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**Intergovernmental Review Meeting  
on the implementation of the  
Global Programme of Action for the  
Protection of the Marine Environment  
from Land-based Activities  
Third session  
Manila, 25-27 January 2012**

**Progress in the implementation of UNEP's marine litter activities 2007-2011  
and the way forward from 2012 to 2016**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The present document has been issued without formal editing.

## MARINE LITTER

### Background

Despite decades of efforts to prevent and reduce marine litter in many countries, there is evidence that the problem is persistent and continues to grow – especially as populations continue to increase. Most current solid waste management practices are inadequate and require changes to the regulatory and enforcement regimes as well as non-regulatory incentives. Existing restrictions on ship-based marine debris are hard to enforce, and reports including a recent one from the US National Research Council recommended that such measures be strengthened. Better leadership, coordination of mandates and resources are required at both the national, regional and international levels to better address this global problem.

The persistence of the marine debris problem results from both a lack of global, regional and national requirements and programs, and deficiencies in the implementation and enforcement of existing international, regional and particularly national programs, regulations and standards.

Some of the major sources of marine debris are well described and include sewage and run-off related debris, materials from recreational/beach users and materials lost or disposed of at sea from fishing activities (such as ALDFG) or shipping. Debris originating from the land is either transported by storm water, via drains and rivers toward the sea, or is blown into the sea from the land. Ship based sources of debris represent additional, and in some regions substantial sources of debris.

A great deal of the marine debris from land-based sources results from unsustainable production, consumption, and poor waste management. Increased development, urbanization, and consumerism lead to increases in the use of disposable and non-degradable products and packaging, which results in increased generation of solid waste. Our mishandling of waste materials creates the foundation for land-based sources of marine debris (IMDCC, 2008). Both legal and illegal waste handling practices contribute to marine debris. These include the inadvertent release of trash from inadequately covered waste containers and waste transport vehicles; poorly managed waste dumps and landfills; manufacturing sites, processors, and transporters; recreational beach and roadside littering; sewage treatment and combined sewer overflows; and the illegal dumping of domestic and industrial garbage into riverine, coastal and marine waters.

Solid material anywhere in the environment, can be delivered to marine environments (washed, blown or via nearby waterways) and become marine debris if no mechanisms are in place to intercept these materials. Marine debris is therefore part of a broader problem of solid waste management, which affects all coastal and upland communities including inland waterways and is closely linked to the protection and conservation of the marine and coastal environment and sustainable development (UN-HABITAT, 2010). A lack of capacity and funding to effectively manage solid wastes is common, particularly in developing countries, contributes to the problem of marine debris.

Marine litter is partially addressed by these Conventions and agreements:

- IMO- MARPOL 73/78 Annex V (garbage from ships)
- London Convention and Protocol on Dumping
- Basel Convention
- Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
- CBD, with the Jakarta Mandate

- CMS - Convention on Migratory Species
- GPA - Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
- Some of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (and LBA/S Protocols)
- FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (abandoned/lost fishing gear)

**Decision of the 60th United Nations General Assembly (Agenda item 75(a) -Nov. 2005; Resolution on Oceans and the Law of the Sea)**

The General Assembly,

65. Notes the lack of information and data on marine debris and encourages relevant nations, regional and international organizations to undertake further studies on the extent and nature of the problem, also encourages States to develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss;

The General Assembly,

66. Urges States to integrate the issue of marine debris within national strategies dealing with recycling, reuse and reduction (of waste) and promote the development of appropriate economic incentives to address this issue, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris.

## PROGRESS 2007 – 2011

Under the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA), land-based sources of marine litter has been highlighted as one of the nine source categories giving UNEP a strong mandate to work on this issue. Marine litter has been an area of focus of UNEP coordinated efforts through the **UNEP Global Initiative on Marine Litter**, involving the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs) and the GPA.

### **A. Building knowledge and understanding the marine litter problem**

Twelve Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans developed regional initiatives that, amongst others:

- Assessed the magnitude of the problem through collection and analysis of existing data and information, and
- Published regional reports highlighting the status of marine litter, identifying priorities and strategies for response

The knowledge generated will be used to further develop global and regional activities and implement concrete actions in each of the 12 regions for improved management of marine litter.

Key results include:

Concrete and systematic regional strategies on the management of marine litter. The strategies have been adopted by the governing bodies of various RSCAPs and concrete actions are being developed within the work programmes of the respective conventions. (see UNEP/GPA/IGR/3/INF/11/Rev.1)

UNEP has prepared a comprehensive synthesis report based on an analysis of the regional activities undertaken so far. The report is entitled 'Marine Litter: A Global Challenge'. This report prepared under a collaborative partnership between the Ocean Conservancy and UNEP Regional Seas Programme and the GPA, aims to provide an overview of the status of marine litter in UNEP's assisted Regional Seas, based on the analysis of regional reviews, and regional action plan documents prepared in the regions.

It makes a comparative analysis of all available materials and draws conclusions regarding the state of marine litter at the global and regional levels, and concludes that there is an urgent need to approach the issue of marine litter through better enforcement of laws and regulations, expanded outreach and educational campaigns and the employment of strong economic instruments and incentives.

### **B. Developing a common approach to monitor Marine Litter.**

UNEP's efforts respond to the call by the UN General Assembly to address the lack of data and information on ML as an obstacle to better management.

Together with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, UNEP has developed a new global operational methodology for the scientific monitoring of ML. Guidelines for the use of the methodology are contained in the publication 'UNEP/IOC Operational Guidelines on the Survey and Monitoring of Marine Litter'. This report prepared under a collaborative partnership between the IOC/UNESCO and UNEP's Regional Seas Programme,

aims to assist policy makers and efforts by regions, countries, Regional Seas Programmes and other relevant organizations and institutions to address the problem of monitoring and assessment of marine litter.

The guidelines include a comparative analysis of information from around the world on existing experiences and methods for surveys, monitoring, reporting protocols and assessment of marine litter. These guidelines will enormously contribute to a common approach in the survey and monitoring of marine litter, and to the development of science-based strategies and policies to abate marine litter worldwide. They have been translated to a number of languages such as Swedish and Portuguese through private initiatives.

### **C. Reducing ML through the use of Economic Instruments**

UNEP has developed guidelines on the use of economic instruments in the management of ML. The guidelines ‘Economic Instruments and Marine Litter’ will provide decisionmakers with practical and operational options for the selection and implementation of economic/market-based instruments to address the problem of marine litter.

**Guidelines on the Use of Market-based Instruments to Address the Problem of Marine Litter (2009).** This report aims to be a practical reference to decision makers and relevant organisations on how to select, apply and implement economic tools (also referred to as market based instruments) to address problems with marine litter. The report will also assist policy makers in deciding whether the conditions are favourable and which economic tools could potentially be effective.

### **D. Enhancing livelihoods of fishermen and contributing to healthy marine ecosystems**

Fishermen all over the world lose or abandon their nets in the ocean. Not much is known on the magnitude and harmful effects of this phenomenon.

With a view to encourage a more concerted and comprehensive response from governments as well as relevant industries, UNEP and FAO jointly undertook a global review: ‘Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG)’ on the magnitude, impacts and composition of ALDFG, and assessed the feasibility of abating the marine litter problem through joint programmes and activities between Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFB’s) and Regional Seas Programmes (RSP’s), capacity building activities including awareness, outreach, and education.

**Abandoned, Lost or Otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (2009).** This document prepared under a collaborative partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and UNEP Regional Seas Programme, profiles a variety of measures currently being taken to reduce abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG). It reviews the magnitude and composition of ALDFG, and while noting that information is not comprehensive and does not allow for any global estimates, suggests that gill nets and fishing traps/pots may be the most common type of ALDFG. It concludes by making a number of recommendations for future action to reduce ALDFG be it on a mandatory/voluntary basis.

### **E. Public awareness and outreach**

UNEP, in collaboration with RSCAPs and other partners, continues to raise global public awareness on the problem of marine litter.

## Other UNEP initiatives

### Global Partnership on Waste Management

UNEP is hosting a Global Partnership on Waste Management (GPWM) coordinated by the International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC). UNEP will work with different partners including international agencies, governments and civil society organizations to develop and implement projects in the following identified areas: 1. Waste prevention; 2. Waste agricultural biomass; 3. Integrated solid waste management; 4. E-waste management; 5. Hazardous waste management; 6. Marine Litter.

Marine Litter activities within UNEP, in particular those addressing land-based sources of pollution, will be closely linked and coordinated through the Marine Litter focal area within the GPWM to ensure synergies and efficiency of resources.

### Microplastics

This emerging issue is discussed in detail in the recently released UNEP Year Book 2011<sup>1</sup> and is also a focus of the UN Safe Planet Campaign<sup>2</sup> (Persistent Organic Pollutants). Since microplastics has been identified as an emerging issue, it could be considered for additional attention in UNEP's Global Environment Outlook and for the GEF International Waters Conference in 2012.

### **Marine Debris as a Global Environmental Problem: Introducing a solutions based framework focused on plastic - A STAP information document. November 2011<sup>3</sup>**

The focus of this document is on land-based sources and types of plastic debris which represent the major debris components in many regions of the world. At present, the causes of marine debris are addressed primarily through implementation of waste management practices, such that end-of-pipe solutions are central to action. However this document explores the underlying cause of land-based plastic debris entering the marine environment, specifically production and consumption patterns of our economies. This includes the design and marketing of products without appropriate regard for their environmental fate or ability to be recycled, waste management infrastructure, inappropriate disposal, as well as the geographical separation between production in relatively developed economies, and consumption/disposal, which is global. In this document, the STAP proposes a revised framework in addressing plastic debris that advocates the use of the five R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Redesign and Recover) in a regional context. The document also has a number of specific recommendations for the GEF, including: (i) a proposal to focus on piloting the life cycle approach to plastic debris prevention, reduction, and management in one of the areas covered by the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans; and (ii) facilitating a global public-private partnership, a key focus of which would be to reduce the environmental impacts associated with single-use plastics packaging.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2011/pdfs/plastic\\_debris\\_in\\_the\\_ocean.pdf](http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2011/pdfs/plastic_debris_in_the_ocean.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <http://safepla.net/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.unep.org/stap/Portals/61/pubs/STAP%20MarineDebris%20-%20website.pdf>

## **Fifth International Marine Debris Conference**

The **Fifth International Marine Debris Conference** took place from 20 to 25 March, 2011, in Honolulu, Hawai'i, bringing together over 440 participants representing some 38 countries. Conference participants - researchers, natural resource managers, policymakers, industry representatives, and the non-governmental community - refined and endorsed by acclamation the Honolulu Commitment, which outlines 12 actions to reduce marine debris (See Annex D). Participants and a group of rapporteurs also worked to revise the Honolulu Strategy, a framework strategy to prevent and manage marine debris. The conference was co-organized by The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and UNEP and facilitated the sharing of strategies and best practices to assess, reduce and prevent the impacts of marine debris through workshops, field trips, technical and policy sessions, poster presentations, and panel discussions. ([www.5imdc.org](http://www.5imdc.org)).

Considerable momentum was gained during the conference and follow up activities are underway such as the finalization of the **Honolulu Strategy— a framework strategy for the prevention and management of marine debris**. A pre-conference draft Honolulu Strategy (HS) was reviewed by conference participants and almost 500 comments were received. A final version was circulated which received a number of comments. The final version is available as UNEP/GPA/IGR.3/INF/9

The idea behind the HS is to create a broad framework for actions that can be taken at the local, regional, national and global level by individuals, civil society, governments and international organizations.

### **What's in the Honolulu Strategy?**

The Honolulu Strategy serves as a global framework for a comprehensive and global effort to reduce the ecological, human health, and economic impacts of marine debris. It includes basic principles that can be used all over the world, regardless of specific conditions or challenges. The Honolulu Strategy provides a summary of the issues surrounding marine debris and a discussion about the targets of concern – coastal and marine species and habitats, economic health, human health and safety, and intrinsic social values. It has three goals focused on reducing threats of marine debris:

- Goal A: Reduced amount and impact of land-based litter and solid waste introduced into the marine environment.
- Goal B: Reduced amount and impact of solid waste, lost cargo, derelict fishing gear, and abandoned vessels introduced at sea.
- Goal C: Reduced amount and impact of accumulated marine debris on shorelines, in benthic habitats, and in pelagic waters.

A cohesive set of strategies and actions is defined to achieve each goal.

The Honolulu Strategy is a framework document. It does not supplant or supersede the activities of national authorities, municipalities, industry, international organizations, or other stakeholders; rather, it provides a focal point for improved collaboration and coordination among the multitude of stakeholders across the globe concerned with marine debris. Its successful implementation will require participation and support on multiple levels – global, regional, national, and local – involving the full spectrum of civil society, government and intergovernmental organizations, and the private sector.

### **How will UNEP use the Honolulu Strategy?**

UNEP plans to use elements of the Honolulu Strategy (**land-based sources of marine debris**) as one input for the Third Intergovernmental Review of the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) that will take place 25-27 January, 2012 in Manila, Philippines. Similarly, the Regional Seas programmes can use it to further develop their own regional plans for addressing marine debris.

### **Inter-agency coordination**

As previously indicate, a number of other UN agencies have mandates to address various aspects of marine litter and it is essential to coordinate activities and to collaborate in the promotion and implementation of the Honolulu Strategy and other follow-up activities of the 5IMDC. Following the successful collaboration with a number of agencies in the development of joint marine litter publications, UNEP will continue to play an 'initiating and coordinating role' among U.N agencies and biodiversity related conventions (CBD and CMS) in the field of marine debris while respecting and not infringing with these agencies' mandates and responsibilities.

A Marine Litter Task Force led by UNEP (as co-chair of the 5IMDC and support to GESAMP for the microplastics report) has been created within UN-Oceans.



## Proposed way forward 2012-2016

The marine litter problem is global in scale and intergenerational in impact. Marine debris, or marine litter, is defined to include any anthropogenic, manufactured, or processed solid material (regardless of size) discarded, disposed of, or abandoned that ends up in the marine environment. It includes, but is not limited to, plastics, metals, glass, concrete and other construction materials, paper and cardboard, polystyrene, rubber, rope, textiles, timber and hazardous materials, such as munitions, asbestos and medical waste. In some instances, marine debris may also be a vessel for dangerous pollutants that are eventually released into the marine environment. Marine litter may result from activities on land or at sea. Marine litter is a complex cultural and multi-sectoral problem that exacts tremendous ecological, economic, and social costs around the globe.

The activities to be carried out aim to reduce the amount of land-based litter and solid waste introduced into the marine environment.

### Strategies to prevent and manage marine debris from Land-based sources

Thematic Objective | Threat Reduction Result

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#### The following results will be pursued:

- 5,000 members of an online marine litter forum/network within the first year created with the objective to facilitate information flow, knowledge sharing and promotion of the Honolulu Commitment and the Honolulu Strategy (HS);
- The online forum will be accessed frequently (at least more than 50,000 hits per month) by the end of the first year;
- 100,000 will sign up for the Honolulu Commitment within a year and;
- 100 partners will join a Global Partnership on Marine Litter, facilitated through the online forum/network – providing input to it on project activities, best practices and success stories while reporting on the implementation of the HS;
- 5 new regional policy instruments aligned with the Honolulu Strategy through the RSCAPs within 5 years.
- Demonstration of at least 20% reduction of solid waste reaching the marine environment and 50% recycling rates of certain wastes in selected demonstration sites;
- Market-based instruments adopted in 2 countries to reduce the influx of solid waste into the coastal environment within 5 years;
- Plastic bag ban in 5 countries within 5 years;
- 15% reduction in use of raw material in selected demonstration projects with industry

Strategies | Expected Results

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Strategies to reduce the amount of marine debris from land-based sources focus on:

- A1 - Conduct education and outreach on marine debris and solid waste minimization and management

- A2 - Employ market-based instruments to support solid waste minimization and management
- A3 - Employ infrastructure and best practices for stormwater and solid waste minimization and management
- A4 - Develop and enact legislation and policies to support solid waste minimization and management
- A5 - Improve the regulatory framework regarding stormwater, sewage systems, and debris in tributary waterways
- A6 - Build capacity to monitor and enforce compliance with regulations and permit conditions regarding litter, dumping, solid waste management, stormwater, and surface runoff
- A7 - Conduct targeted cleanup efforts on coastal lands, in watersheds, and in waterways

## **PRIORITY ACTIONS/ACTIVITIES**

The proposed activities are:

### **Component 1: Development of a Global network/forum for the marine litter community**

Participants of the 5IMDC expressed the need for a global marine litter forum. UNEP and NOAA are developing such an online forum for marine litter stakeholders to continue the dialogue after the conference, share ideas and promote best practices. The forum will be structured so as to facilitate the implementation/use of the Honolulu Strategy and the sign up to the Honolulu Commitment. The first step is a static online platform which, subject to funding, could be developed to include a community of practice, database and other services for the marine litter community. The online platform could provide links to the online resources/information platform of the Global Partnership on Waste Management and have strategic cross-linkages to show how these initiatives complement each other. The platform would aim to facilitate access to other online resources and initiatives without trying to substitute them, thereby enhancing coordination and resource efficiency.

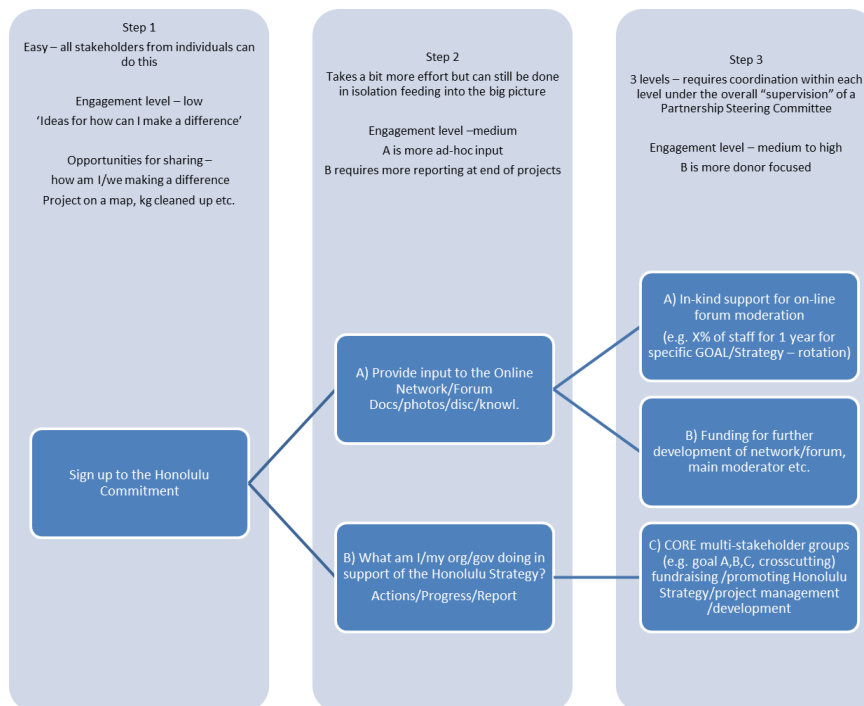
#### *Principles for the functioning of the online platform*

An online survey on the establishment of an online collaborative platform aiming at facilitating information exchange and supporting the implementation of the Honolulu Strategy will guide UNEP/NOAA on further development of the platform by identifying the level of interest and expertise of stakeholders and their 'marine debris info' needs. Such an online forum could facilitate a Global Partnership on Marine Litter, engaging governments, regional organizations, other UN agencies, and importantly the private sector. This marine litter partnership may be associated with the Global Partnership on Waste Management (in particular the areas related to land-based sources of pollution). It would however address both land-based sources as well as sea-based sources of pollution through involvement of agencies with a mandate within these areas.

### **Component 2: Creation of a Global Partnership on Marine Litter**

The programme of work for the GPA proposed for the period 2012–2016 will position the Office as a catalyst for change that will promote integrated processes, intellectual leadership and partnerships with a view to reducing the pressure on natural resources and the environment while improving human well-being and quality of life.

The development of an online forum could facilitate and benefit from the formation of a global partnership on marine litter in support of the implementation of the Honolulu Strategy to ensure various levels of commitments amongst stakeholders. Such partnership would include various levels/steps of the partnership which would be closely tied to the online forum. The partnership would facilitate international coordination and provide guidance within various areas related to the Honolulu Strategy.



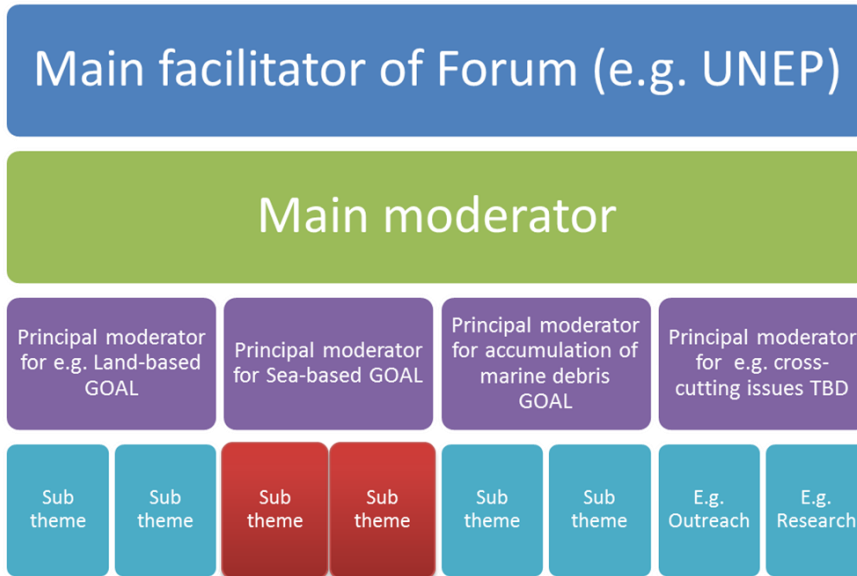
**Step 1:** Sign on to the Honolulu Commitment (All levels from individuals to companies/governments with logos) – this could be done by submitting name online and for other stakeholders by uploading logo for posting on site with link to their website.

**Step 2 A:** Commit to provide input to the on-line platform by uploading information and using the platform for information exchange – ad hoc input not tied to projects – passive support to the implementation of the Honolulu Strategy.

**Step 2 B:** Identify areas within the Honolulu Strategy for implementation and reporting after a certain timeframe. An online tool could be created to allow partners to click in HS action boxes and add links or upload documents relevant to that action – there could be 3 steps – project initiated – well underway and finalized – once the date of the project comes to an end, an automatic reminder goes out to the contact person with an invitation to upload outputs or modify timeframe – if the project has ended there could be a simple online form to fill in (or tick boxes for simplicity) to allow for some monitoring or progress on the implementation of certain areas of the Honolulu Strategy.

**Step 3 A:** Provide in-kind support such as offering the services of in-house staff (20% of a person's time) for e.g. 1 year to assist with specific aspects of the on-line platform and/or as focal points for the partnership. There could be X number of slots to be filled each year (depending on areas of expertise) and would focus on some coordination of information regarding that

area/some moderation/engage other stakeholders within that area (technical and geographical to overcome language barrier and engage different regions).



**Example** – could follow other divisional groups.

**Step 3 B:** Provide funding for moderator/upgrading/development of the forum – may be donor/sponsor focused.

**Step 3 C:** Be part of multi-stakeholder Core Management groups (1 per GOAL/AREA) – this could be rotating ensuring involvement and representation of different groups across language barriers. This could also include development of joint project proposals to further support the development of the platform and the implementation of the Honolulu Strategy.

The partnership itself would be coordinated by a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee with terms of reference agreed upon by the partners.

The modalities of coordination for 3 C would be worked out among the participants in the multi-stakeholder groups. They may involve, for instance, a combination of face-to-face meetings (subject to funding availability), teleconferences, online forums, joint projects or programmes, etc.”

**Component 3: Support to regional marine litter activities**

Support regional activities aimed to introduce the global partnership and the online platform through "regional nodes". This could include regional training courses for nodes and support to implementation of the Honolulu Strategy through the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, with the view to facilitate the development of regional policy instruments aligned with the Honolulu Strategy framework through the RSCAPs. (e.g. MAP, CAR, CPPS, NOWPAP, OSPAR, PERSGA)

UNEP will continue to support and strengthen Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans in further developing and strengthening their respective Regional Strategies (Action Plans) in marine litter and will play a leading and coordinating role in providing scientific and technical support (including informing Regional Seas and Partners on emerging issues and global advances in the field). UNEP will support and encourage each of the RSCAPs which have not done so yet

to develop a regional action plan or strategy to address the problem of marine litter, either within the framework of their regional convention or protocol or as an independent instrument and document. Those RAPs should be sustainable and long-term in their nature, incorporating basic principles of preventive actions and strategies, but they should be routinely updated to adjust to changing circumstances or conditions.

Particularly in areas not covered by a Regional Sea Convention or Action Plan, UNEP will also seek to strengthen efforts at the national level or through other mechanisms.

#### **Component 4: Demonstration projects for reducing the inflow of solid waste into the marine environment**

Ten demonstration projects would be developed under the global partnership and in support of the Honolulu Strategy within three main areas:

**Demo projects for reducing the inflow of solid waste into the marine environment:** Demonstration projects including capacity building for the introduction of simple measures to reduce litter influx to coastal areas and broadening available options. The refinement, development, and promotion of existing and new best management practices (BMPs) and the creation and maintenance of appropriate infrastructure (such as waste receptacles, landfills, debris traps, and booms). Understanding benefits and costs is expected to lead to increased application of BMPs and guidelines for handling, transporting, recycling, and disposing of solid waste. Application of new practices and technologies would thereby decrease the incidence of accidental or intentional loss of waste.

**Life cycle approach demo:** A project or program testing the life cycle approach to marine debris prevention, reduction, and management in one of the areas covered by Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans. Mobilizing public and private sector resources for specific market transformation in the production, consumption, and utilization of marine litter sources such as plastics.

**Plastics recycling demonstration project, ban of plastic bags:** Demonstration project with a focus on plastic waste management and recycling and life cycle. This would include promotion of a global public-private partnership to transform single-use plastics packaging markets to more environmentally friendly alternatives on a global scale. Developing and promoting compliance with legislation and policies to support waste minimization and solid waste management practices and infrastructure is expected to provide for increased capacity and infrastructure for waste disposal and management. The existence of regional and national policies and legislation is also assumed to enhance enforcement capacity and user compliance with proper waste management practices, which would result in overall reductions in the amount of solid waste introduced into the ocean from land-based sources.

UNEP will also work to engage interested countries and non-governmental stakeholders to develop and carry out additional, complementary projects addressing land-based and sea-based sources of marine litter.

**Geographic coverage:** Global with one-two demonstration sites in five UN regions (Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, West Asia and Europe)

**Possible Partners include:** National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (USA), European Commission, Global Partnership on Waste Management, Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, organisations participating in the Fifth International Marine Debris Conference (5IMDC)

**Duration:** 3 years plus 6 months preparation as soon as a certain level of funding is secured.

Budget (for 3 years):

Component	Budget (million USD)	% against the total	Timeline
<u>Component 1:</u> Development of online forum/platform	0.25	3.4	09/11-12/12
<u>Component 2:</u> Global Partnership on Marine Litter	0.5	6.8	01/12-12/16
<u>Component 3:</u> Support to regional activities	0.25	3.4	TBD
<u>Component 4:</u> Demonstration of marine litter reduction strategies for Land-based sources	5.0 (ten sites)	68	TBD
UNEP Project management cost	0.5	6.8	
Sub-total	6.5	88.5	
Programme Support Cost (13%)	0.85	11.6	
Total	7.35	100	

POW	Expected Outcomes	Indicators (by June 2016)	Means of Verification
Global Partnership on Marine Litter	Operational partnership with a wide range of partners facilitated through an online forum promoting the Honolulu Commitment and the Honolulu Strategy (HS).	At least 100 Governments, organisations, agencies and institutions join the GPML.  An effective and functional international steering committee established and its meeting is organised at least every year.  A global partnership meeting to review implementation of the Honolulu Strategy  The web-based information platform/forum for marine litter is operational and at least 5,000 members ; and 50,000 hits per month counted.  500,000 people sign up to the Honolulu Commitment.	Letters of intent to join the partnership.  Clear guidance from the committee recorded in the meeting reports.  Website access record.  Meeting reports  On-line sign-up sheets.
	Development of regional and national policy instruments aligned with the 'Honolulu Strategy'.	5 regional and 10 national policy instruments aligned with the Honolulu Strategy discussions for decision	Policy instruments

		making at respective levels.	
	Reduction of influx of solid waste to the marine environment in 10 demonstration sites through the demonstration of good policy and on-the ground practices and technologies	<p>Demonstration of at least 20% reduction of solid waste reaching the marine environment and 50% increase in the recycling rates of certain wastes in the demonstration sites through introduction of new policies and market-based instruments;</p> <p>Plastic bag ban in 5 countries;</p> <p>15% reduction in use of raw material in selected demonstration projects with industry</p> <p>20 Governments and private sectors agree to make use of best practices developed through the demonstration projects.</p>	Project documents and reports, meeting reports, compilation of best practices, guidelines, etc.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

The activities are selected based on the demand expressed by national and local governments where political support is evident.

**OPPORTUNITIES AND LINKAGES**

Explore linkages between online fora to maximize resources and show linkages. Cooperation with other GPWM working groups will be sought as needed and appropriate.

**EVALUATION**

The implementation process and the delivery of outputs for each activity will be monitored according to UNEP’s logical framework matrix.

**RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

Funding for activities will be sought from donors and partners. It may be linked to the online forum. Extrabudgetary support will also be used for activities.

**WORK PLANNING PROCESS**

This workplan will be further developed and finalized following the Third Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of GPA and the preceding Global Conference on Land-Ocean Connections, 23-27 January 2012 when the 5-year workplan of the GPA will be discussed and endorsed.

## **Annex I – The Honolulu Commitment**

### **Participants attending the 5th International Marine Debris Conference held in Honolulu, Hawaii, 20-25 March 2011:**

**Considered** marine debris to include any anthropogenic, manufactured or processed solid material, irrespective of its size, discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the environment, including all materials discarded into the sea, on the shore, or brought indirectly to the sea by rivers, sewage, storm water or winds;

**Expressed** concern at the growing presence of plastic debris in the marine environment and acknowledged the plastic associations' Global Declaration on Marine Litter, while recognising other materials also constitute marine debris;

**Welcomed** the ongoing work of scientists, research organisations and other citizens to better and more accurately understand the sources, nature and extent of marine debris, including the effects of micro-plastics, heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants, endocrine disruptors and other chemicals on marine biodiversity and public health;

**Expressed** concern at the continued threat and economic costs from marine debris to human health and safety; biodiversity and ecosystem services; sustainable livelihoods; and the boating, shipping, tourism and fishing sectors;

**Noted** that these issues are compounded by accelerating pressures associated with pollution and climate change, as well as human uses of oceans and coasts, such as fisheries, urban and industrial development, tourism and shipping;

**Acknowledged** the importance of international mechanisms, such as MARPOL, the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans and other regional mechanisms, in preventing and reducing marine debris;

**Recognised** the opportunities for addressing marine debris through linkages to sustainable development goals that promote resource efficiency and the principles of a green economy, such as improved life-cycle design and sustainable packaging; extended producer responsibility; safe and efficient fishing and maritime transport practices; and the development of integrated waste management infrastructure that supports recycling and energy recovery programmes and zero-waste strategies;

**Recognised** the roles of governments, international organisations, industry and civil society in sharing best practices and facilitating the transfer of knowledge;

**Recognised** the need to address the special requirements of developing countries, in particular the Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, and their need for financial and technical assistance, technology transfer, training and scientific



cooperation to enhance their ability to prevent, reduce and manage marine debris as well as to implement this commitment and the Honolulu Strategy;

**Emphasised** the importance of collaborative partnerships, including industry and grass-roots initiatives, and acknowledged the recent creation of the Global Partnership on Waste Management;

**Celebrated** the increasing level of public interest in finding solutions to the marine debris challenge;

**Welcomed** the opportunity to contribute to the development of the Honolulu Strategy – a framework for the prevention, reduction and management of marine debris; and

**Hereby invite international organizations, governments at national and sub-national levels, industry, non-governmental organizations, citizens and other stakeholders, to commit to:**

1. Make choices that reduce waste in order to halt and reverse the occurrence of marine debris.
2. Encourage all citizens, industry and governments to take responsibility for their contribution and find solutions to the marine debris problem;
3. Share openly and freely technical, legal, policy, community-based and economic / market-based solutions that will help prevent, reduce and manage marine debris;
4. Advocate mechanisms that emphasise the prevention or minimisation of waste;
5. Facilitate initiatives that turn waste into a resource in an environmentally sustainable manner;
6. Develop global, regional, national and local targets to reduce marine debris;
7. Improve global knowledge, understanding and monitoring of the scale, nature, source and impact of marine debris, and raise awareness of its impact on public health, biodiversity and economic development;
8. Collaborate with global, regional and sub-regional organisations, to enhance the effectiveness of multi-lateral initiatives aimed at preventing, reducing and managing marine debris;
9. Encourage financial support for global, regional, national and local actions that contribute to the implementation of the Honolulu Strategy;
10. Encourage relevant intergovernmental fora, including those at global and regional scales, to express support for the Honolulu Commitment and encourage governments to take action consistent with the objectives and strategic activities outlined in the Honolulu Strategy; and
11. Participate in a global network of stakeholders committed to understanding, preventing, reducing and managing marine debris in an environmentally sustainable manner;
12. Contribute to the development and successful implementation of the Honolulu Strategy – a framework for the prevention, reduction and management of marine debris – and its periodic review.