



Major Groups and Stakeholders Consultation on International Environmental Governance

**25 October 2010
Environment House 1
Geneva, Switzerland**

This meeting has been made possible with the financial support from the Swiss Federal Office of the Environment, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear safety of Germany and UNEP.

Background

In cooperation with the relevant UNEP Divisions (DELC and DTIE), UNEP's Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch (MGSB) will host two thematic consultations with major groups and stakeholders (MGS) in Geneva on two important areas of UNEP's work: international environmental governance (IEG) and the Green Economy (GE). The IEG consultation will take place on 25 October, 2010 and the GE consultation will take place on 26 October, 2010.

The objectives of the IEG consultation

- To update MGS on the work of the High-level Ministerial Consultative Group and the outcomes of its first Consultative Group meeting held in July in Nairobi;
- To provide an opportunity for MGS to assess the IEG options currently under discussion, to examine alternative options, and to identify implementation and communication outreach strategies.
- To examine how to enhance overall MGS contribution to the 2nd Consultative Group meeting on 21-23 November in Helsinki.

The recently released background documents on the 9 options for the IEG system can be found on:

<http://unep.org/environmentalgovernance/Introduction/GCfeb2010/tabid/4556/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Participants and target groups

Major groups and stakeholders (MGS) will be the main target groups and participants. A priority will be given to the selected MGS Advisory IEG Group members and any other Major groups and stakeholders who have substantive experience on IEG. Selected UNEP officials and government representatives will be invited to participate. 15 participants will be sponsored by UNEP to attend the meeting. However an open invitation will be extended to major networks. Approximately 35 participants are expected to attend the meeting.

Expected outcomes

In light of the recent consultation process with MGS on the work of the High-level Ministerial Consultative Group, this meeting will provide an important opportunity for MGS to meet face-to-face with each other, UNEP officials and government representatives to exchange views regarding key issues of concern regarding the most recent background documents on the 9 IEG options and the Co-Chairs' Summary on IEG and to identify the concrete proposals and feedback that should be transmitted to the official process, especially the second meeting of the Consultative Group of Ministers and high-level representatives on IEG which takes place from 21-23 November in Helsinki as well as into the UNEP GC/GMEF, the UN-CSD process and the Rio+20 preparatory process.

This consultation will also address the process needed to ensure that interactive channels for MGS input into the official process are established and sustained. Of particular importance is the need to ensure that MGS feedback is acknowledged and addressed in the official process.

Resource persons

Resource persons will include UNEP staff and representatives from major groups and stakeholders and Governments / members of the High-level Consultative Group.

Contact

civil.society@unep.org

Websites and relevant links

<http://www.unep.org/environmentalgovernance/Home/tabid/180/Default.aspx>

<http://www.unep.org/environmentalgovernance/Introduction/GCfeb2010/tabid/4556/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

<http://environmentalgovernance.org/>

AGENDA

- 09h00-09h30** **Welcome and overview**
Christophe Bouvier, Director UNEP/Regional Office for Europe
Alexander Juras, Chief Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch (MGSB),
UNEP
- 09h30-10h30** **Tour de table introductions**
- 10h30-11h00** **Update on IEG process and discussion**
W. Bradnee Chambers, Senior Programme Officer, UNEP (15min)
- 11h00-11h15** **Coffee break**
- 11h15-11h45** **Brief Overview of MGS inputs to IEG Session 2 documents**
Maria Ivanova and *Ernest Rukangira*, Interim Co-Facilitators of IEG
Advisory Group as presenters followed by any other AG member.
- 11h45-12h15** **Group dialogue**
Vision and working methods for the IEG Advisory Group, including how
non-Advisory Group members can contribute.
Areas requiring further attention: substantive ideas in relation to the
process.
- 12h15-12h35** **Government Perspectives on IEG**
Daniel Ziegerer, Deputy Head of Section, Federal Office for the
Environment, Switzerland
Jaana Vormisto, Senior Adviser, Unit for International and EU affairs
Ministry of the Environment, Finland
- 12h35-13h15** **Group dialogue**
- Converging and diverging views on IEG
 - Role of MGS in official process
 - Government expectations from MGS
 - Enhancing interaction between MGS and governments in IEG
process
- 13h15-14h15** **Working Lunch (discussion on how to enhance MGS participation in
the IEG process)**

- 14h15-16h15** **Working Group sessions on IEG options (including parallel meeting of the IEG Advisory Group)**
- 16h15-17h00** **Working Group reports and group discussion**
- Areas of convergence and divergence
 - Possible preferred options
 - Strategic considerations
 - Preparation of the meeting report
 - Next Steps
- 17h00 – 17h30** **Closing remarks by UNEP**
- 17h30 – 19h00** **IEG Advisory Group discussion on next operative steps**
- Strategies for communication, collaboration and outreach
 - Election of permanent facilitators