

QUESTIONNAIRE

Based upon the input received, the following guiding questions are set out below

I. Guiding questions concerning the preparatory process

1. The outcome reads: "Forward these recommendations to the UNEA for its consideration".

- a. under which agenda item should UNEA 5 consider these recommendations?
- b. One option being under the inclusion in the already established item 5 of the provisional agenda entitled "International environmental policy and governance issues" or by recommending the establishment of a new item?

Response: UNEP should try to minimize and prioritize agenda items, which means, focus on those programmes or activities which is highly relevant to UNEP mandates. Over the past four UNEA, decisions and resolutions have been increasing, some of which seems to be not environment related areas.

The resources which are being mobilized are scarce and with so many programmes and activities, it does not have much impacts.

There the above agenda should be kept under item 5. Creating additional agenda item creates additional burden and task to all.

2. The outcome mandates: "to prepare, at its fifth session (...) a political declaration (...):

- a. What level of detail should a text have in order to be considered by UNEA 5?

Response: UNEA is the highest decision making body of UNEP. The political declaration should be of high level policy matters. It should not be too complex and the content must reflect only those agreed priority areas. As such, country can translate for implementation based on funding support.

- b. When should the "preparation of a political declaration" begin and what should be recommended format, leadership and timeline of the preparatory process before UNEA 5?

Response: We feel this preparation must be transparent and involve all the members countries including private and NGOs for at least one year before UNEA. Initially, UNEP may organize one or two focal point consultations meetings to start the process and agree on some standard format and time for all the agenda.

Once the regional consultations have been concluded, UNEP should organize meeting of the all member countries at least one year before UNEA to have all the required inputs agreed. Then it will allow UNEP to have one year to prepare and have all the documents ready.

Most of the preparation and document distributed when it is near UNEA, which makes it difficult for member countries, especially small country like Bhutan, who do have limited manpower to coordinate and work with UNEP matters.

- c. How can accredited stakeholders be involved, and member States without representation in Nairobi participate, in the process?

Reasons: The involvement of all the member states and other stakeholders are very important. Funding support to LDC must be enhanced. All the developing countries are not same. The most vulnerable countries, such as LDCs and SIDs participation is very important and should be engaged in all the processes and consultation by giving additional funding support to attend all the important event, especially UNEA.

II. Guiding questions related to the a "United Nations high-level meeting [...] in the context of the context of the commemoration of the creation of UNEP

3. The outcome speaks about "a United Nations high-level meeting, subject to voluntary funding, in the context of the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations environment Programme by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (..)".

- a. What is meant by "a United Nations high-level meeting, subject to voluntary funding in the context of the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment "?

Response: All UN should have standard procedures with regard to high level meeting. We must have clear definitions of high level. It must be agreed at UNEA and guide UNEP to process accordingly. Any person nominated by the country for such high level should be treated equal to other representatives.

- b. Who is expected to convene the UN high-level meeting? What should its format be?

III. Guiding questions regarding the content of the political declaration and the support by the UNEP Secretariat

4. The outcome also signals that the objectives of the political declaration is "with a view to strengthening the implementation of international environmental law and international environmental governance, in line with paragraph 88 of the outcome

document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled 'The future we want'".

Reasons: As stated above, Political Declaration must be developed with full consultation of all the member countries and Bhutan recommends to reflect only those areas of high concerns of environment or emerging environmental concerns in the declaration. Once the UNEA is concluded it is very important to convene workshops to disseminate the outcome of UNEA and draft a way forward on the implementation of the resolution.

- a. *what 'elements' or 'building blocks' in the objectives guiding the recommendations and in the substantive recommendations contained in the Annex to Resolution 73/333 could be identified for inclusion in the political declaration to achieve the overall objective of "strengthening the implementation of international environmental law and international environmental governance, in line with paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development"?*
- b. *How should the political declaration relate to the five objectives guiding the recommendations and to the thirteen substantive recommendations of the ad-hoc open-ended working group established pursuant to UN General Assembly resolution 72/277 and endorsed in UN General Assembly resolution 73/333?*

RESPONSE: *We must try to limit creation of ad-hoc open-ended working groups as the member of the working group are selected from few countries. As far as possible, all the recommendations should be discussed with all the member countries through meetings and workshops. Based on the outcome of the workshops and meetings, it should be included in the resolutions.*

- c. *Should there be a substantive connection between the political declaration and the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment?*
- d. *How should the political declaration be in line with paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development?*

RESPONSE: *We must value the importance of UNCSD and all the Political Declaration must be inline with UNCSD, especially environment related SDGs.*

- e. *What kind of inputs should the Secretariat prepare in order to best assist member States in the preparation of the political declaration?*

RESPONSE: *Some already stated above. Few more:*

1. *Technical National Focal Point and High level Focal Point consultation meetings and workshops on quarterly basis*

2. *Engagement and involvement of members countries in committees and bodies based on regional balance*