

## **International Environmental Governance Workshop**

### *Summary of discussion points*

Glion, Switzerland / June 20-22, 2017

Debriefing Document – UNEP CPR Subcommittee Meeting, July 6, 2017

This International Workshop on International Environmental Governance (IEG) was a member states driven meeting with the aim to identify areas in IEG that require further attention, and to propose options to move forward in strengthening international environmental governance.

It convened in Glion, Switzerland from June 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 and brought together 22 participants from 13 countries and the EU Commission as well as from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), and the IPCC to discuss a set of issues relating to the environmental dimension of sustainable development. A balance was attained by inviting participants from the capital and members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) in Nairobi or Geneva. Appendix I features the list of participants.

The meeting was designed to:

- Review progress on the mandates since Rio+20, evaluate the status of IEG, and assess the role of key actors;
- Outline opportunities for unlocking the potential of UNEP, the UN Environment Assembly, and MEAs;
- Develop options for integrating and implementing the environmental dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Key areas for discussion included the institutional framework in the system of IEG, the functioning of MEAs, and the environmental dimension of sustainable development. The outcomes of the workshop are intended to help UNEP, MEAs, stakeholders, and member states to identify core areas where action is needed.

For each topic, discussion questions were prepared in advance, supported by a series of thought starters. Prof. Maria Ivanova of the Center for Governance and Sustainability at the University of Massachusetts Boston moderated the workshop. She and her team will also produce a workshop report outlining areas of action and areas requiring additional attention. A sample of the questions that were discussed is presented below.

- Are we on track with respect to the vision defined at Rio+20? Is the mandate from Rio+20 being implemented successfully?
- What should be UNEA's message and priorities? Is UNEA performing its role of environmental parliament and how can that role be achieved better?
- How to measure and improve the effectiveness of existing institutions – UNEA, CPR, EMG, and others? How to enhance coordination among them?
- What would characterize a productive relationship between UNEP and the MEAs?
- What is necessary for the successful review of progress on the SDGs? How could UNEP contribute to global review mechanisms and thematic reviews?
- How to secure the delivery of the environmental dimension across all SDGs? What would be necessary for UNEP to fulfill its role outlined by UNEA Resolution 2/5?
- How to secure coordination at the highest level (e.g. through the EMG, or the Chief Executives Board) and ensure implementation on the ground including facilitation of technology transfer? What role for UNEP and UNEA?

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## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### Governments

Participant	Government
• John Moreti	Botswana
• Wang Qian	China
• Claudia Vasquez Marazzani	Colombia
• Matthias-Leonhard Maier	EU Commission
• Tuulia Toikka	Finland
• Anastasia Guretskaya	Germany
• Vladimir Lenev	New Zealand
• Abdoul W. Haidara	Russia
• Johanna Lissinger Peitz	Senegal
• Franz Perrez	Switzerland
• Felix Wertli	Switzerland
• Sebastian König	Switzerland
• Florian Gubker	Switzerland
• Rugnapar Pattanavibool	Thailand
• John Matuszak	United States

\* Excused: Birthe Ivars, Norway

### Other institutions

Participant	Institutions
• Rolph Payet	BRS Secretariat
• Kerstin Stendahl	IPCC
• Elizabeth Mrema	UNEP
• Mamadou Kane	UNEP
• Hyun Sung	UNEP
• Hossein Fadaei	UN EMG
• Jannica Pitkanen	UN EMG

\* Excused: John Scanlon, CITES

### Moderator team

Maria Ivanova	UMass Boston
Natalia Escobar-Pemberthy	UMass Boston
Anna Dubrova	UMass Boston