

# Agenda Item 3: Update on the implementation of UNEA resolution 5/11

*“Enhancing Circular Economy as a contribution to achieving  
sustainable consumption and production”*

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Committee of Permanent Representatives  
Subcommittee Meeting  
Thursday, 22 September 2022

## UNEP/EA.5/Res.11 operational paragraph 9

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*"Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in consultation with Member States, members of specialized agencies and relevant stakeholders, to continue to collect information and conduct further analysis on used vehicles and clean fuels, with a view to reducing the negative environmental and health-related impact of used vehicles, including end-of-life disposal, and promoting clean fuels, and to support Member States upon request;"*

# Fuels and Vehicles

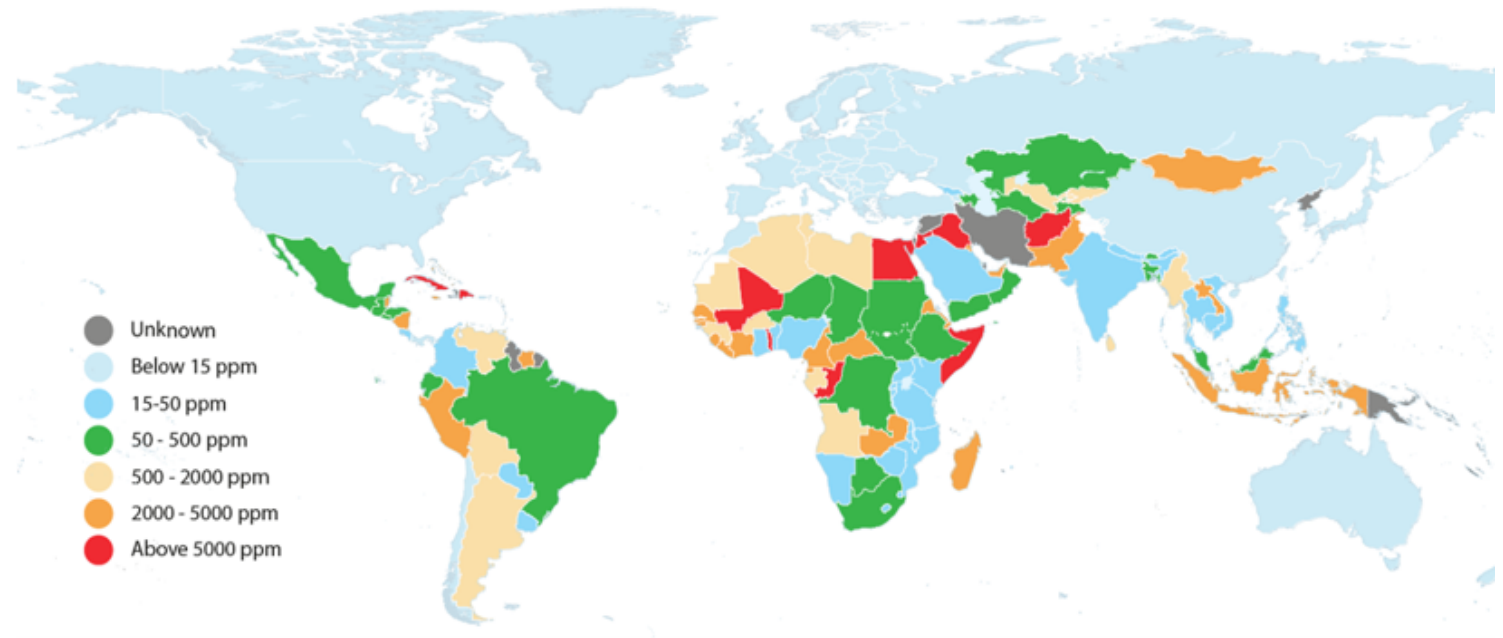
## Cleaner Fuels

UNEP is supporting harmonized cleaner fuels standards (low sulphur)

### *progress*

- Countries and (sub)regions adopted cleaner fuels standards (incl ECOWAS - 15 countries)
- Netherlands introduced fuel quality export standards (others considering)

## *Global Status of Diesel Sulphur Fuels: 2022*



## Cleaner Vehicles

- UNEP is supporting **vehicle standards** (Euro 4+)
- And minimum quality standards for **used vehicles** export & import

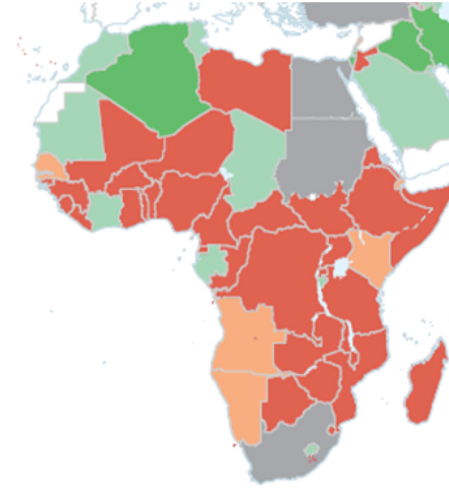
### *progress*

- Countries and subregions **adopted vehicles standards** (incl West and East Africa – 22 countries)
- **EC** is developing **new used vehicles export standards** (End of the Life Vehicles Directive), following up with other importers and exporters
- New **trade in used heavy duty vehicles** report almost ready

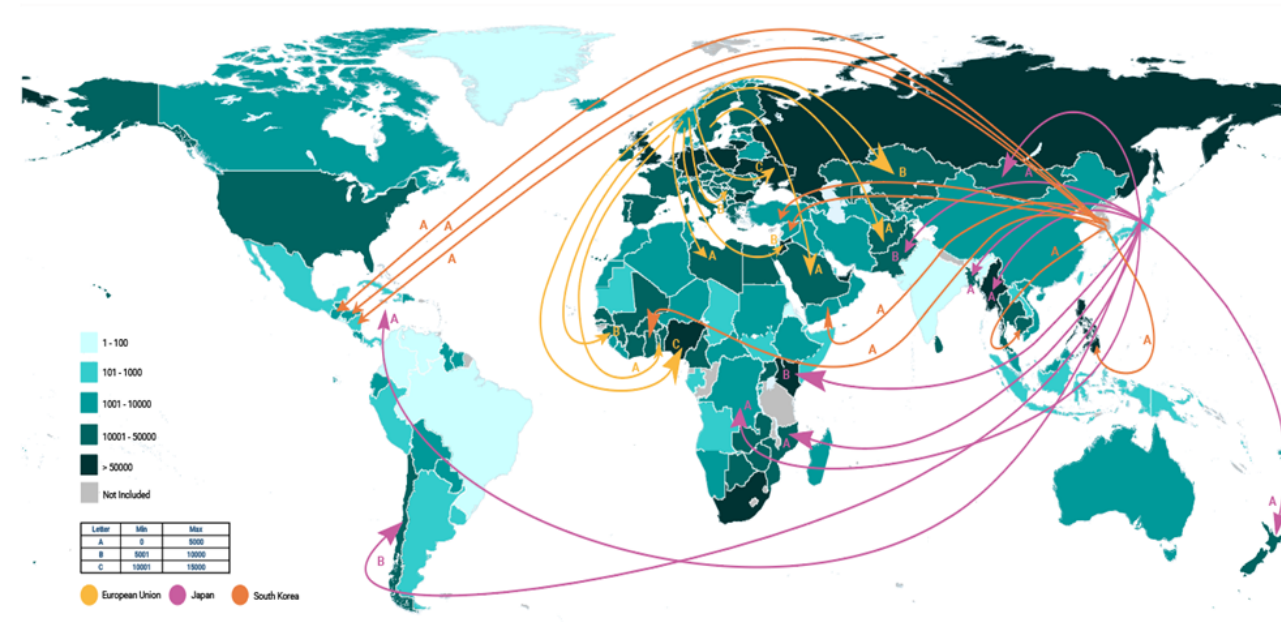
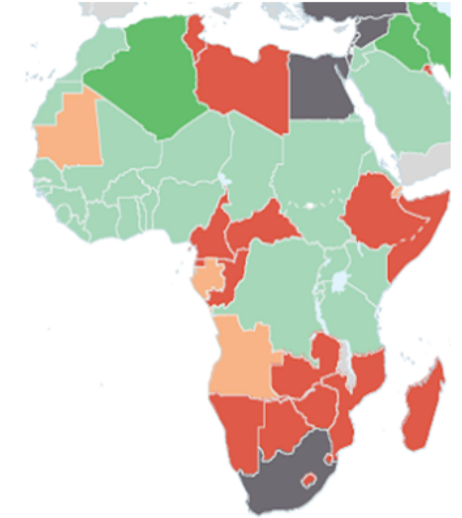
## Impacts

- Cleaner fuels and vehicles standards will **reduce vehicles emissions by 40-90% +** have major climate benefits

Jan 2021



Sept 2022



## UNEP/EA.5/Res.11 - Operational paragraph 10

*"Requests the Executive Director, in collaboration with other United Nations entities, including the International Resource Panel, development partners and relevant international multi-stakeholder networks, including the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, to facilitate collaboration among Member States and members of specialized agencies in research, capacity-building, knowledge management and the sharing of best practices for the promotion of innovative pathways for sustainable consumption and production, including the circular economy, and to facilitate a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of the circular economy;"*

# Facilitating collaboration among Member States and other stakeholders for the promotion of innovative pathways for sustainable consumption and production, including the circular economy

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## The Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (**GACERE**)

- GACERE is an alliance of governments willing to work together on and advocate for a global just circular economy transition and more sustainable management of natural resources at the political level and in multilateral fora. Details on membership, objectives and knowledge products are available at [www.unep.org/gacere](http://www.unep.org/gacere)

## African Circular Economy Alliance (ACEA)

- Launched at 2017 UNFCCC COP23 by South Africa, Nigeria, and Rwanda as a government led coalition.
- The mission is to spur Africa's transformation to a circular economy at the national, regional, and continental levels through policy, advocacy and scaling up circularity in enterprise.
- Members: South Africa, Nigeria, Rwanda, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Burkina Faso, Sudan, Senegal and Morocco.

## Latin America & the Caribbean Circular Economy Coalition (LAC CEC)

- The Coalition was established in 2021 at the LAC Regional Forum of Ministers of Environment.
- 9 strategic partners: UNEP, UNIDO, CTCN, IDB, EMF, KAS, WEF, PACE and recently ECLAC. Members: 16 countries and 20 NGOs, including private sector organizations.
- Platform of knowledge, cooperation and capacity development for the LAC region

## CIRCULAR STEP

- UNECE CIRCULAR STEP (Stakeholder Engagement Platform), promotes the exchange of experience, sharing of best practices and stakeholder engagement in the circular economy transition in the Pan-European region, with a focus on countries with economies in transition (UNECE's 17 programme countries in Central Asia, Southern Caucasus, Western Balkan and Eastern Europe).

# Facilitating a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of the circular economy

*Providing background knowledge and evidence-based recommendations*

## IRP reports

The IRP is working on three relevant scientific assessments *expected to be ready for release in 2024*. Additional research is under consideration as part of the IRP 2022 – 2025 Programme of Work.

- **Global Resources Outlook 2024:** To be launched at UNEA-6. The report presents the status, trends, impacts and outlook of resource use. It investigates how RE, SCP and CE approaches can reduce environmental impacts of resource intensive systems while delivering nutrition, shelter, mobility and other essential needs.
- **Socioeconomic Implications of Enhancing Resource Efficiency and Promoting the Circular Economy:** The study explores the impacts of circular economy and resource efficiency approaches and the factors contributing to equitable socioeconomic outcomes from their implementation across contexts.
- **Advancing the Circular Economy on Consumer Electronic Markets:** The study assesses environmental and socio-economic implications of, and barriers to, the upscaling of recycling and value retention processes - namely remanufacturing, refurbishment, repair, and reuse - including through case studies in Ghana and the USA.



# Facilitating a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of the circular economy

## GACERE

- GACERE aims to facilitate **global conversations on the governance of natural resources** and options to improve the current situation. In 2022-2023, the objective is to consolidate existing findings concerning **the current governance mechanisms that address the unsustainable and linear use of natural resources at global level**, and the strong link between resource management, environmental impacts, and the circular economy. This will eventually allow a discussion with GACERE members to initiate a global conversation on the governance of natural resources and agree appropriate follow-up actions.

## 10YFP

- In line with the **Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production**, the 10YFP will develop a report on **'Rethinking Consumption for an Inclusive Circular Economy'** to better understand consumption considerations and ensure that the shift to circularity is supported by demand.
- A series of **Global Dialogues with Members States on natural resources and materials in the context of circular economy** to be held in the second semester of 2023 and in the lead up to UNEA-6.

## Regional conversations

- **West Asia** – study on "**Trends and Outlook of Natural Resource Use - The case in West Asia**" supported by GO4SDGs and IRP.
- **SWITCH Africa Green programme** are working to **develop regional circular economy guidelines for accelerating the transition to a circular economy**; and a **regional green financing assessment report**. These documents will inform the AU Action plan on circular economy. Partners: UNEP, AfDB and ACEA. **National stakeholder consultations were carried out in 10 African countries** (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, and Uganda) and regional validation meeting was held in Accra, Ghana with 70 different stakeholders.
- **Circular Economy Coalition Latin America and the Caribbean** is organizing the "3rd Festival de Economía Circular 27-19 Sept. Facilitating **2 working groups on circularity in plastics and electronics**. A **task force on finance metrics and taxonomy for circularity** is under development with the Coalition, UNEP-FI and GO4SDGs.
- **Asia Pacific**: Seminar on "**Sustainable Infrastructure for Circular Cities**" with UNEP, GO4SDGs and AIT.



# Recommendations

*It is recommended that Member States, including through the CPR, continue to be informed on the progress achieved and on relevant recommendations leading towards UNEA-6 emerging from the following workstreams:*

- The recommendations from UNEP's reports on Used Vehicles and the Environment (to be launched in 2023);*
- The International Resource Panel (IRP) second flagship report – the Global Resources Outlook (to be launched at UNEA-6);*
- The development of a UNEP report on 'Rethinking Consumption for an Inclusive Circular Economy' (to be launched in 2023) ;*
- Engagement in the Global Dialogues on natural resources and materials in the context of circular economy (to be held in the second semester of 2023, and in the lead up to UNEA-6).*

# Thank you



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