



Distr.: Limited  
7 February 2011

Original: English



**Governing Council  
of the United Nations  
Environment Programme**

**Twenty-sixth session of the Governing Council/  
Global Ministerial Environment Forum**  
Nairobi, 21–24 February 2011  
Items 4–6 of the provisional agenda\*

**Policy issues**

**Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of  
United Nations summits and major intergovernmental  
meetings, including the decisions of the Governing  
Council**

**Budget and programme of work for the biennium  
2012–2013 and the Environment Fund and other  
budgetary matters**

**Draft decisions prepared by the Committee of Permanent  
Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme  
for consideration by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial  
Environment Forum at its twenty-sixth session**

*Summary*

The Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme submits herewith draft decisions prepared by the Committee for consideration by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-sixth session pursuant to the Committee's mandate set out in Governing Council decision 19/32 of 4 April 1997.

\* UNEP/GC.26/1.

1.	International environmental governance .....	3
2.	World environment situation .....	6
3.	Chemicals management, including mercury .....	12
4.	Intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services	15
5.	A 10 Year Framework of Programmes on sustainable consumption and production	16
6.	Waste management.....	18
7.	Organizing the third intergovernmental review meeting of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities...	19
8.	Consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes .....	20
9.	Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility .....	21
10.	Proposed biennial programme and support budget for 2012-2013.....	22
11.	Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions .....	23
12.	Enhanced coordination across the United Nations system, including the Environment Management Group.....	26
13.	Enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and wastes cluster ...	27
14.	Omnibus decision on reports of the Executive Director.....	29
15.	Global Environment Monitoring System Water Programme .....	29
16.	E-waste problems.....	30
17.	Date, place and provisional agenda for GCSS.XII/GMEF and GC27/GMEF .....	31

## 1. International environmental governance

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling [noting (United States of America)] its decision 25/4, on international environmental governance, of 20 February 2009, in which it established a consultative group of ministers or high-level representatives that in accordance with its mandate presented a set of options for improving international environmental governance<sup>1</sup> to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its eleventh special session, with a view to providing inputs to the General Assembly,*

*Recalling also its decision SS.XI/1 of 26 February 2010, on international environmental governance, in which it decided to establish a further regionally representative, consultative group of ministers or high-level representatives (the consultative group), which was requested to consider the broader reform of the international environmental governance system, building on the set of options but remaining open to new ideas,*

*Expressing thanks to the Governments of Kenya and Finland for hosting the meetings of the consultative group in Nairobi and Espoo, respectively, and gratitude to the Minister of Environment of Finland and the Minister of Environment and Mineral Resources of Kenya for co-chairing the consultative group and appreciation to the Executive Director for serving as adviser to the group,*

*Noting that inputs to the consultative group were made by civil society groups through the secretariat and by the United Nations system through the Environment Management Group and through the participation of designated high-level representatives of relevant United Nations agencies at meetings of the consultative group,*

*[Having considered the actors responsible for following up on the functions and system-wide responses set out in the annex to the present decision, (Switzerland)]*

*Having considered [also] that strengthening the global authoritative voice, as well as other voices, for the environment is a key outcome of the international environmental governance reform process, providing credible, coherent and effective leadership for environmental sustainability under the overall framework of sustainable development,*

*Stressing the importance of securing political momentum for and efficient follow-up to the international environmental governance process,*

1. *Endorses [Takes note of (Japan) (Canada)] the results of the consultative group as contained in the outcome document of the consultative group's meetings, known as the "Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome";<sup>2</sup>*

2. *[Identifies the actors responsible for the [Notes the potential actors who would be responsible for the implementation of the (Canada)] corresponding system-wide responses as set out in the annex to the present decision and requests the Executive Director in his capacity as chair of the Environment Management Group to initiate consultations with the relevant United Nations bodies to follow up on their implementation; (Switzerland) (United States)]*

3. *Endorses [Takes note of (Japan) (Canada)] the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of incremental changes identified in the set of options;<sup>3</sup>*

4. *[Invites the President of the Governing Council to transmit the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome to [the Commission on Sustainable Development at its nineteenth session (Thailand)] the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at its second session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session; (Switzerland)]*

5. *Decides to accord the Executive Director a mandate to form a high-level expert group [, taking into consideration the need to ensure representation from all United Nations regional groups and the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, (Thailand)] to develop the options for broader institutional reform as identified in the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome, including a full analysis of the financial, legal and comparative advantages of each option; (Switzerland – to provide text)]*

---

1 UNEP/GCSS.XI/4.

2 UNEP/GC.26/18.

3 UNEP/GC.26/3.

6. [Requests the Executive Director to make available the analysis from that expert group in a timely fashion to assist in the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, [and to present periodic and partial reports on the drafting of the analysis (Argentina)] so as to inform decision-making and maintain the political momentum for and efficient follow-up to the international environmental governance process;] (Brazil)] (United States) (Switzerland – to provide text)

7. [Requests [Invites (Canada)] the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as a contribution to the strengthening of the institutional framework for sustainable development, to identify the appropriate institutional arrangements for improving international environmental governance based on the broader institutional reform options identified in the set of options identified pursuant to decision 25/4 and in the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome; (United States)]

[7 bis. Invites the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to identify appropriate and practical institutional arrangements for improving the international environmental governance in the context of strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development; (Mexico)]

[7 ter. Invites the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to propose options for broader institutional reform, taking into account those identified in the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome, including through a full analysis of the financial, legal and comparative advantages of each option; (Mexico)]

8. Requests the Executive Director to provide a report on progress in the implementation of the present decision to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twelfth special session, in 2012.

[Annex

Functions and potential system-wide responses	Implementation of, and actors responsible for, follow-up
(a) To strengthen the science-policy interface with the full and meaningful participation of developing countries; to meet the science-policy capacity needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including improvement of scientific research and development at the national level; and to build on existing international environmental assessments, scientific panels and information networks. The overall purpose would be to facilitate cooperation in the collection, management, analysis, use and exchange of environmental information, the further development of internationally agreed indicators, including through financial support and capacity-building in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, early warning, alert services, assessments, the preparation of science-based advice and the development of policy options. In this context, the Global Environment Outlook process must be strengthened and work in cooperation and coordination with existing platforms;	The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with science unions, academies [and bodies and technical and scientific bodies of multilateral environmental agreements and relevant United Nations organizations and agencies.] [and bodies and intergovernmental bodies relevant to, and scientific and technical bodies of, multilateral environmental agreements and United Nations organizations and agencies (Thailand)]
(b) To develop a system-wide strategy for environment in the United Nations system to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the United Nations system and in that way contribute to strengthening the environmental pillar of sustainable development. The strategy should increase interagency cooperation and clarify the division of labour within the United Nations system. It should be developed through an inclusive process involving Governments and seeking input from civil society;	Development by the Environment Management Group and input and ownership by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination followed by endorsement by the General Assembly.
(c) To encourage synergies between compatible multilateral environmental agreements and to identify guiding elements for realizing such synergies while respecting the autonomy of the conferences of the parties. Such synergies should promote the joint delivery of common multilateral environmental agreement services with the aim of making them more efficient and cost-effective. They should be based on lessons learned and remain flexible and adaptive to the specific needs of multilateral environmental agreements. They should aim at reducing the administrative costs of secretariats to free up resources for the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements at the national level, including through capacity-building;	General Assembly resolution, followed-up by implementation to be carried out with multilateral environmental agreement secretariats and conferences of parties in collaboration with UNEP and relevant United Nations organizations and agencies.

Functions and potential system-wide responses	Implementation of, and actors responsible for, follow-up
<p>(d) To create a stronger link between global environmental policy making and financing aimed at widening and deepening the funding base for environment with the goal of securing sufficient, predictable and coherent funding and increasing accessibility, cooperation and coherence among financing mechanisms and funds for the environment, with the aim of helping to meet the need for new and additional funding to bridge the policy-implementation gap through new revenue streams for implementation. Enhanced linkage between policy and financing is needed along with stronger and more predictable contributions and partnerships with major donors and the pooling of public and supplementary private revenue streams. To consider the development of financial tracking systems, including their costs and benefits, based on existing systems to track financial flows and volumes comprehensively at the international and regional levels, as well as a strategy for greater involvement of private sector financing;</p>	<p>UNEP, in consultation with the Environment Management Group, international financial institutions and the Chief Executives Board for Coordination.</p>
<p>(e) To develop a system-wide capacity-building framework for the environment to ensure a responsive and cohesive approach to meeting country needs, taking into account the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-Building. The framework should be targeted at strengthening national capacities required to implement multilateral environment agreements and agreed international environmental objectives;</p>	<p>The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with UNEP to develop a draft framework followed by consultation through the Environment Management Group and the United Nations Development Group and endorsement by the General Assembly.</p>
<p>(f) To continue to strengthen strategic engagement at the regional level by further increasing the capacity of UNEP regional offices to be more responsive to country environmental needs. The aim of such strengthening should be to increase country responsiveness and implementation. Environmental expertise within United Nations country teams should be strengthened, including through UNEP.</p>	<p>UNEP, in collaboration with UNDP and United Nations country teams. [UNEP, in collaboration with UNDP and other United Nations agencies, including United Nations country teams (Pakistan)]</p>

(Switzerland and United States)]

## 2. World environment situation

*The Governing Council,*

*Pursuing* its functions and responsibilities, as outlined in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, including to keep under review the world environmental situation in order to ensure that emerging environmental problems of wide international significance are prioritized and receive appropriate and adequate consideration by Governments, and to promote the contribution of the relevant international scientific and other professional communities to the acquisition, assessment and exchange of environmental knowledge and information,

*Recalling* its decisions 22/1 of 7 February 2003 on early warning, assessment and monitoring, 23/6 of 25 February 2005 on keeping the world environmental situation under review, SS.X/5 of 22 February 2008 on the Global Environment Outlook: environment for development, and 25/2 of 20 February 2009 on the world environmental situation,

*Noting* the findings contained in a number of other environmental assessment reports and publications released since the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, in particular, those prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme in cooperation with partners and presented in the report of the Executive Director on the state of the environment and the contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to addressing substantive environmental challenges,<sup>4</sup>

*Noting also* the findings of scientific environmental assessments conducted between 2009 and 2011,<sup>5</sup>

*Expressing concern* that the documented environmental degradation and widespread changes resulting from human activity together with natural processes and the loss of ecosystem services are barriers to the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, [sustainable development (text to be provided by Brazil)]

*Welcoming with appreciation* efforts by the United Nations Environment Programme to increase the impact of its scientific assessments by improving their coherence and scientific rigour and to build regional and national capacities for environmental data collection, information and assessment, performed in cooperation with other United Nations entities, national Governments, non-governmental organizations and other partners,

*Recognizing* that a core mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme is to keep under review the world environmental situation and provide policy-relevant guidance in addressing emerging environmental problems in response to the findings of key scientific assessments, [and that the United Nations Environment Programme, through the Science and Technology Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility, is responsible for identifying future environmental challenges and providing scientific and technological advice to the financing mechanism of the global conventions, (Norway)]

*Recalling* section III of its decision 25/2, by which it called for a set of requirements for a migration to targeted assessments on thematic priority areas supported by a UNEP-Live enabling framework, section II of its decision 25/2 on improvements to the international environmental assessment landscape and section I A of decision 22/1 on strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Mindful* of the needs articulated in the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building that, among other things, called for capacity-building in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve the management of environmental data and information for environmental assessment, reporting and early warning,

*Welcoming* the report submitted by the Executive Director in response to section III of decision 25/2,<sup>6</sup>

---

4 UNEP/GC.26/4.

5 UNEP/GC.26/INF/13.

6 UNEP/GC.26/4/Add.1.

## I

**Scientific findings of recent assessments****Climate change**

1. *Acknowledges* the role that the United Nations Environment Programme played as convener, together with the European Climate Foundation and the Mexican Institute of National Ecology, in bringing together leading scientists and analysts in the preparation of the publication: *The Emissions Gap Report – Are the Copenhagen Accord Pledges Sufficient to Limit Global Warming to 2° C or 1.5° C?*;

2. *Notes* that the report clearly identified the ranges of greenhouse-gas reductions possible in the implementation of Copenhagen Accord pledges under various scenarios, notes further that [the report outlines the gap that remains even with the best or the most rigorous implementation of the pledges (Australia)] [the report's finding that, even if countries met their most ambitious pledges, global emissions in 2020 would be higher than the level consistent with a likely chance of limiting temperature rise to 2° C (Australia)] and therefore encourages the international community [and climate negotiators (Australia)] to look at the study and consider how far they could go with existing pledges; [and how much more they need to do to keep the temperature increases to safe levels (Australia)] [in the context of holding the increase in global average temperature below 2° C above pre-industrial levels; (Australia)]

3. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue this work in collaboration with other relevant agencies within and outside the United Nations system and to keep the topic under review [until such time as the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change decide otherwise (Australia)];

4. *Also acknowledges* the cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, the Stockholm Environment Institute, the International Institute of Applied System Analysis, the European Commission Joint Research Centre and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Goddard Institute for Space Studies in developing the scope of the Integrated Assessment of Black Carbon and Tropospheric Ozone and Its Precursors and ensuring its implementation;

5. *Notes* the findings of the Integrated Assessment of Black Carbon and Tropospheric Ozone and Its Precursors as presented in its summary for decision makers and calls upon Governments, intergovernmental organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to consider implementation of the mitigation measures recommended by the assessment as important complementary measures to reductions of long-lived greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, in order to help impede both near-term and long-term climate [change (Canada)] and to promote major positive effects on human and ecosystem health and agriculture, through their relevant environmental policies, plans, programmes and activities;

6. *Encourages* the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to take note of the outcomes of the Integrated Assessment of Black Carbon and Tropospheric Ozone and Its Precursors in preparing its fifth assessment report;

**Disasters and conflicts**

7. *Calls upon* Governments, United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society fully to consider key findings on the potential impacts of environmental degradation, [loss of biodiversity, (Canada)] climate change and poor governance on disaster and conflict vulnerability and to demonstrate leadership in promoting ecosystem services and the sustainable management of natural resources as an integral part of disaster resilience, conflict prevention and peacebuilding strategies;

8. *Acknowledges* the development of environmental assessment methodologies for inter-agency post-crisis needs assessments and other post-crisis priority-setting exercises, and urges their systematic application by Governments, United Nations agencies and international financial institutions, [international donors and development agencies, (Egypt)] where relevant;

9. *Also acknowledges* the cooperation of the United Nations Environment Programme with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in preparing the 2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction, which calls upon Governments to protect and enhance the services provided by ecosystems for natural hazard mitigation, livelihood security and building

resilience against climate change impacts, and to use ecosystem-based management approaches for disaster risk reduction;

10. *Notes* the findings of the report of the Secretary-General on climate change and its possible security implications,<sup>7</sup> in particular the need for early warning systems, research to improve the understanding of linkages between climate change and security, and targeted preventive diplomacy and mediation, and also the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict,<sup>8</sup> which calls upon Governments and the United Nations system to make questions of natural resource allocation, ownership and access an integral part of peacebuilding strategies;

### **Ecosystem management**

11. *Urges* Governments, international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society fully to consider the key findings of the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity report and to demonstrate leadership in considering biodiversity, ecosystems and the services that they provide an integral part of development planning and an integral part of the infrastructure critical to the attainment of development targets; [Building on the results of the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity report and other processes, to cooperate with relevant organizations such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the aim of further developing economic aspects related to ecosystem services and biodiversity; developing implementation tools for the integration of economic aspects of biodiversity and ecosystem services; and facilitating implementation and capacity-building for such tools; (Norway)]; [ensuring know-how transfer to developing countries and countries with economies in transition; (Egypt)]

[11 bis. *Notes* the conclusion of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook report that the target agreed by the world's Governments in 2002, "to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth", has not been met; and that biodiversity loss is an issue of profound concern for its own sake and threatens the functioning of ecosystems that provide a wide range of services to human societies; (Canada)]

12. *Encourages* Governments to use the results of scientific assessments to inform decision-making and to support the development of an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services;

### **Environmental governance**

13. *Notes* the findings of the United Nations Environment Programme *Year Book 2011*<sup>9</sup> on emerging environmental issues associated with plastic debris in the ocean, phosphorus use and food production, and pressures on forest biodiversity;

14. *Acknowledges* the technical assistance and capacity-building provided by the United Nations Environment Programme to support regional, national and subnational assessments, and calls for this assistance to be intensified and for national assessments to be integrated into work programmes being undertaken in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, with a view to further enhancing the "Delivering as One" initiative;

15. *Also acknowledges* the progress made in the production of the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series and in refocusing the report to include an analysis of policy options to speed up realization of the internationally agreed goals and targets;

16. *Urges* Governments fully to consider findings resulting from interlinkages between the international environment governance process, the integrated scientific assessments by the United Nations Environment Programme, such as the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series, [the third report in the Global Biodiversity Outlook series, (Canada)] the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management, and the green economy processes;

17. *Urges* Governments and others with the means to do so to provide technical and financial resources to support the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series and all other major assessments;

---

7 A/64/350.

8 A/63/881-S/2009/304.

9 UNEP/GC.26/INF/2.

## Harmful substances and hazardous waste

18. *Acknowledges* the findings of the global, regional and national scientific assessments conducted by the United Nations Environment Programme to assist Governments to understand the sources, transport and fate of mercury releases and the means to reduce them, and requests the Executive Director, coordinating as appropriate with Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other stakeholders, including the partners of the Global Mercury Partnership, to continue and enhance efforts to strengthen the scientific basis of work to reduce risks from mercury releases;

19. *Urges* Governments to consider, as appropriate, the findings of these scientific assessments in their negotiations to develop a legally binding instrument on mercury and in ranking their immediate actions to reduce mercury release and encourages those with the means to do so to provide technical and financial resources to support such assessments;

20. *[Acknowledges] [Takes note of (Canada)]* the findings of the final reviews of the scientific information on lead and on cadmium and their appendices, and requests the Executive Director, coordinating as appropriate with Governments, intergovernmental organizations, and other stakeholders, to continue and to enhance efforts to strengthen the scientific basis of work to reduce risks from releases of these metals;

21. *Also acknowledges* the scientific assessment work of the United Nations Environment Programme in support of the implementation, evolution and global monitoring of the chemicals and waste multilateral environment agreements, including the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, and of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, including of those emerging issues identified by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session;

22. *Welcomes* current plans to incorporate findings of the scientific assessment of harmful substances and hazardous waste, in particular the Global Chemicals Outlook, in the fifth report of the Global Environment Outlook process and requests the Executive Director, coordinating as appropriate with Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other stakeholders, to continue and to enhance efforts to strengthen the scientific basis of work to reduce risks to human health and the environment from harmful substances and hazardous waste;

## Resource efficiency

23. *Urges* Governments, United Nations agencies, financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to consider key environmental assessment findings, in particular those related to biodiversity, ecosystem services and the sustainable use of natural resources and their environmental impacts over the full life cycle, such as those from the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management, in the light of the growing awareness of the complexity of those challenges and their links to human well-being, resource scarcity and economic crisis, disaster and conflict risk reduction, and development goals;

24. *Calls upon* Governments to demonstrate strong leadership individually and collectively and to implement effective, science-based policy responses, including, where appropriate, economic instruments and market mechanisms such as those highlighted in the forthcoming green economy report and the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity report, and [those assessed in the reports of] [based on the scientific assessments provided by (Canada)] the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management to regulate and manage the environment and to ensure efficient use of its resources, and to continue to cooperate within the framework of multilateral processes that aim to reverse environmental degradation;

## II

### Impact of scientific assessments

25. *Urges* Governments to promote the use of integrated environmental assessments reporting on the state of the environment as regular information in relevant national and international policy processes to strengthen the scientific basis of environmental management and decision-making, and raise general awareness of emerging environmental issues;

26. *Requests* the Executive Director:

(a) Through the programme of work, to continue efforts towards improving the coherence of assessments through the application of consistent and appropriate methodologies and improving their scientific rigour through consistent, rigorous and appropriate review processes to assist in

developing scientific assessment processes that are credible, relevant and legitimate to enhance their impact, and to strengthen the capacities of countries [that are not meeting their environmental assessment and reporting obligations] [who so request in order to assist them (Brazil)];

(b) To assist countries in capacity development, [in line with the Bali Strategic Plan (Indonesia)] as appropriate, through the programme of work, to use global knowledge and experience in scientific assessments, notably the customization of global methodologies to other scales of implementation such as the national and city levels, to assist countries in [being able to identify key environmental issues that (Brazil)] building their capacity in the use of national and local data, and to support countries in identifying key environmental policy issues that require scientific research;

(c) To ensure consistency of messages between scientific assessment processes and macroeconomic research conducted under the green economy initiative of the United Nations Environment Programme, considering that other United Nations Environment Programme processes and products which will be linked to the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series include the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity reports, the green economy report, the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management and regional resource efficiency outlook reports, alongside the Global Chemicals Outlook;

(d) To ensure a holistic approach and coordination within the United Nations Environment Programme and across the Organization, through the programme of work, to assist countries in integrating the findings of the scientific assessments at all levels into national development policies, focusing on efforts to contribute to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals;

(e) To mobilize resources to identify knowledge gaps in the use of natural resources from a life-cycle point of view;

(f) To engage with the co-sponsors of the International Basic Safety Standards for the Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources, with a view to the co-sponsorship of a revised version that considers emerging issues from the evaluations conducted by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;

### III

#### **Future assessment of environmental change over the period 2012–2013**

27. *Requests* the Executive Director through the programme of work:

(a) To continue to conduct comprehensive integrated global and thematic environmental assessments to support decision-making processes at all levels, in the light of the continuing need for up to date, scientifically credible, policy-relevant information on environmental change worldwide, including analyses of cross-cutting issues;

(b) To engage all relevant stakeholders in conducting global and thematic environmental assessments to support and strengthen further their scientific credibility, policy relevance and legitimacy;

(c) To undertake policy-relevant global and thematic assessments of environmental change in accordance with the option that embeds the global assessment within the framework of the medium-term strategy;

(d) To allocate sufficient resources to facilitate the finalization of the summary for policymakers of the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook process in time to feed into the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012; [and seek to realize synergies with the work on identifying future environmental challenges performed by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel; (Norway)]

(e) To organize scientific assessments on the environmental impact of resource use from a life-cycle perspective;

28. *Urges* Governments to follow up on the work initiated with the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment by building their capacity and conducting new assessments of ecosystems and biodiversity [by leading and participating in multijurisdictional assessments (Canada)] and by using the results of the existing assessments to establish priorities for development and environmental protection;

29. *Encourages* Governments to support assessments of freshwater resources, both surface and groundwater, and land degradation and to take into account the critical role of ecosystems and biodiversity for food security and sustainable food production systems;

30. *Invites* the Executive Director, through engaging appropriate institutions, research networks and other partners, to establish a global open-ended consultative process on short-lived climate forcers to keep under review emerging science and associated policies and mitigation measures and to inform Governments, international organizations and main stakeholders appropriately;

31. *Calls upon* Governments [in a position to do so (Indonesia)] and relevant institutions to provide extrabudgetary resources for technical cooperation and capacity-building to support assessment initiatives;

32. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on progress in implementation of this initiative to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session, in 2013;

#### IV

#### International assessment landscape

33. *Invites* the Executive Director to consider developing a classification of environmental assessment methodologies with a view to assisting Governments in applying them effectively;

34. *Recommends* to Governments that they prepare regular, periodic assessments of the state of the environment at the regional, national and subnational levels, as part of legal, regulatory and budget frameworks;

35. *Requests* the Executive Director, subject to resource availability, to strengthen assistance to developing countries, in conducting environmental assessments and acting on their findings;

36. *Also requests* the Executive Director to develop and maintain a web-based platform to monitor the status of the international environmental assessment landscape;

37. *Further requests* the Executive Director to undertake a review of the integrated environmental assessment methodology with other methodologies widely and to propose ways to improve coherence and consolidate methodologies;

[37 bis. *Requests* the Executive Director to initiate discussions with the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, and competent United Nations agencies, as appropriate, regarding the potential role of the United Nations Environment Programme in providing technical and scientific support to the first cycle of the Regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects; (Australia)]

#### V

#### UNEP-Live

38. *Requests* the Executive Director to proceed with the development of the UNEP-Live platform and present:

(a) The pilot proof-of-concept phase of a UNEP-Live platform, consisting of a repository system, to the Governing Council at its twelfth special session, in 2012;

(b) A detailed set of requirements and costing of resources needed for the development of a more elaborate version of the UNEP-Live platform, to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session, in 2013;

39. *Also requests* the Executive Director:

(a) To mobilize partnerships and institutional and technical networks in the non-governmental and private sectors to provide technical assistance for the development of the UNEP-Live platform;

(b) To support and build the capacity of relevant environmental institutions in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with a view to:

(i) Collecting, managing, assessing, synthesizing and disseminating environmental, social and economic data, information and indicators;

(ii) More effectively carrying out their assessment, monitoring and reporting activities;

(c) To develop the global environmental information network in the international environmental governance initiative as an institutional support mechanism to underpin the development of the platform;

40. *Invites* Governments to engage in the development of the pilot UNEP-Live platform and make available the necessary data, information and indicators on priority environmental issues, and to engage national institutions as distributed participants in the platform;

41. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide an interim report on the status of the UNEP-Live platform to the Governing Council at its twelfth special session, in 2012.

### 3. Chemicals management, including mercury

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 18/12 of 26 May 1995, 19/13 of 7 February 1997, 20/23 of 4 February 1999, SS.VII/3 of 15 February 2002, 22/4 of 7 February 2003, 23/9 of 25 February 2005, SS.IX/1 of 9 February 2006, 24/3 of 9 February 2007 and 25/5 of 20 February 2009 concerning global policies related to chemicals management and the development of a strategic approach to international chemicals management,

*Acknowledging* the widespread concerns over the serious adverse effects of mercury on human health and the environment and the urgent need for international action,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the progress made in finalizing the reviews of scientific information on lead and cadmium,

*Noting* the widespread concerns over the serious adverse effects of lead and cadmium on human health and the environment and the need for international, regional, national and local attention and action, as deemed necessary, [*Noting* the widespread concerns over the serious adverse effects of lead and cadmium on human health and the environment and the need for further attention and action, as deemed necessary, (Australia) (Canada)]

*Noting also* that the work on global policies related to chemicals management will be carried out as part of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme, particularly the subprogramme on harmful substances and hazardous wastes, which, among other things, deals with mercury, lead and cadmium and the implementation of the environmental aspects of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management,

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Director on chemicals management, including mercury,<sup>10</sup>

#### I

#### Lead and cadmium

1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the progress and efforts made on lead and cadmium, including actions taken to finalize the reviews of scientific information on those metals,<sup>11</sup> in particular the actions taken to fill the data and information gaps in accordance with section II of decision 25/5 and other actions taken under the project addressing risks posed by exposure to lead and cadmium of the United Nations Environment Programme subprogramme on harmful substances and hazardous wastes;<sup>12</sup>

2. *Welcomes [Takes note of (Canada)]* the studies on the possible effects on human health and the environment of the trade of products containing lead, cadmium and mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Asia and the Pacific;<sup>13</sup>

3. *Notes* that, because of their relatively short residence time in the atmosphere, lead and cadmium are mainly transported over local, national or regional distances, while their transport in solution and suspension by rivers contributes to their transfer to the marine environment;

<sup>10</sup> UNEP/GC.26/5.

<sup>11</sup> UNEP/GC.26/INF/11 and Add.1.

<sup>12</sup> UNEP/GC.26/INF/11/Add.4.

<sup>13</sup> UNEP/GC.26/INF/11/Add.2 and Add.3.

4. *Also notes* that the export [and import (Canada)] of new and used products containing lead and cadmium remains a challenge for developing countries and countries with economies in transition as they lack the capacity to manage and dispose of such products in an environmentally sound manner;

5. *[Agrees] [Notes (Canada)] that [further international] [continued (Canada)], regional, national and local attention and action are needed] [Notes that further action is needed (Australia)] to tackle the challenges posed by lead and cadmium and encourages further efforts by Governments and others to continue reducing the risks to human health and the environment from lead and cadmium throughout the life cycles of these substances;*

6. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by Governments and others to tackle the risks posed by lead and cadmium, in particular to phase out lead from gasoline through the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, the initial actions under the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints and other initiatives and actions implemented within the United Nations Environment Programme, and urges Governments to continue participating in and contributing to these initiatives;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to promote and facilitate work in relation to the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints, and the initiative to coordinate global efforts to achieve the environmentally sound management of lead and cadmium batteries throughout their life cycles, while working in close cooperation and coordination with Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders;

8. *Also requests* the Executive Director, in coordination, with Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders as appropriate, and subject to the availability of resources, to continue [and enhance (Canada)] activities on lead and cadmium by the United Nations Environment Programme [in support of (Canada)] as part of the [international, regional, national and/or local attention and (Australia) (Canada)] action on lead and cadmium, with such activities to include capacity-building and awareness-raising in relation to the information contained in the reviews of scientific information on lead and cadmium and the environmental and human health problems associated with exposure to these two metals;

9. *Invites* Governments and others in a position to do so to provide extrabudgetary resources to support the implementation of the present decision in relation to lead and cadmium;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director to present a report on progress in the implementation of the present decision to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh regular session;

## II

### Mercury

11. *Recalls* its agreement to further international action consisting of the elaboration of a legally binding instrument on mercury, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches, together with interim activities, to reduce risks to human health and the environment;

12. *Acknowledges* the progress made by the United Nations Environment Programme mercury programme since 2005, including the establishment of and progress made under partnerships and other initiatives;

13. *Also acknowledges* the progress made at its first two sessions by the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury, supported by the Chemicals Branch of the United Nations Environment Programme Division of Technology, Industry and Economics as its secretariat, in preparing a global legally binding instrument on mercury;

[13 bis. *Acknowledges* the urgency of adequately taking into account within the negotiating process of a global legally binding instrument on mercury the social and economic impacts, the countries' implementation capacities and the need for access to affordable and effective means of implementation; (Mexico) (European Union)]

14. *Encourages* all Governments to participate actively in the committee's remaining sessions in order that it completes its work, as mandated by the Governing Council, prior to the twenty-seventh regular session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, in 2013;

15. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition to participate effectively in the committee's work;

[15 bis. *Notes* the need for developing countries to have updated information available for the negotiation of the global legally binding instrument, for which they will require international financial assistance; (Argentina)]

16. *Welcomes* the efforts by the United Nations Environment Programme and its partners to take immediate action on mercury through the Global Mercury Partnership and urges all partners to continue their efforts to take immediate steps to reduce risks from mercury exposure;

17. *Urges* Governments and other stakeholders to continue to support and contribute to the Global Mercury Partnership;

18. *Reiterates* its request that the Executive Director, in consultation with Governments, update the 2008 report, "Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions and Transport," for consideration by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-seventh regular session;

19. *Emphasizes* the need for Governments to provide information, upon request and in a timely manner, for inclusion in the above-mentioned updated report;

20. *Requests* the Executive Director, as a priority action, to continue to provide the necessary support to the intergovernmental negotiating committee, the United Nations Environment Programme mercury programme and the Global Mercury Partnership as near-term activities to address mercury;

21. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to facilitate close cooperation and coordination between the United Nations Environment Programme mercury programme and the Global Mercury Partnership and Governments, mercury-related activities under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and its Quick Start Programme, convention secretariats, including those of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

22. *Invites* Governments and others in a position to do so to provide extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of the present decision;

23. *Requests* the Executive Director to present a report on progress in the implementation of the present decision to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-seventh regular session;

### III

#### **Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management**

24. *Welcomes* the progress made to date in implementing the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;

25. *Notes* the efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme in implementing the Strategic Approach and the decisions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, in particular through the activities of the Strategic Approach secretariat and those elements of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme related to the environmental aspects of the Strategic Approach;

26. *Underlines* the importance of mainstreaming activities and the assessment of the economic and social costs of unsound chemicals management, including the cost of inaction and the implications for the health sector, together with the assessment of economic instruments that internalize the external costs related to chemicals, to be reflected in the first Global Chemicals Outlook report, to be published in early 2012;

27. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and others in a position to do so to contribute financially and in kind to the implementation of the Strategic Approach, including through the Quick Start Programme, the secretariat and the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme.

#### 4. Intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its main functions and responsibilities set out in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, under which the Governing Council is, among other things, to promote the contribution of the relevant international scientific and other professional communities to the acquisition, assessment and exchange of environmental knowledge and information and, as appropriate, to the technical aspects of the formulation and implementation of environmental programmes within the United Nations system,

*Taking note* of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and its follow-up process, the consultative process towards an international mechanism of scientific expertise on biodiversity and decision IX/15 [decisions IX/15 and X/11 (Argentina)] of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

*Recalling* its decision SS.XI/4 of 26 February 2010,

*Recognizing* the need to strengthen and improve the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for human well-being through the establishment of a [new (Argentina)] science-policy platform,

*[Taking note* of decision X/11 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and decision 185 EX/43 of by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, by which both bodies endorsed the establishment of an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, (Brazil)] [without prejudice to its final modalities and institutional arrangements, (Argentina)]

*[Taking note* of the General Assembly resolution 65/162 of 20 December 2010, by which the General Assembly endorsed the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, (Mexico)]

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Director on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services,<sup>14</sup>

1. *[Welcomes* (Argentina)] *[Notes* (Australia)] *Endorses* the outcomes of the third and final ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 7 to 11 June 2010;

[2. *Decides* to establish, in cooperation with the relevant organizations and bodies, an intergovernmental science-policy platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services, in order to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development; (European Union) (Japan) (Brazil)]

[2 bis. *Decides*, based on the request by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/162 of 20 December 2010, without prejudice to the final institutional arrangements of the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services and in consultation with all relevant organizations and bodies, in order fully to operationalize the platform, to convene a plenary meeting providing for the full and effective participation of all member States, in particular representatives from developing countries, to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for the platform; (Mexico)]

3. *Requests* the Executive Director, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organizations and bodies, [including the biodiversity-related conventions (Argentina)] to convene a first plenary meeting of the platform [as soon as possible and in the course of 2011 (Japan)] in order fully to operationalize it without prejudice to its final institutional arrangements [and modalities determined at the earliest opportunity providing for the full and effective participation of all member States, in particular representatives of developing countries (Argentina)];

[3 bis. *Requests* the Executive Director to undertake consultations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant organizations and bodies, to assure the full and effective participation of the United Nations system in the first plenary meeting of the platform; (Mexico)]

4. *Also requests* the Executive Director, in preparation for the first plenary meeting of the platform, to invite [Governments and] relevant organizations [and bodies (Mexico)] to signify their intent [interest (Canada)] to host the platform's secretariat, [and to invite Governments to submit their offers for the physical location of the secretariat, using as guidance the criteria contained in the note by the secretariat on options and criteria for selecting the secretariat;<sup>15</sup> (Canada) (Australia)] [as appropriate; (Argentina) (Canada)]

5. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to submit to the platform [at its first plenary meeting (Canada) (Islamic Republic of Iran)] an offer signifying the intent of the United Nations Environment Programme to host the secretariat of the platform and support the functioning of the platform and, subject to the platform's decision at its first plenary meeting on its final institutional arrangements, to make the necessary institutional arrangements in cooperation with other relevant organizations and bodies;

6. *Invites* Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so to provide financial resources or other contributions to support the platform's functioning and to support the full and effective participation of representatives from developing countries in the platform's plenary meetings;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on progress in the implementation of the present decision to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session.

## 5. Ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* Agenda 21,<sup>16</sup> adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which in its paragraph 4.8 calls for action to meet the objective of promoting patterns of consumption and production that reduce environmental stress and will meet the basic needs of humanity,

*Recalling also* paragraphs 2, 14 and 15 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,<sup>17</sup>

*Recalling further* Governing Council decision 22/6 of 7 February 2003,

*Recognizing* that resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production are one of the six cross-cutting priorities and objectives of the United Nations Environment Programme's medium-term strategy for the period 2010–2013, which is aimed at providing strategic direction to the Programme's activities in all areas,

*Commending* progress made since the twenty-second session of the Governing Council in advancing the sustainable consumption and production agenda through the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, notably through its subprogramme on resource efficiency, and through the activities of the Marrakech Process on Sustainable Consumption and Production,

*Acknowledging* the numerous and diverse sustainable consumption and production initiatives under way at the national, regional and international levels, many of which have received financial and technical support from the United Nations Environment Programme and the Marrakech Process,

15 UNEP/IPBES/3/INF/4/Add.1.

16 *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

17 *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

*Welcoming* the support demonstrated for the development of a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighteenth session, in 2010, and also welcoming the recognition by the Commission of the work of the Marrakech Process and its task forces,

*Welcoming also* the strengthened collaboration between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs during the current cycle of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and expressing support for the increased participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in preparations for and the implementation of the outcomes of the Commission's nineteenth session,

*Acknowledging* that further progress in achieving sustainable consumption and production requires a more coherent and sustained approach to respond in the most appropriate and efficient way to regional and national priorities and needs, to scale up and build linkages between relevant initiatives and actions within the United Nations family and other stakeholders, and to channel resource mobilization effectively,

1. *Invites* the Executive Director to build upon and strengthen the United Nations Environment Programme's existing activities and initiatives with relevant governmental institutions and [all] [other (Pakistan)] stakeholders in promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns;

2. *Supports* Aichi Biodiversity Target 4 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to that Convention in decision X/2, that, by 2020 at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits,

3. *Supports* the development of an ambitious but actionable [action-oriented (Brazil)] 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production that aims at responding to national, regional and global needs, provides a global focus for a common vision and goals including institutional arrangements that create a strong, credible and accessible technical base and policy interface, supporting regional and national initiatives within identified priority sustainable consumption and production programmes, and encourages the broad participation and involvement of stakeholders and effectiveness, efficiency and coherence within and beyond the United Nations system; [Based on the most effective and successful features of the reviewed models of international cooperation in other fields, continued efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production will need high-level and formal involvement of a broad range of stakeholders in setting priorities and responding to emerging issues; in that regard, coordination and coherence needs to be ensured through the United Nations Environment Programme as lead agency in collaboration with other agencies with relevant expertise complete with arrangements for review of results, and mainstreaming at the national level, for example through formal designation of government focal points, will be important to ensuring success; (Norway)]

4. *Recommends* the endorsement of such a 10-year framework of programmes by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its nineteenth session, in 2011;

[4 bis. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that the United Nations Environment Programme continues to play an active role, within the United Nations system, in the development of a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production in all its dimensions – goals, vision, functions, institutional arrangements and priority programmes – and that it plays a leading role, in conjunction with other agencies, in supporting its subsequent implementation, drawing on its experience through the coordination of initiatives such as the Marrakech Process and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management; (Mexico)]

5. *[Also] Requests* the Executive Director:

(a) To ensure that the United Nations Environment Programme continues to play an active and leading role, in close cooperation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in the development of a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production in all its dimensions – goals, vision, objectives, institutional arrangements and priority programmes;

(b) Upon adoption of the 10-year framework, drawing on its experience in coordinating initiatives such as the Marrakech Process and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, to ensure that the United Nations Environment Programme takes a leading role in the implementation of the 10-year framework through the coordination of its institutional arrangements

[including a potential secretariat role (Brazil)] as suggested by a number of representatives at the high-level intersessional meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development on a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, held in Panama on 13 and 14 January 2011, and if required by the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(c) Directly to support implementation in programme areas where the United Nations Environment Programme has particular expertise.

6. *[Encourages* Governments to support the design and endorsement of a sound and effective 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production during the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to be held from 28 February to 4 March 2011, and the nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to be held from 2 to 13 May 2011, and to support its subsequent implementation to promote the shift to sustainable consumption and production;]

6 bis. *[Encourages* Governments to participate actively in the design of a sound and effective 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production during the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to be held from 28 February to 4 March 2011, and the nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to be held from 2 to 13 May 2011, and to support its subsequent implementation to promote the shift to sustainable consumption and production; (Mexico)]

7. *Invites* Governments [in a position to do so (Egypt)] to provide financial and technical assistance and capacity-building [as a part of concerted national and private efforts (Norway)] to enable developing countries and countries with economies in transition, especially the least developed countries, to support the implementation of any decision by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its nineteenth session on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, once adopted, and to develop further programmes on sustainable consumption and production;

8. *Recognizes* that the 10-year framework of programmes could prove an important building block for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012;

9. *Encourages* the Executive Director to strengthen linkages between relevant programme areas within the United Nations Environment Programme;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a report on the implementation of the present decision to the Governing Council at its twelfth special session in anticipation of the Governing Council's contribution to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

## 6. Waste management

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development<sup>18</sup> and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recalling also* its decision 25/8 on waste management of 20 February 2009,

*Confirming* that waste management is a serious challenge, especially for developing countries, and stressing the need for international organizations to undertake enhanced, more focused and coordinated actions to fill current gaps in the support given to efforts by developing countries,

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Director on waste management<sup>19</sup> and the need for further implementation of its recommendations, including on the role of the International Environmental Technology Centre,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide further assistance to developing countries in their efforts to strengthen national implementation of an integrated waste management approach through the programme of work and budget;

18 *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

19 UNEP/GC.26/8.

2. *Also requests* the Executive Director to support Governments in enhancing access to energy in rural areas through the conversion of waste agricultural biomass into energy, as reflected in the programme of work and budget;

3. *Urges* the Executive Director to provide more intensive capacity-building and technology-demonstration projects, in particular in urban areas, to promote the “3Rs” (reduce, reuse and recycle) approach in developing countries;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director further to enhance cooperation with all relevant United Nations bodies, including the Secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, and other international institutions for the better implementation of the present decision, including by making better use of the International Environmental Technology Centre and its accumulated knowledge and know-how in the area of waste management and by avoiding the possible duplication of activities;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to scale up the work in the field of greenhouse gas mitigation by converting waste to energy through the development of guidance materials and capacity-building;

6. *Calls upon* Governments and other relevant stakeholders to support the initiative by the United Nations Environment Programme to set up a global partnership on waste management, by providing additional resources and taking the lead in partnerships in their respective core areas related to waste management;

7. *Invites* Governments and relevant organizations to provide additional resources for the implementation of the present decision;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on progress in the implementation of the present decision to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session.

## **7. Organizing the third intergovernmental review meeting of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities**

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decision SS.XI/7, which pertained to, among other things, the outcomes of the World Ocean Conference held in Manado, Indonesia, in May 2009, and by which it requested the Executive Director to extend United Nations Environment Programme cooperation and engagement with other United Nations agencies to support the implementation of the Manado Ocean Declaration,

[*bis Welcoming* General Assembly resolution 65/150 of 20 December 2010, on the protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development, by which, among other things, the General Assembly urged States, within their national jurisdictions, and the competent international organizations, within their mandates, to take all practical steps at all levels to protect coral reefs and related ecosystems for sustainable livelihoods and development, (Australia)]

*Recalling also* the requirement, as stated in paragraph 13 (c) of the Washington Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, periodically to review the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress report of the Executive Director on the implementation of decision SS.XI/7 on oceans,<sup>20</sup> which includes information on work undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme to protect marine and coastal ecosystems, especially through its marine and coastal strategy, the Regional Seas Programme and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;

2. *Invites* Governments and international and regional financial institutions to make coordinated efforts to support developing countries in implementing marine and coastal initiatives, including within the United Nations Environment Programme, at the national, regional and global levels;

[2 bis. *Encourages* the Executive Director to consider extending the support of the United Nations Environment Programme to the expert workshop on the role of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystems in adaptation to and mitigation of climate change impacts as proposed in paragraph 77 of decision X/29 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as a means of implementing relevant aspects of the present decision and paragraph 2 of decision XI/7; (Australia)]

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to proceed with organizing the third session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, working to ensure that participation is as broad as possible, and to that end urges all Governments to be actively involved in the intergovernmental review process and, where possible, to make financial contributions to defray the costs associated with that meeting[.] [;]

[3 bis. *Also requests* the Executive Director to engage the technical expertise and services of an international maritime body such as the International Maritime Organization, noting that the International Maritime Organization's programme on shipping activities can play a vital role in the protection of the marine environment from land-based activities through its programme on seas and marine protection. (Philippines)]

## 8. Consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decision SS.XI/8 of 26 February 2010 and the need for heightened efforts to increase the political priority accorded to the sound management of chemicals and wastes and the increased need for [new and additional (Argentina)] sustainable, predictable, adequate and accessible financing for the chemicals and wastes agenda,

*Recalling also* the request in that decision to the Executive Director to continue leading the consultative process and to report on the progress made and the direction of the process,

*Recalling further* the request in that decision to the Executive Director to launch, in collaboration with relevant partners, initiatives to raise awareness of the importance of the sound management of chemicals and wastes through various avenues, including the media and key international opportunities such as intergovernmental meetings and public events at both the national and international levels,

*[Taking note* of the General Assembly resolution 65/162 of 20 December 2010, by which the General Assembly welcomed the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes and expressed support for further efforts through the United Nations Environment Programme to continue such discussions, in cooperation and coordination among the three chemicals and wastes conventions and to support Governments in their efforts to implement, comply with and enforce these multilateral environmental agreements, (Mexico)]

*Having considered* the progress report submitted by the Executive Director on the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes,<sup>21</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the progress made and the work carried out to date by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the consultative process;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue leading the consultative process;

3. *Reiterates* its invitation to Governments and other interested parties, including the private sector, to provide financial and in kind support to the process and to awareness-raising initiatives;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a final report to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twelfth special session on the implementation of decision SS.XI/8 and of the present decision.

---

21 UNEP/GC.26/11.

## 9. Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decision SS.IV/1 of 18 June 1994 on the adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility,

*Recalling also* its decision 22/19 of 7 February 2003 on amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility that included land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation, and persistent organic pollutants as new focal areas of the Global Environment Facility,

*Recalling further* its decision 24/13 of 9 February 2007 on an amendment to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility relating to the location of meetings of the Council of the Global Environment Facility,

*Recalling* the approval in May 2010 by the Fourth Global Environment Facility Assembly of amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility relating to the availability of the Global Environment Facility to serve as a financial mechanism for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and to the appointment and term of the Chief Executive Officer/Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility under paragraph 21 of the Instrument,

*Having taken note* of the report of the Executive Director<sup>22</sup> and the supporting material,<sup>23</sup>

1. *Decides* to adopt the amendment to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility by which the Global Environment Facility will be made available to serve as a financial mechanism for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

2. *Also decides* to adopt the amendment to paragraph 21 of the Instrument relating to the appointment and term of the Chief Executive Officer/Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility, by which the text

“The CEO shall be appointed to serve for three years on a full time basis by the Council on the joint recommendation of the Implementing Agencies. The CEO may be reappointed by the Council. The CEO may be removed by the Council only for cause.”

will be replaced with:

“The CEO shall be appointed to serve for four years on a full time basis by the Council. The CEO may be reappointed by the Council for one additional four year term”.

3. *Requests [Invites (Argentina)]* the Executive Director to consider ways of enhancing the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme, as the principal United Nations body in the field of the environment, to strengthen its role as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Director to transmit the present decision to the Chief Executive Officer/Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility.

---

22 UNEP/GC.26/12.

23 UNEP/GC.26/INF/15.

## 10. Proposed biennial programme of work and budget for 2012-2013

*The Governing Council,*

*Having considered* the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2012–2013<sup>24</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>25</sup>

1. *Approves* the programme of work for the biennium 2012–2013 taking into account the relevant decisions of the Governing Council;

2. *Also approves* appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 190.962 million United States dollars for the purposes indicated in the following table:

**Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2012–2013 (thousands of United States dollars)**

<b>A. Executive direction and management</b>	<b>9 041</b>
<b>B. Programme of work</b>	<b>165 500</b>
1. Climate change	30 788
2. Disasters and conflicts	10 454
3. Ecosystem management	36 226
4. Environmental governance	41 622
5. Harmful substances and hazardous waste	19 543
6. Resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production	26 867
<b>C. Fund programme reserve</b>	<b>6 365</b>
<b>D. Programme support</b>	<b>10 055</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>190 962</b>

3. *Welcomes* the extensive consultations that have taken place between the Executive Director and the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget for the biennium 2012–2013 and requests the Executive Director to hold such consultations for the preparation of all future programmes of work and budgets;

4. *Acknowledges* the progress on the implementation of the medium-term strategy, as presented in the progress performance report;<sup>26</sup>

5. *Authorizes* the Executive Director, with a view to ensuring better conformity with the practices in other United Nations bodies, to reallocate resources between budget lines up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the appropriations to which the resources are reallocated;

6. *Also authorizes* the Executive Director, if necessary, to reallocate funds in excess of 10 per cent and up to 20 per cent of an appropriation in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

7. *Further authorizes* the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of Environment Fund allocations to bring it into line with possible variations in income compared to the approved level of appropriations;

8. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments not exceeding 20 million United States dollars for Environment Fund activities for the biennium 2014–2015;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to shift emphasis from the delivery of outputs to the achievement of results, ensuring that United Nations Environment Programme managers at all levels take responsibility for the achievement of programme objectives and the efficient and

24 UNEP/GC.26/13.

25 UNEP/GC.26/13/Add.1.

26 UNEP/GC.26/INF/6/Add.1.

transparent use of resources to that end, subject to United Nations processes of review, evaluation and oversight;

10. *Also requests* the Executive Director to report to Governments, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, on a half-yearly basis, and to the Governing Council at its regular and special sessions, on the progress made in respect of each of the subprogrammes and their relevant expected accomplishments and on the execution of the budget of the Environment Fund, including voluntary contributions, expenditures and reallocations of appropriations or adjustments of allocations;

11. *Further requests* the Executive Director to ensure that earmarked contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme, apart from those for which the United Nations Environment Programme merely acts as treasurer, are used to fund activities that are in line with the programme of work;

12. *Calls for* an allocation of an appropriate share of the United Nations regular budget to the United Nations Environment Programme;

13. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme and, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, which underlined the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Environment Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget, looks forward to the implementation of the requests of the General Assembly to the United Nations Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review, so as to permit the effective delivery of necessary services to the United Nations Environment Programme and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

[13 bis. *Takes note* of General Assembly resolution 65/162 of 20 December 2010, by which the General Assembly called for increased support to strengthen the human, financial and programmatic capacities of all the regional offices of the United Nations Environment Programme in the context of its budget and programme of work, and requests the Executive Director, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to review the needs and potential of such offices in assisting countries in mainstreaming their environmental priorities and maintaining the strategic presence of the Programme at the national and regional levels, with the results of the review to be submitted to the Governing Council at its twelfth special session for its consideration. (Mexico)]

14. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, for the biennium 2014–2015 an Environment Fund programme of work and budget amounting to an indicative figure of [ ] million United States dollars;

15. *Also requests* the Executive Director to submit, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a prioritized, results-oriented and streamlined programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014–2015 for consideration and approval by the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session;

16. *Further requests* the Executive Director to prepare, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a medium-term strategy for the period 2014–2017 with a clearly defined vision, objectives, priorities and impact measures and a robust mechanism for review by Governments, for approval by the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session.

## 11. Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions

*The Governing Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Director on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions,<sup>27</sup>

*Recalling* the authority vested in the Executive Director, with the approval of the Governing Council, to establish trust funds within the framework of the Environment Fund for specified purposes consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, as provided for in Article V of the General Procedures Governing the Operations of the Environment Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, in addition to all other relevant policies and procedures promulgated by the Secretary-General regarding the operation of trust funds,

27 UNEP/GC.26/14.

## I

### Trust funds in support of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. *Notes* and approves the establishment of the following trust funds since the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council:

#### A. Technical cooperation trust funds

(a) RED – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Support the Programme of Work and Responsibilities of the United Nations Environment Programme in the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries, which was established in 2009 with no expiry date;

(b) ESS – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation by the United Nations Environment Programme of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EBA)<sup>28</sup>;

(c) TPL – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Financing of Professional Officers by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), which was established in 2009 with no expiry date;

2. *Approves* the extension of the following trust funds subject to the Executive Director receiving requests to do so from the relevant Governments or donors:

#### B. General trust funds

(a) AML – General Trust Fund for the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(b) CWL – General Trust Fund for the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(c) MCL – General Trust Fund in support of Activities on Mercury and its Compounds, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(d) WPL – General Trust Fund to Provide Support to the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme Office and to Promote its Activities, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

#### C. Technical cooperation trust funds

(a) BPL – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Agreement with Belgium (financed by the Government of Belgium), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(b) GWL – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Provision of Support to the Global International Global Waters Projects (financed by the Government of Finland), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(c) REL – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Promotion of Renewable Energy in the Mediterranean Region (financed by the Government of Italy), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013.

## II

### Trust funds in support of regional seas programmes, conventions, protocols and special funds

3. *Notes* and approves the establishment of the following technical cooperation trust fund since the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council: EAP – Multi-Donor Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan, which was established in 2011 with no expiry date;<sup>29</sup>

28 (b) has been inserted by the secretariat in accordance with document UNEP/GC26/14/Rev.2.

29 This trust fund has been inserted by the secretariat in accordance with document UNEP/GC26/14/Rev.2.

4. Approves the extension of the following trust funds subject to the Executive Director receiving requests to do so from the relevant Governments or contracting parties:

#### **A. General trust funds**

(a) BEL – General Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities under the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(b) BGL – General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(c) BHL – Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(d) BYL – General Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(e) BZL – General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Process of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(f) CRL – Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(g) ESL – Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of East Asian Seas, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(h) MEL – Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(i) MSL – Trust Fund for the Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(j) MVL – General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions in Support of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(k) PNL – General Trust Fund for the Protection, Management and Development of the Coastal and Marine Environment and the Resources of the Northwest Pacific Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(l) ROL – General Trust Fund for the Operational Budget of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

#### **B. Technical cooperation trust funds**

(a) BIL – Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties, in particular the Least Developed and the Small Island Developing States among Them, and Parties with Economies in Transition (Biosafety Protocol), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(b) RVL – Special Trust Fund for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013;

(c) VBL – Voluntary Trust Fund to Facilitate the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2013.

## 12. Enhanced coordination across the United Nations system, including the Environment Management Group

*The Governing Council,*

*Recognizing* the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in enhanced coordination and collaboration across the United Nations system to achieve greater coherence in environmental activities,

*Recalling* its decision SS.XI/3, on enhanced coordination across the United Nations system, including the Environment Management Group,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the Executive Director, including in his capacity as chair of the Environment Management Group, and those of its members in promoting cooperation across the United Nations system on environmental activities,

*Expressing appreciation* for the progress report prepared under the guidance of the senior officials of the Environment Management Group at their sixteenth meeting and as presented by the Executive Director,<sup>30</sup>

*Commending* the Group on its progress in facilitating cooperation across the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the environmental agenda,

*Welcoming* in particular the Group's contribution to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>31</sup> and its follow-up decision to continue its support to the implementation of the biodiversity agenda across the United Nations system,

1. *Supports* the continued efforts by the Group to mainstream environmental considerations into activities at the programme, management and operational levels in close cooperation with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies;

2. *Encourages* the Group to continue to promote coherence in programming environmental activities in the United Nations system, including by mainstreaming environmental concerns into sectoral programmes, through such measures as the following:

(a) Contribution to the international agenda on biodiversity, including implementation of the relevant decisions of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(b) Preparation of a United Nations system-wide contribution to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

[(b) bis Contribution by the United Nations system to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its nineteenth session, including all five themes of the Commission at this session (United States)]

(c) Preparation of a contribution by the United Nations system on the green economy to the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

3. *Also encourages* the Group to continue supporting the implementation of the United Nations climate-neutral strategy and advancing the sustainability of policies, management practices and operations in the United Nations system, including sustainable procurement and the [establishment of and agreement to put in place a process for environmental impact assessment and the (United States)] use of environmental and social safeguards;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director in his capacity as chair of the Group to provide a progress report on the Group's work to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twelfth special session.

30 UNEP/GC.26/15, annex I.

31 "Advancing the biodiversity agenda – a UN system-wide contribution to the biodiversity agenda", report by the Environment Management Group, available on the Group's website at the address: [www.unemg.org](http://www.unemg.org).

### 13. Enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and wastes cluster

*[The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* chapter 19 of Agenda 21<sup>32</sup> and Governing Council decisions 18/12 of 26 May 1995, 18/32 of 25 May 1995, 19/13 of 7 February 1997, SS.V/5 of 22 May 1998, 20/22 of 4 February 1999, 20/23 and 20/24 of 4 February 1999, 21/3, 21/4, 21/5 and 21/6 of 9 February 2001, SS.VII/3 of 15 February 2002, 22/4 of 7 February 2003, 23/9 of 25 February 2005, 24/3 of 9 February 2007 and 25/5 of 20 February 2009 concerning global policies related to chemicals management,

*Recalling* decisions BC.Ex-1/1, RC.Ex-1/1 and SC.Ex-1/1 of 24 February 2010 adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, respectively, at the simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the parties to the three conventions,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* progress in enhancing coherence and synergies within the chemicals and wastes cluster,

*Welcoming* progress in implementing the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management,

*Noting* the progress in the negotiations on the global legally binding instrument on mercury,

*Noting also* the goal set at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 and confirmed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 that by 2020 chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, and the need to review the goal in the context of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012,

*Noting further* that complementary action may be needed to strengthen the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes globally over the [period until 2050] [post-2020 period (Canada)]

*Taking note* that the objective of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management is to achieve by 2020 that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, and that further action might need to be taken beyond that date to implement this objective at global, regional and, in particular, national levels,

*Commending* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the attention that the Programme is paying to the global challenges posed by chemicals to human health and the environment and in all areas of human development, and also to the need to take action to address those challenges,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the progress made in the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes,

*Taking note* of the initial analysis by the United Nations Environment Programme of the need and opportunities to strengthen the continued sound management of chemicals<sup>33</sup> and taking into consideration the arguments in the analysis supporting the intention of a cross-sectoral and global process for a stronger and better coordinated chemicals and hazardous waste programme,

*Recognizing* that challenges posed by chemicals are global, enduring and constantly evolving and that they are interrelated with crucial environmental issues such as environment-dependent human health, the health of ecosystems and better ecosystem management, the preservation of biodiversity, and the link between poverty and environment, environmental disasters, climate change and sustainable consumption, thus forming part of the challenges posed to international environmental governance,

32 *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

33 UNEP/GC.26/16.

*Acknowledging* that codification and progressive development are needed in the international law on chemicals and that those processes would promote future synergies between international instruments on and approaches to sound chemicals management,

*Recognizing* that chemicals are integral to sustainable development but that the sound management of chemicals is not yet fully integrated into sustainable development processes,

*[Encouraging* the United Nations Environment Programme to play a leading role in developing a global and coordinated approach to coherent chemicals management and, to that end, inviting the Executive Director to coordinate the multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral aspects of chemicals and hazardous wastes challenges with all pertinent international organizations, (Canada)]

*Having considered* the initial analysis by the United Nations Environment Programme of the need and opportunities to strengthen the further sound management of chemicals,<sup>34</sup>

1. *Requests* the Executive Director, working with the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and with other key stakeholders in the area of the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes at the global level, to continue the successful efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination of the chemicals and hazardous wastes-related agenda at the national, regional and global levels;

2. *Takes note* of the progress made by the United Nations Environment Programme and its partners in developing a global chemical outlook that will provide a coherent framework for assessing and setting priorities, [with a view to supporting an integrated comprehensive chemicals policy] [examining the possibility for more integrated chemicals policies (United States)] and stimulating further international attention and action in this field;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to [prepare a detailed study on options for stronger and more coordinated management of chemicals and hazardous wastes in the longer term, including the institutional arrangements, processes and systems required to improve the current management of the chemicals and hazardous wastes agenda at the global, regional and national levels.] [*Invites* Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental stakeholders to provide comments and other input on the initial analysis report on further enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemical and wastes cluster; and to ensure that contributions received are incorporated into a revised version of the report, (Canada)] for presentation to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh ordinary session;

[4. *Also requests* the Executive Director to develop a detailed outline for the process of preparing the study, including its quality review, and the main elements to be considered in the study, which shall be communicated to Governments no later than [... 2011];

5. *Advises* the Executive Director to consider the inclusion of the following issues, among others, in the study:

- (a) Scope of the study;
- (b) Indicators of progress;
- (c) Findings of the global chemicals outlook assessment;
- (d) Process for identifying and responding to emerging issues of global concern;
- (e) [Other issues];

6. *Urges* Governments and concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to submit to the United Nations Environment Programme their views on the elements of global chemicals management developed to date, and also on options for further global action on chemicals and hazardous wastes, which shall be taken into consideration in [the study] [a revised version of the initial analysis report (Canada)], no later than [... 2011];

7. *Urges* concerned intergovernmental organizations submitting views to the United Nations Environment Programme to include in their submissions particular views on their involvement in the further global action and on avoidance of duplication of inter-agency efforts, no later than [... 2011];

---

34 Ibid.

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to make inputs on the basis of the above study for a broad discussion on chemicals and hazardous wastes management as part of the governance discussion for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012;

9. *Urges* Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to contribute extrabudgetary resources for the conduct of the study. (Canada) (Australia)]

## 14. Omnibus decision on reports of the Executive Director

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions SS.X/3 of 22 February 2008 on the medium-term strategy for the period 2010–2013<sup>25/9</sup> of 20 February 2009 on South-South cooperation for achieving sustainable development, and SS.XI/7 of 26 February 2010 on oceans,

*Recalling also* its decision SS.X/3, which welcomes the United Nations Environment Programme medium-term strategy for the period 2010–2013 and, among other things, encourages the Executive Director to continue to strengthen results-based management in the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports by the Executive Director<sup>35</sup> summarizing the activities undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme on South-South cooperation for achieving sustainable development and on oceans;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to strengthen results-based management in the United Nations Environment Programme and, wherever possible, to provide an account of relevant activities in a results-based report to the Governing Council on the implementation of the programmes of work and budgets.

## 15. Global Environment Monitoring System Water Programme

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 23/2 of 25 February 2005 and 24/16 of 9 February 2007 on the updated water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Reaffirming* the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority and principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, including global water quality monitoring and assessment,

*Reaffirming also* the need to strengthen the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, including through the reinforcement of the scientific capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the area of environmental protection,

*Recognizing* the increased need for reliable and high-quality global water quality data, assessments and indicators in support of decision-making on environment and sustainable development,

*Acknowledging* that the Global Environment Monitoring System Water Programme is the leading source for global water quality data within the United Nations system and provides the evidence-based information on the state and trends of global inland water quality required for the sustainable management of the world's freshwater,

*Recognizing* the need to increase the capacity and the number of countries that provide reliable water quality data and information to enhance the usefulness of the Global Environment Monitoring System Water Programme, both for the users of today and the vast array of potential users of tomorrow as issues of water quality intensify,

1. *Acknowledges* the need to improve the tracking and monitoring of water quality and capacity of developing countries in this field;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to facilitate the further development of the Global Environment Monitoring System Water Programme to ensure the Programme provides scientifically credible water quality data that meets the needs of the United Nations:

35 UNEP/GC.26/9, UNEP/GC.26/10 and UNEP/GC.25/INF/6/Add.1, respectively.

- (a) To inform decision-making by ensuring the integration of water quality data and information into a broad range of issues, from ecosystems and human health to poverty and economic sustainability;
  - (b) To create knowledge by increasing the focus on assessments, research, indicators and data applications;
  - (c) To promote access to information by encouraging and facilitating data-sharing, interoperability and standards to create accessible web-based information on water quality;
  - (d) To strengthen capacity to enhance monitoring programmes and analytical, assessment and research activities for integrated water resource management in developing countries;
3. *Encourages* Governments and other organizations to participate actively in the Global Environment Monitoring System Water Programme by contributing water quality data and information;
4. *Invites* Governments and others, including the private sector, in a position to do so, to provide financial and in kind support to the Global Environment Monitoring System Water Programme and capacity-building efforts in developing countries;
5. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-seventh session on the implementation of the present decision.

## 16. Electrical and electronic waste problems

*[The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* decision 25/8 of 20 February 2009[...]

*[Welcoming* the progress made in the development of partnerships and programmes of activities on the environmentally sound management of electrical and electronic waste (e-waste) under the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and in the context of the Nairobi Declaration on the Environmentally Sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste; (Kenya)]

*Mindful* of the unprecedented growth in the production and use of electrical and electronic equipment and the increased volumes of related e-waste being exported to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

*[Mindful also* of the need to ensure coherence and complementarity and avoid duplication of activities on e-waste at the regional and global levels; (Kenya)]

1. *Requests* the Executive Director [to cooperate closely with the [Executive Secretary] [Secretariat (Kenya)] of the Basel Convention (Brazil)]:

- (a) To conduct a global assessment of the e-waste problem through a set of regional and subregional assessments, as appropriate, to establish a common knowledge baseline concerning the extent of the problem;
  - (b) [To build on current activities, partnerships and programmes and foster (Kenya)] establish the necessary partnerships among all relevant sectors (governmental, non-governmental, research, private, etc.) to build capacities [and adequate technology transfer (Kenya)] in developing countries and countries with economies in transition effectively to monitor, assess and manage e-waste [in collaboration with the appropriate bodies of the Basel Convention (Philippines)];
  - (c) To raise awareness of opportunities and incentives [within the framework of the green economy campaign to address e-waste; (Argentina)]
2. *Invites* Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to assess the current state of guidelines, legislation, regulations and other legal instruments to tackle the e-waste problem with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of appropriate measures to do so;
3. *Invites* all stakeholders engaged in measures to mitigate the e-waste problem to cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme and [the Secretariat of the (Kenya)] Basel Convention to tackle the problem from a global perspective and implement the necessary policies, incentives and procedures effectively to monitor, assess and manage e-waste;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-seventh session on the implementation of the present decision. (Australia)]

**17. Date, place and provisional agenda of the twelfth special session and the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum**

*[To be provided]*

---