

# Implementation of UNEA 5/12 Resolution on Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management

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CPR Subcommittee Meeting 13 October

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# Context

Follow-up to UNEA-4 resolution 19 “Mineral Resource Governance”

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The United Nations Environment Assembly at its 4<sup>th</sup> session adopted a resolution entitled “Mineral Resource Governance” (UNEP/EA.4/Res.19) which represented an unprecedented commitment by Member States on the need for broad, globally coordinated efforts to how mining is undertaken, and under which conditions; and requested UNEP to:

“...collect information on sustainable practices, identify knowledge gaps and options for implementation strategies, and undertake an overview of existing assessments of different governance initiatives and approaches relating to sustainable management of metal and mineral resources, and report thereon to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session”.

# UNEA-5 resolution 12

“Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management”

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The United Nations Environment Assembly at its 5<sup>th</sup> session adopted a resolution entitled “Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management” (UNEP/EA.5/Res.12) focusses on improving the environmental aspects of mining along their full life cycle and requests UNEP, subject to available resources, to:

“...**convene transparent and inclusive intergovernmental regional consultations**, including with relevant international organizations, with regional and multilateral environmental agreements, and with relevant stakeholders acting as observers, to feed into a global intergovernmental meeting, with the aim of developing non-prescriptive proposals to enhance the environmental sustainability of minerals and metals along their full life cycle, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

# UNEA-5 resolution 12

“Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management”

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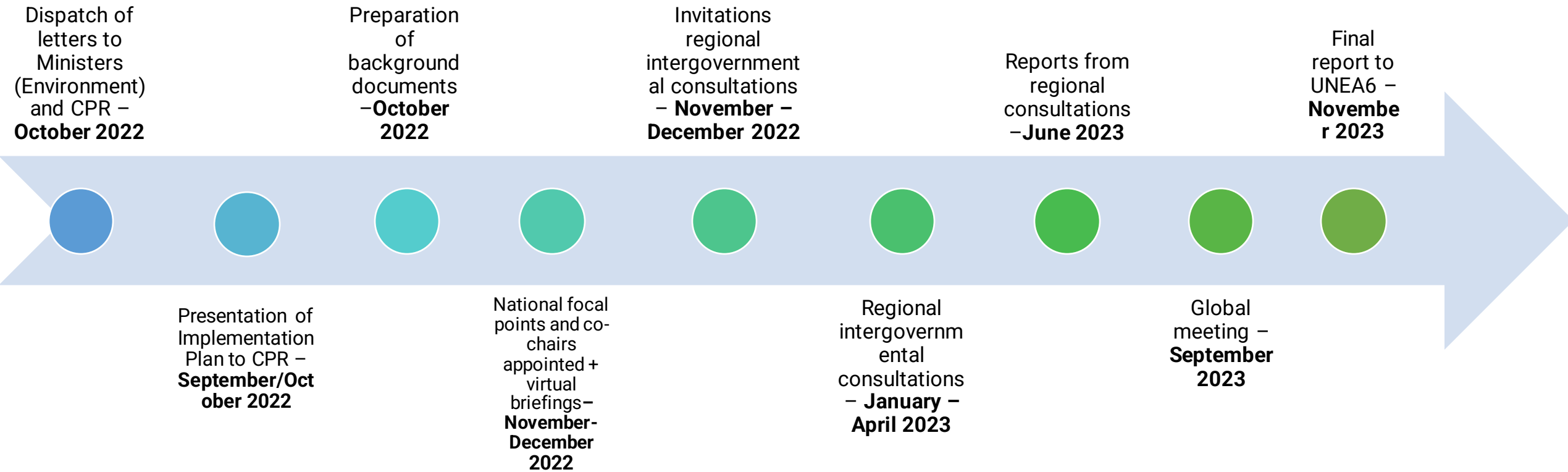
- Requests the Executive Director, through the Global Resource Information Database (GRID-Geneva), to **strengthen scientific, technical and policy knowledge with regard to sand**, and to support global policies and action regarding the environmentally sound extraction and use thereof;
- Also requests the Executive Director, subject to the availability of resources, with the engagement of the secretariats of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, organizations and stakeholders, as appropriate, and bearing in mind the launch of the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management, to **compile a report on knowledge gaps in relation to the environmental aspects of tailings management**;

# Proposed plans for the implementation of the resolution

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- Formal briefing session to CPR on implementation plan for UNEA resolution 5/12 organized by the Secretariat
- Possible informal virtual consultations organized by Member States
- Briefing sessions to regional groups organized by the Secretariat
- Webinars and events to engage Member States and other stakeholders, including industry, finance sectors and civil society organized by the Secretariat
- Regional and global intergovernmental meetings organized by the Secretariat

# Timeline for the implementation of resolution 5/12



# Logistical and Funding Update

## Expressions of interest

- **National focal points:** will collaborate with and guide UNEP in the implementation of resolution 5/12; should preferably be senior government representatives with expertise in the environmental aspects of minerals and metals management.
- **Co-chairs** approach adopted to facilitate leadership and consensus-building on the topic: any MS can submit expression of interest, can be based in capital or Nairobi, one from developed and one from developing country
- MS invited to express interest to **host regional consultation**

Deadline– **31 October 2022**

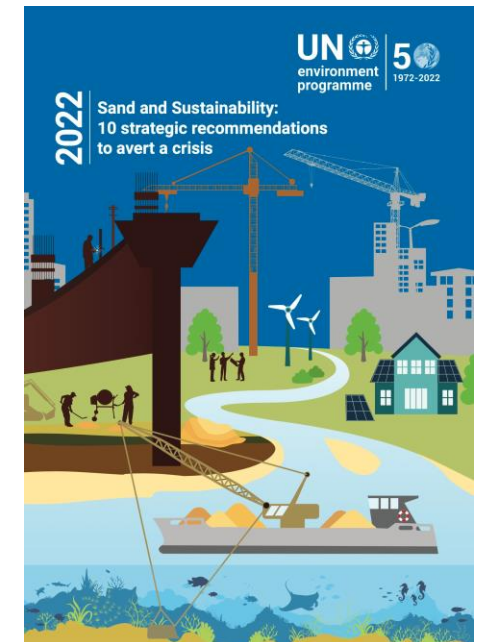
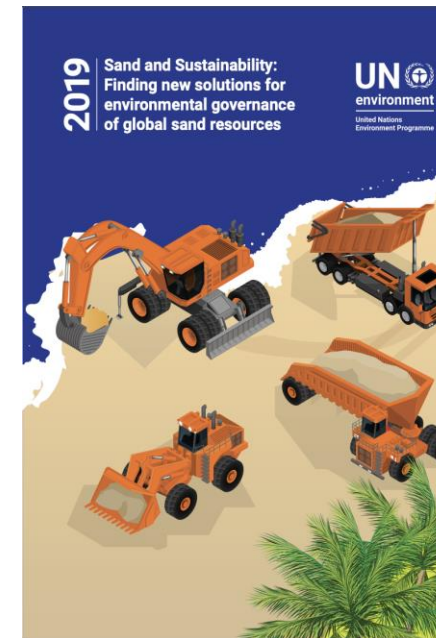
## • Availability of resources

- Funding gap of US\$ 359,755 or **36.5% of total costs**
- Cost-saving options include convening back-to-back with global meeting
- MS invited to pledge funds to support convening of regional consultations

# Sand and Sustainability

The Global Sand Observatory is a new UNEP/GRID-Geneva initiative aimed at developing knowledge and providing decision making support on the sustainability issue of sand extraction and use

- Support countries for policy and regulatory coherence for sand extraction
- Contribution to knowledge base on sand extraction through data collection and publications
- Identifying and dissemination of best practices, standards and best solutions
- Awareness raising through webinars, media articles, events





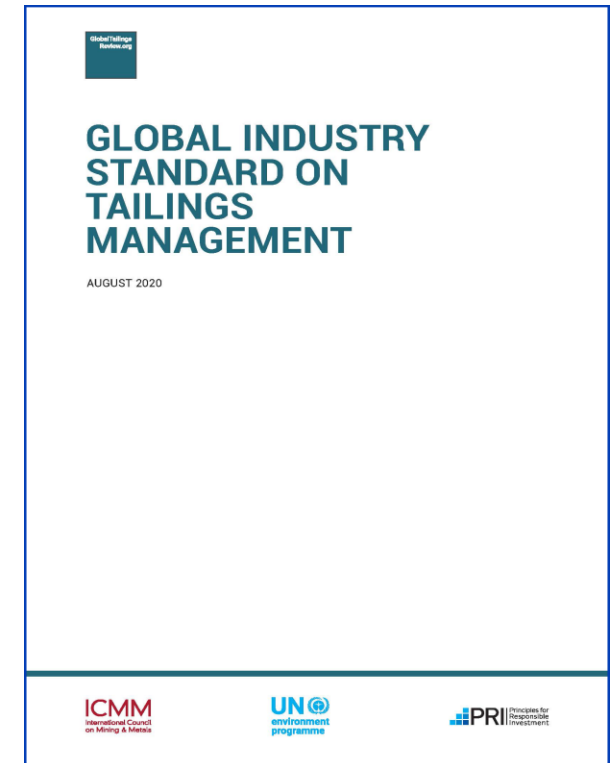
# Tailings Management

## Background

- Launch of the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management, co-convened by UNEP, International Council on Mining and Metals and Principles for Responsible Investment in August 2020
- UNEA-5 resolution welcomes launch of Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management
- New multi-stakeholder institute to oversee implementation of Standard
- Development of a compendium by Global Tailings Review on the safe management of tailings facilities

## Resolution

- Identify knowledge gaps in relation to the environmental aspect of tailings management
- Research on circularity/re-use of mine waste
- Raise awareness on environmental aspects of mine tailings



# Resources

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UNEA resolution 5/12 on environmental aspects of minerals and metals management:

<https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/39927/ENVIRONMENTAL%20ASPECTS%20OF%20MINERAL%20AND%20METALS%20MANAGEMENT.%20English.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

UNEP report Sand and Sustainability: 10 Strategic Recommendations to Avert a Crisis:

<https://www.unep.org/resources/report/sand-and-sustainability-10-strategic-recommendations-avert-crisis>

UNEP's work on extractives: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/extractives>

Executive summary "Mineral resource governance and the Global Goals: an agenda for international collaboration":

<https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/research/mineral-resource-governance-and-global-goals-agenda-international-collaboration>

Compendium of papers prepared for the Global Tailings Review: <https://globaltailingsreview.org/compendium/>

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# Thank you



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