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**United Nations Environment Assembly of the  
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## **144th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme**

Nairobi, 8 January 2019

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; 2:30 p.m. to 5:00p.m.

Conference Room 1

### **Agenda Item 8: Briefing on South-South cooperation**

#### **Briefing note on South-South and Triangular Cooperation Activities**

##### **A. Introduction**

Over the last few months the South-South Cooperation Unit has focused on: consolidating information on South-South Cooperation in the organization; holding initial consultations towards the development of a new South-South Cooperation Strategy; engaging in the Global South-South Cooperation Expo; and, progressing the work on key Initiatives. The highlights of this work are outlined below.

##### **B. Initial steps towards the development of a new South-South Cooperation Strategy**

A workshop on South-South Cooperation was held on 10th and 11th December 2018. Colleagues from headquarters, regional and sub-regional offices of the UN Environment Programme joined the meeting and shared best practices and challenges related to South-South Cooperation in implementation of the Programme of Work. The discussions held during the workshop set the foundation for the development of a new UN Environment Programme South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy. Key recommendations from the workshop were that:

- Monitoring and Reporting of South-South Cooperation should be strengthened.
- Regional and country offices should be consulted early in the project design process.
- Existing solutions to environmental challenges which could be applied through South-South Cooperation in a cost-efficient manner should be systematically and actively considered.
- Further inclusion of countries of the Global South in international scientific research such as the Global Environmental Outlook should be promoted.
- The New Development Bank (BRICS Development Bank) should be considered as a potential source of funding for South-South Cooperation projects and activities in the future.

The workshop was the first of a series of consultations that the UN Environment Programme intends to hold as it develops its new South-South Cooperation Strategy. Other consultations have

been held with staff at the New York Office and with staff from other UN agencies including the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.

### **C. Global South-South Cooperation Expo**

As it has over the last several years, the UN Environment Programme participated in the Global South-South Cooperation Expo which this year was held in New York from 28- 30 November. The UN Environment Programme hosted a Solution Forum titled “Promoting Sustainable Development through engaging youth and women in South-South Cooperation” during which the important role youth and women can play in promoting sustainable development was discussed from the perspectives of demographic dividend, capacity building, and advocacy.

The UN Environment Programme remains engaged in interagency processes related to the development of a system-wide strategy on South-South Cooperation and the drafting of the outcome document of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA) +40 Conference which will take place in Argentina in March 2019.

### **D. Key Initiatives**

Work on key Initiatives has continued.

#### ***China-Africa Environmental Cooperation Centre***

1. A briefing to Acting Dean of African Diplomatic Corps was held on 16 November 2018.
2. A briefing was held with the African Diplomatic Corps on 7th December

#### ***Greening the Belt and Road Initiative***

Discussions on the terms of reference for the Coalition for a Green Belt and Road are still in progress. Additional Members States and partner organizations have joined the Coalition bringing the number of members to 84 of which are 15 Member States. (*see Annex I*).

*Note:* This information is also available on the UN Environment Programme website.

## **Annex I: List of Member states and International Partners in the Coalition for a Green Belt and Road (as of 21 December 2018)**

### **Countries:**

- Cambodia
- China (Host)
- Ethiopia
- Finland
- Gambia
- Israel
- Italy
- Lao PDR
- Mongolia
- Singapore
- Russian Federation
- Togo
- Maldives
- Guatemala
- Niger

### **International organizations:**

- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (Vienna Austria)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva, Switzerland)
- United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi, Kenya)
- Global Green Growth Institute (Seoul, Korea)
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (Gland, Switzerland)
- China Business Council for Sustainable Development (Beijing, China)
- Energy Foundation (San Francisco, USA)
- Qiaonyu Foundation (Beijing, China)
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development (Geneva, Switzerland)
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund (New York, USA)
- World Wildlife Fund (Gland, Switzerland)
- Bloomberg Philanthropies (New York, USA)
- Conservation International (Washington D.C. USA)
- Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (Beijing, China)
- V4SDG – Visegrád for Sustainability (Visegrád, Hungary)
- Children's Investment Fund Foundation (London, UK)
- Environmental Defense Fund (New York, USA)
- Global Infrastructure Basel (Basel, Switzerland)
- International Network for Bamboo and Rattan, INBAR (Beijing, China)

### **Academic/ Research:**

- Energy Research Institute, NDRC, China (Beijing, China)
- China Academy of Urban Planning and Design, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, China (Beijing, China)
- Transport Planning and Research Institute, Ministry of Transport, China (Beijing, China)
- State Information Center of China (Beijing, China)
- China Association for NGO Cooperation (Beijing, China)
- Beijing Normal University (Beijing, China)
- The Charhar Institute (Beijing, China)
- University of International Business and Economics (Beijing, China)
- Jilin University (Jilin, China)

- Tsinghua University (Beijing, China)
- Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University (Beijing, China)
- Tongji University (Shanghai, China)
- China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (Beijing, China)
- International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg, Canada)
- Association of Ecological Organizations of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan)
- Korea Environment Institute (Seoul, Korea)
- Environmental Law Institute (Washington D.C. USA)
- Lancaster University (Lancaster, UK)
- Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (Shanghai, China)
- Beijing Huanding Environmental Big Data Institute (Beijing, China)
- Stockholm Environment Institute (Stockholm, Sweden)
- World Resources Institute (Washington D.C. USA)
- The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (Urumqi, China)
- Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University (Durham, USA)

#### **Business and Industries:**

- Industrial Bank Co. Ltd. (Fuzhou, China)
- China National Nuclear Corporation (Beijing, China)
- China National Petroleum Corporation (Beijing, China)
- China Railway Construction Corporation (Beijing, China)
- China Everbright International Limited (Hong Kong, China)
- Build Your Dream (Shengzhen, China)
- Shenzhen Energy (Shengzhen, China)
- Yunnan Water Investment Company (Yunan, China)
- IER Environmental Protection and Engineering Technology Company (Shengzhen, China)
- China Three Gorges Corporation (Beijing, China)
- China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group (Beijing, China)
- China Communications Construction (Beijing, China)
- China-ASEAN Demonstration Base for Environmental Technology and Industry Cooperation (Yixing, China)
- Xu Wei New District (Jiangsu, China)
- Urumqi Economic & Technological Development Zone (Toutunhe District, Urumqi China)
- BROAD Group (Changsha, China)
- Elion Group (Beijing, China)
- Feili Group (Jiangsu, China)
- Shenlian Environmental Protection Group (Zhejiang, China)
- Bossco (Nanning, China)
- Delta Aluminum (Zaoqing, China)
- iSoftStone (Beijing, China)
- SunEee (Nanning, China)
- Esquel Group of Companies (Hong Kong, China)
- System Applications and Products (Walldorf, Germany)
- Jiangsu Transportation Research Institute Co. Ltd (Jiangsu, China)