



## **Outcomes of Second Intergovernmental Review Meeting of the GPA**

### **Background**

The Second Intergovernmental Review (IGR-2) meeting of the Global Programme of Action (GPA), hosted by the Government of the People's Republic of China, was held on 16-20 October 2006. Over 500 participants - representing 104 governments and the European Commission, international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) – gathered to review the implementation of the GPA and strongly renewed their commitment to address land-based sources of marine pollution at the national, regional and global levels. The IGR-2 resulted in a number of important outcomes demonstrating a growing momentum to address land-based sources of marine pollution through the GPA, including: an endorsed Beijing Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the GPA, in which Governments endorse the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office Programme of Work for 2007-2011 at an appropriate level of funding, and welcome the Guidance Document for the further implementation of the GPA: 2007-2011; and a Chair's summary of the high-level discussions.

### **Purpose**

The GPA and the intergovernmental review will be of relevance to the discussions of the GC-24/GMEF. First, the Beijing Declaration and IGR-2 outcomes will be presented to the GC-24/GMEF for endorsement as valuable contributions to the implementation of Agenda 21 and other internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. Second, the GC-24/GMEF will review the UNEP Water Policy and Strategy. The GPA is featured in both the strategy for oceans and coasts, and the freshwater strategy. In light of this, the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office, UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and Stakeholder Forum wish to convene a side-event at the 24th UNEP GC/GMEF. In bringing together Government and civil society representatives, the side-event will:

- Review and promote the outcomes of the IGR-2;
- Highlight contribution of the GPA in UNEP's water policy and strategy for UNEP, as the only intergovernmental programme that addresses the inter-linkages between freshwater and the coastal environment;
- Discuss the way forward for the GPA beyond the IGR-2.

### **Contact**

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