

Update on the Future of GEO process

Work during the intersessional period

Huang Yi (China) and Jerome Sebadduka Lugumira (Uganda), co-chair of vice-chair of the Future of GEO Steering Committee (with assistance from the UNEP Secretariat)

Meeting of the Subcommittee of the CPR, July 8 2021



Brief review

- Resolution 23 agreed at UNEA 4
- OP6 requested the ED to develop options for the Future of GEO
- Steering Committee of 36 Member States created to manage and oversee the process
- Steering Committee delivered an interim report and a background document to UNEA 5.1
- Options were proposed for the form and function of future GEOs
- Steering Committee suggested that UNEA may wish continued work on the financial, administrative and collaborative arrangements for future GEO

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**United Nations
Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment
Programme**

United Nations Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment Programme
Fourth session
Nairobi, 11–15 March 2019

**Resolution adopted by the United Nations Environment
Assembly on 15 March 2019**

4/23. **Keeping the world environment under review: enhancing the United Nations Environment Programme science-policy interface and endorsement of the Global Environment Outlook**

The United Nations Environment Assembly,
Mindful of the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, as outlined in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXXVII) of 15 December 1972, and other relevant resolutions that reinforced its mandate, including to keep the world environmental situation under review, and

Work plan for 2021 agreed by Steering Committee

- Three main elements:
 1. Feasibility study on financial, administrative and collaborative arrangements of proposed options for the future of GEO
 2. Online consultation with Member States, stakeholders and assessment experts
 3. Workshop for Steering Committee to develop the final report to UNEA, with recommended options for the future of GEO



Statement of work for feasibility study agreed

DRAFT – DO NOT CITE OR QUOTE

Annotated outline/0-draft

1 Feasibility study on the financial and administrative consequences of the recommended options and approaches for the Future of GEO

The current draft outline of the feasibility study is illustrated with annotations and 0-draft elements that builds on the interim report and the draft procedures.

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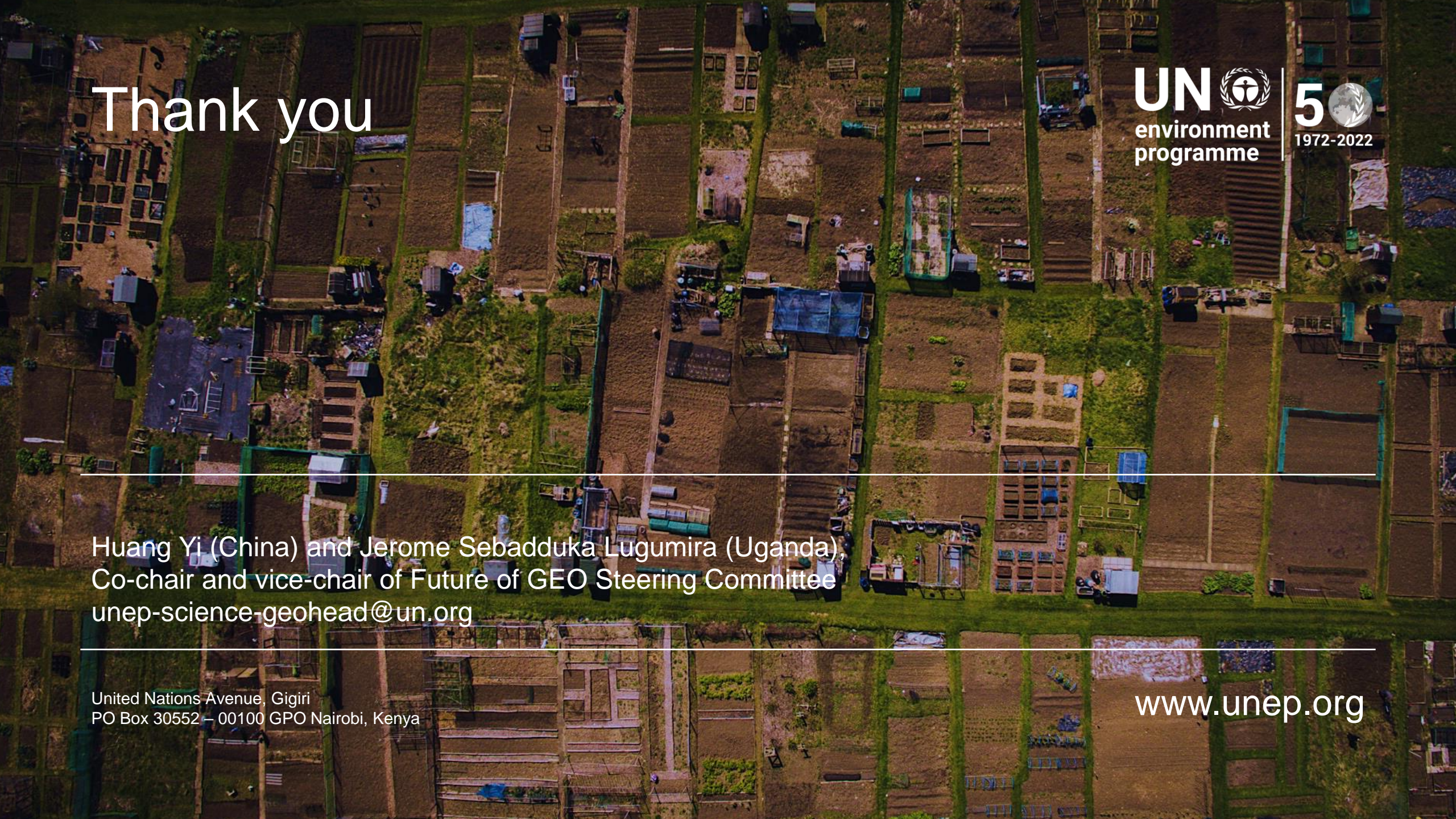
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- Key principles:
 - Draw from options identified through interim report
 - Assess against the criteria identified in the interim report
 - Assess the cost and resource implications of the different options
 - Determine the likely administrative and collaborative arrangements that would be needed to deliver on the options

Timeline to report back to UNEA

Work element	Suggested timing	Comments
Guidance for feasibility study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft available - March 15 SC Call-April 15 Comments from Steering Committee – April 21 Final TOR approved and posted - April 27 	<p>Intent is to use a simplified procurement process or include in Secretariat work plan. SC meets to discuss the details of the workplan and the draft components for the feasibility study</p> <p>The 2021 workplan and the feasibility study structure is approved online on a no objection basis</p>
Final feasibility study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviews conducted – May 17 – June 11 Draft of feasibility study – July 9 Comments by SC and UNEP Secretariat – July 12 – July 30 Comments incorporated, and final report produced – August 13 	<p>Review anticipated by UNEP Corporate Services Division and Executive Office.</p> <p>3 weeks for SC and UNEP Secretariat to comment on the draft feasibility study report</p> <p>2 weeks of incorporating comments</p>
Broad online consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft questionnaire developed – July 16 Review and comments by SC – July 30 Revised questionnaire available – Aug. 6 Final questionnaires preparation, translation and posting to consultation platforms-by August 27 Consultation conducted from August 30- September 17 	<p>Accompanying webinars to be facilitated by the Secretariat.</p> <p>2 weeks of SC commenting on the consultation structure and questionnaire</p> <p>1 week of incorporating SC comments and inputs</p> <p>3 weeks of final questionnaire/consultation preparation including translations to all UN languages</p> <p>Three weeks of broad consultations</p>
Final workshop of Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft of Working Document produced by co-chairs – Sept. 15 Comments provided by SC on the draft Working document produced by the co-chairs – October 1 Preliminary analysis of consultation results – by Oct. 1 Revised draft of Working Document – Oct. 15 Workshop week of Oct. 18 Presentation of the findings of the Options paper on Future of GEO at the Annual CPR October 25-29 	<p>8th annual subcommittee meeting currently scheduled for week of Oct. 25. Presentation on the outcomes of the Steering Committee's work could be scheduled and discussed at the annual subcommittee.</p> <p>2 weeks of SC review of the draft working document by the co-chairs</p> <p>Presentation on the consultation outcome and analysis</p> <p>2 weeks of bureau incorporating comments from the SC on the Working Document</p>

- July – August: iterative process within the Steering Committee to draft the feasibility study
- September: online consultation / peer review of feasibility study
- October: review results of online consultation, update Annual Subcommittee
- November: workshop to develop final report



Thank you

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Huang Yi (China) and Jerome Sebadduka Lugumira (Uganda),
Co-chair and vice-chair of Future of GEO Steering Committee
unep-science-geohead@un.org

United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
PO Box 30552 – 00100 GPO Nairobi, Kenya

www.unep.org