

**EU/MS comments on
Climate change subprogramme**

UNEP CPR ASC-4

Background documents:

- 10.2.17, *UNEP presentation: Implementation of UN Environment work on Climate change*
- UNEA Resolution 2/6: Supporting the Paris Agreement*

Comments

- EU/MS Welcome the work and added-value of UNEP on climate change as recognized in the UNEA2 resolution “supporting the Paris agreement”
- We stress the importance of this subprogramme to achieve the ambitious goals set out in the Paris Agreement and welcome the planned activities in support of strengthening the ability of countries to move towards climate resilient and low emission pathways by capacity building, pre-2020 action, strengthening the science policy interface, supporting low emission development strategies and national adaptation plans, Action Agenda coalitions and NDC implementation, analysis and support, and stress that UNEP is well positioned within the UN Family to lead on the implementation support for national climate policies.
- We would like to seek clarification if and how, beyond supporting implementation of NDCs, UNEP is also thinking about contributing to supporting long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies that the Paris Agreement calls for, and how UNEP will leverage on the transparency work under the UNFCCC as UNEP has been selected by the GEF to lead on the Global Platform for the CBIT (Capacity Building Initiative on Transparency).
- EU/MS note that the A2R initiative could create opportunities to engage more with the private sector but it is still a relatively young initiative: can UNEP indicate what the concrete results are so far?
- The Seed Capital Assistance Facility sounds promising: can UNEP demonstrate already how it will unlock other sources of climate finance?
- We seek clarifications on resource insufficiency that is put forward by UNEP as a challenge for implementation of relevant work under the climate change subprogramme (emission gap report, support to IPCC, work on NDC is reported as not funded) when it is the subprogramme that benefits from the largest amounts of extra-budgetary funds (over 200 MUSD in 2016 with GEF projects and earmarked contribution) and that a substantial part of the available resources were not used in 2016.
- We seek clarifications on the impact for the subprogramme’s implementation of having a subprogramme that depends mostly on extrabudgetary funds
- We seek clarification on how the surplus of resources received compared to expected will affect the expected accomplishments of the subprogramme for 2017.
- EU/MS welcome the good results on most indicators, in particular on ecosystem-based adaptation, but seek further clarifications on the relatively poor results on the number of countries applying energy efficiency standards (indicator b(ii)) and on the number of mitigation actions and policies taken as a result of UNEP led public private partnership initiatives (indicator b(iv)).

- EU/MS stress that scaling-up UNEP's action through partnerships and the reinforcement of coordination with other UN agencies is key on climate change to avoid overlapping and optimize synergies and resources and request UNEP to clarify and monitor its strategy for a coherent partnership strategy;
- We recall that the UNEA2/6 resolution requests the ED to reinforce and step up UNEP's participation in partnership programmes and initiatives, note that the presentation list a number of initiatives (Global Alliance for buildings, CTCN, etc.) and details activities of some coalitions (e.g. the CCAC) but seek clarifications on UNEP's overall strategy on partnership programmes and initiatives within the climate subprogramme. What are in particular UNEP's plans regarding the numerous initiatives of the Global climate action agenda, e.g. mainly strengthening UNEP's participation in the initiatives it already participates in, expand the number of coalitions it will participate in and/or assess its outcome?