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

**Annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations Environment Programme**

Tenth meeting

Nairobi, 20 – 24 November 2023

10:00 – 13:00 and 15:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)

Conference Room 2

Hybrid meeting

Agenda item 4 (a): Secretariat presentations of advance versions of mandated reports to UNEA-6

This note presents a compilation of recommendations, suggested actions and way forward as outlined in the English unedited version of the mandated progress reports of the Executive Director on the implementation of United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions.

Recommendations, suggested actions and way forward as outlined in the progress reports of the Executive Director on the implementation of UNEA resolutions

Mandated reports as requested in UNEA resolutions	Recommendations/suggested actions and way forward
<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 4/3 on Sustainable Mobility (UNEP/EA.6/3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result of high urbanization and motorization rates in LMICs, sustainable mobility will continue to play a critical role in ensuring that these countries achieve the desired economic growth while minimizing the negative impacts including of air pollution and climate. A multipronged approach that includes low carbon public transportation, safe and adequate infrastructure for active mobility, and zero emissions vehicles are key to shifting to more sustainable mobility. • Due to high growth rates in vehicle fleets and energy use in the transport sector, and a lack of requisite standards in LMICs, governments particularly in Global South are encouraged to develop and implement sustainable mobility policies and regulations. • UNEP will continue to promote a global shift to electric mobility, while focusing on issues of used electric vehicles, battery end-of-life, circularity, links to renewable energy, opportunities for local manufacturing, electrifying public transportation and job creation that are a priority in the Global South. • A global transition to cleaner fuels and vehicle standards is recommended. UNEP will continue to support LMICs to transition to low Sulphur fuels and stricter vehicle regulations for both new and used vehicles. • Member states are urged to prioritize active mobility as part of the solution to shifting to low carbon urban mobility. UNEP will continue to promote national and city level policies and programs for increased investments for active mobility. • UNEP will continue to carry out training and capacity building for LMICs on policies and innovative technologies to sustainable mobility. • Communication and awareness raising through knowledge sharing platforms, sharing of best practices, technical reports, toolkit, and websites will continue to be prioritized to support North – South and South-South cooperation.

- Multiple partners are engaged in UNEP's sustainable mobility actions including regional and international partners, civil society organizations, member states, local governments, the private sector, and academia. UNEP will continue to engage with all these partners.

Suggested Actions

Member states are urged to:

- Join international efforts to switch to low carbon mobility to help them meet the Paris Climate Agreement, improve urban air quality and support sustainable development goals.
- Shift to cleaner fuels and vehicles standards to minimize harmful emissions.
- Set targets to zero emissions mobility and develop roadmaps to phase out fossil fuels vehicles.
- Support the global shift to electric mobility, while ensuring that Global South is not left behind by including issues of used electric vehicles, battery end-of-life and circularity.
- Encourage investments in and regulation of public transport to be safe, licensed and efficient. Considering that a commuter bus carries between 40-80 passengers, such investments can translate to a considerable reduction in the burden of private vehicle traffic, reduction of CO2 emissions and significantly enhance road safety for walkers and bikers.
- Adopt integrated urban low carbon mobility pathways that prioritize active mobility; and
- Make available financial and technical resources to fulfil the ambitious mandate of UNEP's sustainable mobility programme.

<p>Progress in the implementation of resolutions 4/14 and 5/2 on Sustainable Nitrogen Management (UNEP/EA.6/4)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Environment Assembly may wish to take note of and welcome the completion of the work of the UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen and the technical and policy recommendations options to accelerate actions to significantly reduce nitrogen waste globally by 2030 and beyond through the improvement of sustainable nitrogen management, as set out in the reports of the Working Group providing a summary of its work. • The Environment Assembly may wish to decide on the future direction of its work on sustainable nutrient management benefiting from the UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen and consider a greater focus on phosphorus, in particular. Further consideration could be given to establishing a subsidiary process under the auspices of the Environment Assembly. • The Environment Assembly may wish to invite Member States and relevant stakeholders who have not yet done so to join the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management. • The Environment Assembly may wish to invite Governments, the private sector, foundations, and other organizations to support the work of the United Nations Environment Programme on nutrients through voluntary financial contributions.
<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/1 on Animal Welfare-Environment and Sustainable Development Nexus (UNEP/EA.6/5)</p>	<p>Member States may wish to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take note of the report, supporting the implementation of the Environment Assembly resolution 5.2/1 and its recommended scope, process, timelines and budget required to implement the resolution. • Invite Governments, the private sector, foundations, and other organizations to support the implementation of the recommendation in the report through voluntary financial contributions.
<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/7 on Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste (UNEP/EA.6/6)</p>	<p>In relation to ICCM5 and the Global Framework for Chemicals, the Environment Assembly may wish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To welcome the outcomes of ICCM5 and encourage all Member States and relevant stakeholders to support the implementation of the new Global Framework for Chemicals – <i>For a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste</i>, including with

sufficient staff and resources for the secretariat and to take note of the invitation by ICCM5 to relevant IOMC organizations to update the existing costs of inaction report.

- To review the terms of reference of the UNEP Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention, and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management at its next session, taking into consideration the need for the implementation of the Global Framework for Chemicals.
- To take note of the urgent call by ICCM5 to all stakeholders across the life cycle of key economic and industrial sectors, including but not limited to food and agriculture, textiles, electronics, and building and construction, to commit themselves to the implementation of the Framework, and further encourage them to embed the sound management of chemicals across the life cycles and value chains, ensuring environmental, health and social, including labour considerations are addressed in a comprehensive manner alongside economic considerations.

In relation to chemicals and waste issues of concern, endocrine disrupting chemicals, antimicrobial resistance and asbestos, the Environment Assembly may wish:

- To take note, along the findings of the Assessment report, of the Summary analysis of views on issues of concern, including on priorities for further work and on potential further international action, and determine the path forward.
- Noting the ongoing work on Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals, to encourage UNEP to continue its cooperation on the issue with WHO as well as OECD and make available the updated 2012 Report on State of the Science of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals prior to its seventh session.
- To welcome UNEP's work on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), particularly the publication of its first spotlight report 'Bracing for Superbugs: Strengthening environmental action in the One Health response to antimicrobial resistance', and the leadership and consolidation of the joint work of the Quadripartite (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOA), coordinated by the AMR Quadripartite Joint Secretariat. To encourage UNEP to continue its work in that context, and all Member States to support the work

	<p>on the environmental dimensions of antimicrobial resistance, particularly in the road to the 2024 United Nations General Assembly High Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take note of the "Options for addressing asbestos contaminants in products and the environment" and the need for further work on the issue, in collaboration with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the International Labour Organization and the World Health Organization. <p>In relation to support towards the sound management of chemicals and waste, the Environment Assembly may wish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To draw attention to the role that the sound management of chemicals and waste can play in addressing legacy pollution and shaping the future, from the design of environmentally sound innovative products, processes and value chains to sustainable consumption and production systems, as reflected in the medium-term strategy. • To encourage Governments and regional economic integration organizations in a position to do so, and to invite the private sector, including industry, foundations, investors, other non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders, to mobilize and continue to mobilize financial and other resources to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through contributions to the Special Programme and the new Global Framework on Chemicals Fund. • Recognizing the need for impactful and meaningful capacity building, to further support developing countries towards achieving sustainable self-sustaining institutional and capacity strengthening as well as the adoption of comprehensive sectoral approaches.
<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/9 on sustainable and resilient infrastructure (UNEP/EA.6/7)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing the sustainable infrastructure challenges requires engaging a wide range of stakeholders and partners, including policymakers, planners, designers, builders, operators, and financiers and investors. Governments, however, have an important role to play in creating the enabling environment for investments in sustainable and resilient infrastructure. For this reason, the Assembly may wish to emphasize the need to strengthen national policy and regulatory measures to mainstream sustainability and nature into infrastructure financing decisions as a

	<p>means to align public and private finance with national plans and strategies to implement the KM-GBF and 1.5 pathways.</p>
<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/11 on enhancing circular economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production (UNEP/EA.6/8)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States, in close collaboration with other relevant actors, are encouraged to consider how to best develop metrics and disclosure frameworks for circularity. Essential data sets that contribute towards monitoring exist, including the IRP Global Material Flows Database and the SCP Hotspot Analysis Tool (SCP-HAT). These existing tools can be further strengthened to integrate metrics relating to circular economy. UNEP is playing a role in this space and can do more at the global level with interested member states. • There is a need to leverage the UN Development System to help countries mainstream SCP and circular economy in national development strategies and plans. UNEP can work collaboratively across its initiatives and the UN system, particularly with the UN Resident Coordinator System and UN Country Teams, to expand direct support at regional and national levels, including by targeting high impact sectors. • Member States are encouraged to develop and implement clean fuels and vehicles standards, including minimum quality standards of used vehicles at national, sub-regional, regional and global levels, and promote or strengthen the collection, accessibility and sharing of data on used vehicles flows.
<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/12 on environmental aspects of minerals and metals management (UNEP/EA.6/9)</p>	<p>The Report of the UNEP Executive Director to UNEA-6 highlights the importance of ensuring responsible mining and sustainable minerals and metals use for the sustainability transitions needed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEP has advocated for a well-managed and responsible extraction of critical energy transition minerals that supports reaching net-zero by 2050, while not imperilling other environmental goals. The UNEP International Resource Panel (IRP) report on mineral resource governance issued in 2020 explored practical actions to improve the international mining governance architecture.

- On the multilateral front, to coordinate and increase impact across the UN system on this issue, in 2020 the Secretary General launched the Working Group 'Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development.' Recognizing the fundamental role that minerals and metals play in supporting the energy transition required to meet the Paris Agreement and the window of 20 – 30 years for resource rich countries to take advantage of the opportunity to accelerate the achievement of sustainable development, the Working Group is focused on building trust, reliability, sustainability and benefit sharing in existing energy transition minerals supply chains, while also supporting the transformation of these supply chains to harness opportunities and capacities in support of longer term sustainable development of the producer countries.¹ This effort, known more formally as the UN Secretary General's initiative on critical minerals (Harnessing Critical Energy Transition Minerals for Sustainable Development in Least Developed and Land-Locked Developing Countries Just Transitions in Low Carbon Technologies), represents a major opportunity to build on and expand the impact of the UNEA 5/12 consultation process.
- UNEA has also already taken some preliminary action on mineral and metal resources through two previous resolutions: UNEA 4/19 on Mineral Resource Governance, which requested UNEP to collect information on existing practices, knowledge gaps and approaches for sustainable management of metal and mineral resources; and UNEA 5/12 on Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management, which requested UNEP to organize regional intergovernmental meetings and a global event to develop non-prescriptive proposals to enhance environmental sustainability of minerals and metals.
- Member states may wish to build upon these previous resolutions and request UNEP to provide guidance to strengthen and harmonize policy frameworks for responsible mining. Such a harmonization would bring together the many existing standards and certifications that respond to different metrics to advance responsible mining and circularity along the full life cycle of minerals and metals. And, beyond extraction, to identify how reuse, recovery, and recycling as well as service provisioning can reduce material footprints and increase economic opportunities.

¹ https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_policy_brief_extractives.pdf

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member states may also consider requesting UNEP, working with UN partners and other stakeholders, to accelerate progress on the Secretary General's Working Group. Such work could include technical guidance and capacity support to developing countries with critical energy transition minerals. |
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<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/13 on due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with paragraph 3. of Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations (UNEP/EA.6/10)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the regional geographical diversity of the workforce is a long-term process, as the fulfillment of UNEP's mandate requires a flexible, diverse, and purpose-fit workforce to implement the Medium-Term Strategy and enable the organization to deliver effectively, including enhanced delivery at the country level. To achieve this, UNEP has been actively working on initiatives to attract and retain talent from different regions. By promoting equal opportunities and providing support for professional development, UNEP aims to create a workforce that reflects the diversity of its member states. Additionally, partnerships with regional organizations and institutions play a crucial role in expanding the geographical reach of UNEP's workforce, ensuring that its impact is felt across different regions. • UNEP will continue to engage in strategic workforce planning to ensure that it has the right people with the right skills in the right positions at the right time within our efforts towards gender and geographic diversity. UNEP must use data to make workforce decisions and evaluate its progress. By developing a comprehensive workforce planning strategy, UNEP can ensure that it has the necessary talent to achieve its goals and objectives. • UNEP will continue its efforts to become an employer of choice to attract top talent from under-represented regions. To this end, UNEP will invest in the resources required for improved and enhanced talent management to attract qualified applicants. By investing in talent management, UNEP will be able to recruit a pool of candidates with diverse perspectives and experiences. In addition to bolstering the organization's personnel, this will ensure a more inclusive and effective approach to addressing global environmental challenges. • To compete in the global market, UNEP will establish an Employer Value Proposition that targets fewer regional groups and the age demographics the organization will need in the future. This proposal will emphasize attracting diverse talent from different regions of the globe and ensuring an age-diverse representation. By customizing the Employer Value Proposition for these target groups, UNEP can gain a competitive advantage on the global market and promote a dynamic and inclusive work environment.
<p>Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/14 on end plastic pollution: towards an</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To convene the fourth and fifth sessions in Canada and the Republic of Korea

international legally binding instrument
(UNEP/EA.6/11)

respectively, as decided at INC-2 and to complete the work of the INC by the end of 2024 as per UNEA resolution 5/14.

- To decide at INC-4 on the venue for the diplomatic conference of plenipotentiaries and possible dates, for the purpose of adopting the instrument and opening it for signature.
- To invite Member States and relevant stakeholders who have not yet done so to join the Global Partnership on Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter to advance efforts.
- The Executive Director invites governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide extra-budgetary resources to support the implementation of the resolution.