

Updated cost assessment of proposed ASCM recommendations 29 October 2024

A) Content for revised costing (5 September meeting)

- Distinguished Colleagues, during the last CPR subcommittee meeting on the 5th of September when an initial assessment of the cost implications of the 29 recommendations proposed during the 11th ASCM was presented, delegates noted that there may have been some gaps in the understanding of the ask of certain recommendations on which additional cost implications were determined.
- In this context, delegates requested that the Secretariat review again the costing of such recommendations.

B) Actions taken since 5 September to respond to subcommittee request

- Following the request, for all 17 recommendations on which additional cost implications had initially been determined, these recommendations were sent back to the Directly Responsible Individual or DRI in the Divisions and Offices in the Secretariat to review again the costing.
- Following their review, the DRIs either provided revised cost estimates, or indicated that there would be no additional cost, or indicated that they were unable of assess if there was an additional cost.
- For recommendations where the initial cost assessment presented on the 5th of September indicated that there was no additional cost, or it was not possible to determine the additional cost, these were not sent back to the DRIs for a second review. This applies to the other 12 of the 29 recommendations.
- The results of the second round of review are reflected in the updated document on cost implications, uploaded by the Governance Affairs Office of the Secretariat to the webpage for today's meeting three week ago on the 1st of October.

C) Results of the revised costing

- Based on the updates, the Secretariat has assessed that out of the 29 recommendations, 13 can be implemented within existing resources and 11 carry additional cost implications. For five recommendations, the Secretariat was unable to determine whether they can be implemented within existing resources or not.
- As the Secretariat has indicated in the updated costing document, existing staff time cost has not been factored in for recommendations where UNEP has indicated that there is no additional cost implication.
- In the current document, the Secretariat has also removed specific figures and has simply indicated with a "yes" or "no" as to whether there will be an additional cost implication.

D) Emphasis on Director responsibility and whole-of-UNEP exercise

- While the Policy and Programme Division of the Secretariat has coordinated the updating exercise, the cost estimations were a whole-of-UNEP undertaking by 12 Divisions and Offices including the Corporate Services Division, Early Warning and Assessment Division, Ecosystems Divisions, Evaluation Office, Governance Affairs Office, Industry and Economy Divisions, Law Division, Policy and Programme Division, the Regional Offices for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean and the Environment Management Group Secretariat.
- Should you require further details, the Secretariat DRIs for each recommendation are available today, either in-person or online, to respond to any questions or comments.