

MGFC, RF AND UNEP teleconference

Summary of minutes

27 October 2021

Agenda:

1. MGS engagement in the UNEA 5.2 preparatory process
2. RCMs
3. UNEA 5.2 update
4. GMGSF, preparation and implementation arrangements
5. Green Tent Management
6. UNEA 5.2 reporting
7. UNEP @50 update
8. Stockholm+50
9. AoB

Participants:

- UNEP: Alexander Juras, Laetitia Zobel, Aurora Cheung, Isaiah Otieno, Rafael Borges, Tianyu Zhang
- Scientific and Technological Community MG: Mohamed Abdelraouf
- NGO MG: Ingrid Rostad, Djatougbe Aziaka
- Children and Youth MG: Yugratna Srivastava, Teresa Oberhauser
- Business and Industry: Michelle Tan
- Women: Frezer Yeheyis
- Local Authorities MG: Jean-Baptiste Buffet
- Regional Facilitators:
 - Asia and the Pacific: Ajay K Jha
 - Europe: Patrizia Heidegger, Sophiko Akhobadze
 - West Asia: Fatema Frutan, Tareq Ahmed Abdo Hassan
 - North America: Dan Burns

Summary of Minutes

1. MGS engagement in the UNEA 5.2 preparatory process

- It was emphasized that the 8th Annual Sub Committee Meeting (25-29 October 2021) is important as resolutions are presented and discussed, so MGFC members should make it convenient to participate.

2. RCMs

- West Asia RCM has been delayed because number of participation did not meet the quorum. The meeting is to take place before 12 November 2021.
- Asia Pacific RCM: organized MGS Forum on 4 Oct 2021 and participated in the 4th Asia Pacific Forum of Ministers and High Officials and related events during 5-8 October 2021. However, two of the NGOs could not speak in two sessions and MGS were not invited in person even though the event was hybrid. Subregional forums are taking place in Sri Lanka on 15-16 November 2021 and civil societies are not invited.
- Suggestion was made to have a discussion on making guidelines for organizing regional forums.

3. UNEA 5.2 update

- Participation: pending final confirmation, it will likely be a hybrid meeting with a physical participation limited to around 60 representatives from MGS (2p/MG), RF, cluster leaders, expert and regional leaders. The participants will also participate in the OECPR Meeting, Prep Com, and Special events on UNEP@50 for two weeks. However, only those fully vaccinated will be allowed to participate in-person.
- Registration: will likely begin late November to early December 2021. Only those fully vaccinated will be allowed to participate in-person. Funding is not assured yet, in any case, it would cover the travel cost for the 60 representatives.
- There were requests from MGS for increased participation. Suggestion was made that MGFC make a list of all who want to participate in person, as there may be some vacancy to be filled subject to necessary balance in representation.

4. GMGSF, preparation and implementation arrangements

- GMGSF will be organized online one week ahead of the OECPR Meeting and WECF and EEB have been asked to organize it as they were the only entity that responded to the call for proposal.
- Invitations will be send to MGFC members to join the planning team. The idea would be to have at least one person from each MG, RF and also people from the thematic clusters. The team will keep MGFC posted on the progress.

- Request from some MGs to look into the possibility of organizing GMGSF in a hybrid mode. They were encouraged to talk to the organizers.
5. Green Tent Management
- Green tent will be the space for side events and MGFC coordination at UNEA 5.2 like in previous UNEAs.
 - Co-Chair (Mohamed) will take lead in putting up a system to manage the green tent.
 - In face of proposals to make other spaces available so that hybrid side events can be organized, CSU expressed inability to arrange it, and suggested to make the best use of the green tent.
6. UNEA 5.2 reporting
- Previous experience of having MGFC newsletter, daily coverage during UNEA and its good feedback was shared. Co-chair (Mohamed) will take the lead in brining out UNEA Monitor during UNEA 5.2.
7. UNEP @50 update
- Cluster representative shared that they organized a consultation on 22 October 2021 with good representation. They will soon be inviting MGFC members to provide 2-3 paragraph inputs for the UNEP We Want Report as well as for collective statements. They also asked to provide names of persons to be interviewed, some of the people they already reached out to are Maria Ivanova, Felix Torres.
 - A consultation is proposed to take place in early November 2021.
 - Regarding the special event on UNEP@50, the cluster is trying to create space for MGS interventions in the opening and closing plenaries, but also at the high level leadership roundtables. Also the UNEP We Want Report to be presented in the official meeting.
8. Stockholm+50
- Cluster leaders reported to be coordinating for a November 2021 Consultation. They are looking for some sort of reimbursement for facilitators' translators as well as for the transportation.
 - UNEP encouraged further engagement from MGS, communicate their plans for Stockholm+50 to line up people and to take leadership.
9. AOB
- Co-Chair (Mohamed) proposed to start a social media campaign on major tasks from UNEA 5.2 and to put up a team for that.