Update from the co-facilitator to the Chair

The Contact Group met for the first time to develop a draft proposal on operating principles, based on INF/10, including to identify principles that are missing, and consider how to address conflicts of interest, including consideration of the conflict-of-interest policy presented in UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/INF/10/Add.1.

Regarding operating principles, the group started by considering the missing elements, in addition to those presented in UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/INF/10, Section B. Delegates and stakeholders provided a list of additional elements for further consideration by the contact group. The list was uploaded to the OEWG 2 website. The group will return to the list of additional elements in its next contact group session dedicated to operating principles.

Regarding the consideration of how to address conflicts of interest, as a starting point for the discussion on conflicts of interest, initial views of the UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/INF/10/Add.1 document were exchanged. A general consensus in the room was reached on the importance of having a conflict of interest policy, and to use INF/10/Add.1 as a basis for further discussion on conflict of interest at the contact groups next session dedicated to conflict of interest.

Contact group 1 will therefore request additional time to further discuss the operating principles and conflict of interest, and to start the discussions on capacity building.