EU and its Member States' comments on the Programme Performance Review, CPR Subcommittee meeting of 14 July

- The EU+MS thank the Secretariat for the 2020- 2021 Programme Performance Report summarizing the UNEP achievements during the two years of the Programme of Work (PoW) under the seven sub-programmes and second half of UNEP's 2018-2021 Medium-Term Strategy (MTS).
- The EU+MS note with satisfaction the UNEP PPR 2020-2021 and appreciate the interesting read that summarizes the indicators and results of UNEP's work while providing concrete examples.
- The EU+MS note with satisfaction that for 2020-2021, out of a total of 50 sub-programme indicators, 44 were fully achieved while six were partially achieved. Ten indicators reflected an overachievement of more than 200%. Given the underachievement on some targets and the extreme overachievement of some, and the likely further impact of COVID-19 in 2022, the EU+MS recommend to consider adapting the POW and results framework of the current POW.
- The report does also outline some of the lessons learned from the work of UNEP. We would recommend the lessons learned to be better analysed, and we would welcome information on how lessons learned from implementation of the previous PoW will be adapted in the current one.
- The EU+MS also welcome UNEP's active involvement in the COVID-19 response.
- Despite presenting quite extensively the indicators and the results of work, the wider impact of UNEP's work is not analysed with respect to the SDGs or impacts on the state of environment.
- The EU+MS therefore suggest to consider more systematically the impact and efforts of UNEP to enhance the achievement of the SDGs in future reports. This would have provided a more in-depth analysis of the impact of UNEP's good results presented by the indicators. Limited analysis of the cross-sectoral impacts was offered with respect to some SDGs (e.g. gender equality) but the social and economic impacts of UNEP's work could have been analysed more.
- The EU+MS seek more detailed evaluation of the administrative support that UNEP is authorized to provide to MEAs according to the individual MoU and management of special funds. This information should be provided now or at ASCM in October.
- Regarding the sub-programme of climate change, the EU+MS appreciate the UNEP Emissions Gap Report and Adaptation Gap report that provide important inputs for the negotiations under the UNFCCC.
- The EU+MS are aware of valuable assistance that UNEP provides to developing countries for the implementation of the Paris Agreement in line with their respective priorities and needs. The focus is mostly on developing climate finance readiness and capacity-building, including the support in adaptation and low-emission development plans, strategies and policies.
- The EU+MS welcome the fact, that most of the UNEP goals in the area of climate change were attained.
- The EU+MS welcome UNEP activities in the area of reducing methane emission, where UNEP has together with other partners launched the International Methane Emissions Observatory, as well as the UNEP-Climate and Clean Air Coalition

- (CCAC) Global Methane Assessment. We do appreciate the good progress towards the implementation of REDD+ with significant contribution from UNEP.
- Regarding the sub-programme of chemicals, waste and air quality, the EU+MS note with appreciation the success story with regards to the end of use of leaded petrol. This is a clear example of "healthy planet, healthy people", and illustrates that sustained efforts and long-term strategies are needed to achieve meaningful impact. The EU+MS welcome the activities in the field of waste, aimed at waste prevention and reduction of waste, especially plastic waste, as well as limiting use of single-use plastic products. We also appreciate UNEP work on waste prevention measures in COVID-19 response of the UN system and of MS.
- The EU+MS also appreciate the strategic review on UNEP Poverty-related Results and fully support the recommendations. Following the longstanding work of UNEP on poverty-environment action, jointly with UNEP, we recognise that UNEP has the in-house capacity to further expand this important line of work.
- We note with appreciation progress on gender mainstreaming.
- The EU+MS recommend putting the link to the UNEA Monitoring and Reporting Portal more prominently on the UNEP website, so that it is easier to find for MS.