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**United Nations Environment
Assembly of the United Nations
Environment Programme**

**156th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations Environment Programme**

Nairobi, 30 November 2021

Hybrid meeting

10:00 – 13:00, 15:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)

Agenda item 6: Preparations for the resumed session of UNEA-5, including stock-taking on the consultations of draft resolutions for the resumed session of UNEA-5.

The attached document prepared by the secretariat provides a proposed way forward on the action plan for the implementation of paragraph 88 of “The future we want” outcome document, whereby secretariat recommends that Member States continue to consider the action plan in the context of the draft decision on “The provisional agenda, date and venue of the sixth session of UNEA”.

The attached document was considered by the [CPR Bureau at its meeting on 24 November 2021](#), following a discussion at the [subcommittee meeting of the CPR held on 9 November](#).

Member States are invited to consider the proposed way forward as outlined in the attached document.

Proposed way forward on the action plan for the implementation of paragraph 88 of “The future we want” outcome document

In accordance with UNEA decision 4/2, the Executive Director submitted the action plan to the fifth session of UNEA in the form of the report of the Executive Director entitled “Action plan for the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development” (UNEP/EA.5/23). The action plan built on two substantive reports considered by the CPR in January and July 2020, respectively: the first one on the progress of implementation of paragraph 88 since its adoption in 2012, and the second one identifying areas that require further efforts to fully deliver on each of the subparagraphs (a)-(h) of paragraph 88. Specifically, the action plan reflects the guidance – both oral and written – provided by Member States in six meetings of the CPR held from October 2019 to October 2020.

At the subcommittee meeting of the CPR held on 9 November 2021, Member States expressed divergent views on whether or not to update the action plan. In this context, the secretariat would like to highlight the following considerations:

- While some Member States called for revision of the action plan at the subcommittee on 11 November, others expressed a strong preference for not changing the document, and instead seeking agreement on Member State-led action in the context of a UNEA decision.
- The action plan has been finalized after an extensive year-long consultation process with the Member States and has already been formally submitted to UNEA. No other official documents for UNEA-5 are being revised or updated.
- Many of the concrete changes proposed by Member States to revise the action plan at the subcommittee meeting on 11 November were political in nature and would upset the current balance of the plan.
- The implementation of the action plan is expected to be a continuous process, with commitment by Member States to supporting and guiding the UNEP secretariat remaining an essential ingredient. Key elements of the plan will be mainstreamed into future UNEP medium-term strategies and programmes of work and closely monitored for impact.
- With regard to the need to factually update the action plan to reflect new developments (such as the thematic funds, UNEP’s role in promoting the science policy interface, the creation of a digital hub, and the possible upgrading and refurbishment of the UN complex in Gigiri), neither of these developments are yet mature to be included in the plan, as they are foreseen to be a result of the consultations in the run-up to UNEP@50.
- Given the broad scope of the action plan, any further substantive revision of the action plan would require at least 3-4 weeks of work within the secretariat, which does not allow for making the document available in time for UNEA-5.2. UNON has established a deadline of 22 November for any document to be translated in time for UNEA-5.2.

The secretariat therefore recommends that Member States continue to consider the action plan in the context of the draft decision on “The provisional agenda, date and venue of the sixth session of UNEA”.

The text in paragraph 9 in the draft decision reads as follows: *“9. Welcomes the action plan for the implementation of sub-paragraphs (a)-(h) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and notes that the Executive Director will mainstream elements of the plan into future UNEP medium-term strategies and programmes of work which shall be closely monitored for impact.”*

Subject to further consultations among Member States, that text may be expanded to include other elements, including possible political messages and priorities, elements related to the implementation and monitoring of the plan, and possible reflection of relevant new developments in areas such as the UN system reform and science policy interface.

Alternatively, Member States may wish to table a separate decision/resolution specifically addressing the action plan encompassing Member States’ key messages relating to the action plan for consideration and possible adoption at UNEA 5.2.