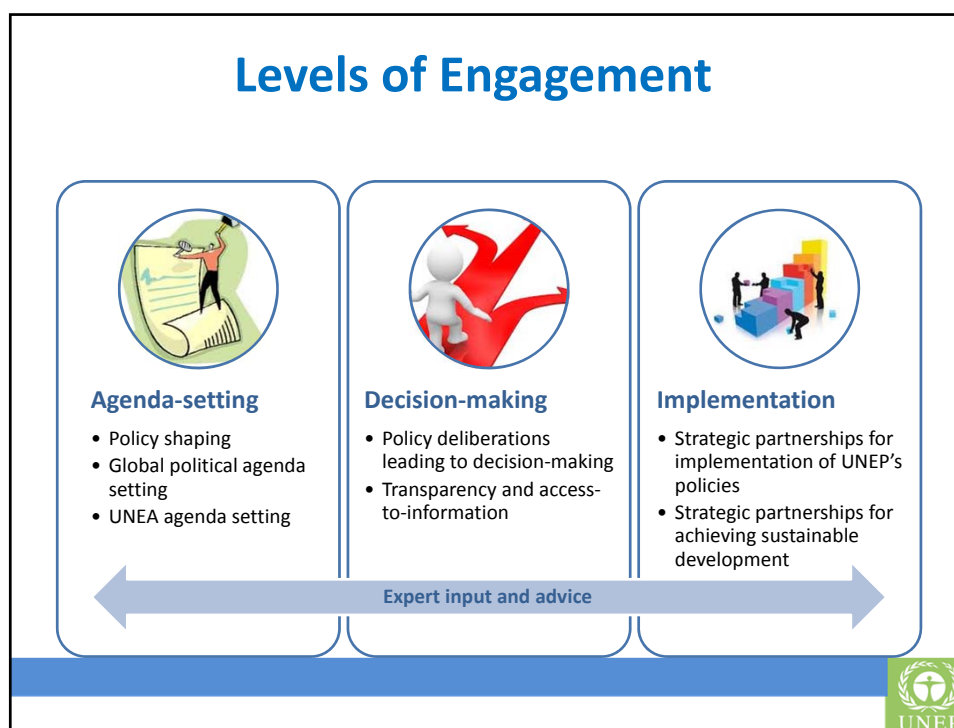
# Emerging Elements of New Mechanisms



## Principles of Engagement

1. Right to full and effective participation in all activities including planning, agenda setting, decision and policy-making, implementation, and evaluation
2. timely and easy access to all information and documents, including negotiating documents and proactively disseminate information
3. Full participation: access to all UNEP meetings, processes and bodies (including through the final stages of decision-making) at all levels; speaking rights in all meetings, as a rule; the right to submit documents
4. Right of self-organization, including selection of their respective representatives





## *Meaningful Participation in the UNEA*

- Participation in Agenda Setting *and* Decision Making
- Access to all meetings of the UNEA and its subsidiary bodies, including the opportunity to intervene and to provide written inputs
- Timely access to draft decisions
- Transparency on how MGS input was addressed in decisions
- Use of all UN languages
- Major Groups and Stakeholder Fora before open ended CPR and UNEA, to allow MGS to coordinate positions and to prepare input



## Engagement with the CPR

1. Access to all meetings of the CPR, including in thematic debates for expert input and advice, informal consultations with the CPR, to achieve MGS engagement in agenda setting *and* decision shaping;
2. Timely access to written documents, including drafts;
3. Opportunity to intervene in debates and negotiations, submit written contributions/comments/recommendations



## Expertise Input and Advice

### Scientific input

- The International Resource Panel
- The Foresight Process
- The GEO process

### Expert input opportunities:

- Environment and Social Safeguards
- Embedding Environmental Sustainability into SDGs/Post-2015





## Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement Approach

- Effective, broad and balanced participation by region and by type of organization, through accreditation
- Expansion of the stakeholders from the nine Major Groups identified in Agenda 21 to other stakeholders, including those who are potentially affected by decisions/policies
- Creation of thematic groupings of relevant Major Groups to provide input



## Enhanced Participation through Use of ICT

- Use of modern information and communication technology to facilitate and broaden participation
  - webcasting of CPR and UNEA meetings
  - virtual participation
  - access to information platforms



## Part 5 Thematic Issues in UNEP



### Sample Issues

- Application of the Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration
- Foresight process
- Green economy
- Sustainable Production and Consumption
- Illegal trade of wildlife, fauna and timber
- E-wastes

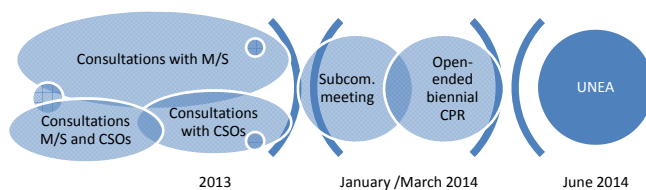


## Part 6 Process and Way Forward



### Chronological Overview

- 12 November 2013: Subcommittee meeting (stakeholder engagement)
- 3 December 2013: Thematic debate on the role of the UNEA in the UN system
- 5 December 2013: Subcommittee meeting on the amendments of the RoP
- 14 January 2014: Subcommittee meeting (RoP and stakeholder engagement)
- 24-28 March 2014: Open-ended biennial CPR
- 23-27 June 2014: UNEA



## Proposed Questions for Discussion

- What do you expect from the UNEA?
- What would be the priority topics you would like to address at the UNEA?
- What are the limitations of UNEP's current system for stakeholder engagement, and what are proposed solutions?
- What form of stakeholder participation in the CPR can be applied?
- In line with "The Future We Want", should the current Nine (9) Major Groups approach applied by UNEP be revisited to include additional stakeholders?
- Shall the new mechanism be designed in line with the standards set by the High Level Political Forum (HLPF)?



Thank you

<http://www.unep.org/civil-society/>

