



**Governing Council
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Assessment, monitoring and early warning: state of the environment

**Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development:
contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the
forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development**

**State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations
Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental
challenges**

**Water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment
Programme and relevant water-related activities**

Report of the Executive Director

1. On the basis of the discussions of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) concerning the updated UNEP water policy and strategy as contained in document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5 and further informal consultations on the subject, the Executive Director submits to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum a revised and updated document presenting the contents of document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5 in two separate parts, incorporating certain changes suggested by Governments during the above-mentioned consultative process. The two parts are:

(a) A revised and updated UNEP water policy and strategy (UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1);

(b) A progress report on the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, and coral reefs, and a brief on waste management (UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.2).

2. Although most of the text contained in document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5, as reviewed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, has been retained in the revised and updated UNEP water policy and strategy, the part of the text concerning the environmentally sound management of freshwater has been substantially amended in the updated document to provide a better indication of the freshwater-related activities intended to be undertaken by UNEP in the period 2005–2007 and of how the contribution of UNEP is linked to other water-related activities and programmes of the

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United Nations. Also, a section on coral reefs has been included in the revised document. The remainder of the text has been only slightly amended to reflect the restructuring of the original document into the revised two-part document and to incorporate the topic of focused freshwater activities and a section on cross-cutting issues. Details of the changes made to document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5 are given in the annex to the present note.

Annex

Explanatory note on the revisions made to document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5

The purpose of this note is to highlight the revisions made to the relevant chapters of document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5, forming the basis of document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1.

1. Cover page box

The box on the cover page has been revised to indicate that document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5 is being presented to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in two parts:

- (a) Document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1, containing the revised updated water policy and strategy;
- (b) Document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.2, containing a progress report on activities relating to the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, coral reefs, the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, the activities of UNEP related to marine safety and protection of the marine environment from accidental pollution and a brief on domestic, industrial and hazardous waste management towards a life-cycle economy.

2. Table outlining the revisions made to document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5, forming the basis of document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1.

	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	Updated water policy and strategy of UNEP	Introduction
	(paragraphs 2–26)	(paragraphs 1–2)
	This subsection contains 25 paragraphs, which essentially highlight the current key water issues on the international agenda and repeat the information contained in the background documents previously made available to the Governing Council, e.g. the background document for the eighth special session.	These two paragraphs recall the decisions of the Governing Council, specifically calling for an updated water policy and strategy based on a number of key policy issues relating to the environmental aspects of water.

	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	Mandate, objectives and role of UNEP	Mandate, objectives and role of UNEP
	(paragraphs 27–34)	(paragraphs 3–4)
	This subsection provides extensive coverage of the mandate and role of UNEP. The 8 paragraphs have now been reduced to 2	These paragraphs highlight the key components of the mandate of UNEP.
	Updated UNEP water policy and strategy	Goals, focal areas and expected outputs and outcomes
	(paragraphs 35–39)	(paragraphs 5–6)
	Paragraphs 35 and 36 have been removed as their essence has been captured in subsequent paragraphs. Goals In paragraph 38, two new sub-elements have been added. Focal Areas Paragraph 9 and its subparagraphs (a) to (k) are retained.	The title has now been amended to read: “Goals, focal areas and expected outputs and outcomes”. Goals Paragraph 5 retains all the elements (a to f) contained in paragraphs 37 and 38 of document UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5 and includes two new subparagraphs ((b) and (l)).

	<p>Expected outputs and outcomes</p> <p>Paragraph 130, page 26, contains subparagraphs (a) to (s).</p>	<p>Focal Areas</p> <p>In paragraph 6, a new subparagraph is added ((l)).</p> <p>Expected outputs and outcomes</p> <p>This subsection, which was paragraph 130 in Add.5, has been brought forward as subsection C, paragraph 7. The purpose is to highlight the overall expected outputs and outcomes of the UNEP water policy and strategy.</p> <p>An additional subparagraph (t) on coral reefs has been added.</p>
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	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	Key Components of the UNEP water policy and strategy (paragraph 40)	IV. Key Components (paragraph 8)
	<p>Assessing global water resources (paragraphs 41–56)</p> <p>Assessment activities in paragraphs 41-51 have been retained.</p> <p>Mandate, global objectives and role of UNEP in assessing water resources (paragraphs 52–54)</p> <p>Paragraphs 52–54 have been retained to a large extent.</p>	<p>Assessing global water resources (paragraphs 9–23)</p> <p>Paragraphs 14 and 15 have been revised to reflect the correct status of the Global International Waters Assessment (GIWA) and Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS) water programmes.</p> <p>Mandate, objectives and role of UNEP in assessing global water resources (Paragraphs 19–21)</p> <p>Paragraphs 52–54 largely retained from Add.5</p>
	<p>Work plan and strategy in assessing global water resources (paragraph 55)</p> <p>This subsection has been left largely intact, with very minor editorial changes.</p>	<p>Work plan and strategy in assessing global water resources (paragraph 22)</p> <p>Only minor editorial changes have been made in paragraphs 15 and 21.</p> <p>A new subparagraph (b) is added.</p>
	<p>Expected outputs of UNEP work in assessing global water resources (paragraph 56)</p> <p>This paragraph has been retained with minor editorial changes.</p>	<p>Expected outputs and outcomes of assessing global water resources (paragraph 23)</p> <p>The outputs in subparagraphs (a) to (i) are now presented in a clearer manner.</p> <p>New subparagraphs (k) to (n) have been added to reflect the full range of outputs and outcomes.</p>

	Managing water resources UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	Managing water resources UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	Regional Seas Programme (paragraphs 57–60) Paragraphs 57-60 remain largely unchanged.	Regional Seas Programme (paragraphs 26–27) No significant changes have been made to paragraphs 57–60 of Add.5.
	Mandate, Objectives and Role of Regional Seas Programme (paragraphs 61–62) No significant changes have been made.	Mandate, objectives and role of the Regional Seas Programme (paragraphs 28–30) No significant changes made to Add.5 Paragraphs 61-62
	Work plan and strategy of the regional seas programme (paragraphs 64–65) No significant changes made.	Work plan and strategy of the regional seas programme (paragraphs 31–33) No significant changes made to Add.5 paragraphs 64–65.

	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	Expected outputs and outcomes of the regional seas programme (paragraphs 67-68) No significant changes made. [No subsection on coral reefs]	Expected outputs and outcomes of the regional seas programme (paragraphs 34-35) No significant changes made to paragraphs 67-68 of Add.5. 2. Coral reefs (paragraphs 36-46) This subsection was missing in Add.5.
	Global Programme of Action for the Protection of Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (paragraphs 69–71) No substantial changes made.	Global Programme of Action for the Protection of Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (paragraphs 47–49) These paragraphs are the same as paragraphs 69–71 of Add.5.
	Mandate, objectives and role of the Global Programme of Action (GPA) (paragraphs 72-75) No significant changes have been made.	Mandate, objectives and role of the Global Programme of Action (GPA) (paragraphs 50-53) Very minor editorial changes have been made to paragraphs 72–75 of Add.5.

	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	<p>Work plan and strategy of the GPA (paragraphs 76–81)</p> <p>The main elements of paragraphs 76–81 have been retained.</p> <p>Expected outputs and outcomes of the GPA (paragraphs 82–86)</p> <p>No substantial changes have been made.</p>	<p>Work plan and strategy of the GPA (paragraphs 54–71)</p> <p>In order to highlight the key elements in the work plan, each paragraph (paragraphs 54-71) highlights the main action areas. For example, paragraph 54 begins with: “Prepare a programme of work for the next period for consideration by Governments during the second Intergovernmental Review Meeting in 2006.” What follows in this paragraph are additional details derived from the relevant paragraph in Add.5, in this case paragraph 76.</p> <p>Expected outputs and outcomes of the GPA (paragraphs 72-81)</p> <p>Some Add.5 paragraphs have been split to create new paragraphs, but only with minimal editorial changes and rearrangements.</p>
	<p>UNEP Programme for the environmentally-sound management of freshwater (paragraphs 87–100)</p> <p>The 14 paragraphs have been consolidated into five paragraphs.</p>	<p>UNEP Programme for the environmentally-sound management of freshwater (paragraphs 82–84)</p> <p>The five paragraphs in this subsection contain the essence of the 14 paragraphs in Add.5.</p>

	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	<p>Mandate, objectives and role (paragraphs 101-104)</p> <p>These paragraphs have been significantly edited.</p>	<p>Mandate, objectives and role (paragraphs 88-92)</p> <p>These five paragraphs now contain much the same points and elements as paragraphs 101-104 of Add.5, but in a much more focused manner.</p>
	<p>Work plan and strategy (paragraph 106)</p> <p>This paragraph has now been re-organized to highlight the main activities with further explanatory text.</p>	<p>Work plan and strategy (paragraphs 92-96)</p> <p>The essential material in paragraph 106 of Add.5 has been retained, but reorganized in a more focused manner.</p>
	<p>Expected outputs and outcomes (paragraphs 106-107)</p> <p>This paragraph contains a number of outputs that the Secretariat has now rearranged in Rev.1.</p>	<p>Expected outputs and outcomes (paragraph 95)</p> <p>This paragraph has undergone significant editing and elements have been clustered.</p>
	<p>Subsections D (Environmental aspects of legal instruments and processes); E (Capacity-building); G (Public awareness); H (Public-private partnerships); I (Environmentally-sound technology); J (Best practices) (paragraphs 106-116)</p> <p>These paragraphs have been retained, but placed under a new subsection (V) (Cross-cutting issues and activities) in Rev.1.</p>	<p>Cross-cutting issues and activities (paragraphs 96-100)</p> <p>This subsection retains paragraphs 109, 110, 114, 115, 116, 117 and 118 of Add.5.</p>

	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
		Paragraphs 111-113 of Add.5 on regional implementation have been moved to subsection VI (Institutional arrangements, coordination, partnerships, mobilising action) as paragraphs 105-107.

	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5	UNEP/GC.23/3/Add.5/Rev.1/Add.1
	<p>Global water resources: coordination, partnerships and mobilizing action (paragraphs 119-136)</p> <p>These paragraphs have been rearranged, slightly edited and inserted into a new subsection IV in Rev.1 entitled "Institutional arrangements, coordination, partnerships, mobilizing actions".</p>	<p>Paragraphs 101-112 are in a new subsection covering global implementation, regional implementation, national implementation, civil society engagement, Secretariat-level coordination and implementation and financing the water policy and strategy. Some Governments did suggest these arrangements be made very clear.</p>
	<p>Monitoring and evaluating the UNEP water policy and strategy (paragraphs 131-133)</p> <p>These paragraphs have been retained but moved to a new subsection in Rev.1.</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluating the UNEP water policy and strategy (paragraph 112)</p> <p>This is a new subsection replacing paragraphs 131-133 of Add.5.</p>