

UK comments on draft scenario note

We welcome the scenario note that the Secretariat has produced that extends beyond September to present plans for the AHEG in the run up to UNEA 5. We also welcome the proposal to hold a virtual intersessional meeting in November to make progress under the AHEG mandate and drive forward ambition for UNEA 5. Given there is not a significant amount of time between the end of the draft roadmap (30th September) and the start of the proposed virtual AHEG meeting (9th November), we would welcome a revised roadmap that encompass plans up to the virtual AHEG meeting.

We welcome the set up of a virtual space for members to interact, and invite the Secretariat to consider a more structured and facilitated interaction to provide focus to the online discussions. We welcome greater clarity on the working groups, how the themes will be decided and agreed, what the outputs will be and when these will be produced to allow sufficient consideration of the output ahead of the virtual AHEG meeting.

We urge the Secretariat to ensure that the technical briefings ahead of AHEG consider the “effectiveness of existing and potential response options” pursuant to UNEP 4/6 subparagraph 7.d, and do not address effectiveness and response options separately (as might otherwise be understood by para 16 of the Scenario note).

We welcome the proposal to hold regional consultations to ensure fair and inclusive engagement can happen with as many countries as possible. We welcome further clarification on the process regarding how a virtual regional consultation will be set up and how the Secretariat will ensure that experts have sufficient technology to attend the virtual meetings, particularly as some experts will be using their home technology instead of their organisation’s technology due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We again urge the focus of the discussions to be on the effectiveness of existing and potential response options. To this effect we recommend changing the potential draft agenda item iii (Annex C Para 4.a.iii) from “Methodology of analysis of effectiveness” to “Preliminary/final outcomes of the analysis of effectiveness”.

We invite the Secretariat to adopt language from resolution 4/6 and include sustainable consumption alongside sustainable production (UNEP 4/6 subparagraphs 5 and 6.b).

We would also welcome further clarification on footnote 1 that claims insufficient contributions had been made to the stocktaking exercise. This does not appear to align with the information provided at the seminar on the stocktaking exercise, where quite detailed stocktaking assessment had already been made.