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

**Twelfth special session of the Governing Council/  
Global Ministerial Environment Forum**

Nairobi, 20–22 February 2012  
Item 4 of the provisional agenda\*

**Emerging policy issues: environment and development**

**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 twelfth special 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 twelfth special session pursuant to the Committee's mandate set out in Governing Council decision 19/32 of 4 April 1997.

\* UNEP/GCSS.XII/1.

## 1. International environmental governance

*The Governing Council,*

*Taking note* of its decision 26/1 of 24 February 2011 on international environmental governance,

*[Welcoming* the progress by the Executive Director in the implementation of] *[Recalling]* the incremental reforms that were identified in the set of options presented by the Consultative Group of Ministers or High-level Representatives on International Environmental Governance established under Governing Council decision 25/4 to the Governing Council at its eleventh special session, in February 2010,<sup>1</sup>

*[Taking note* of the consultations with the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme held on 8 November 2011, at which the Committee selected a number of incremental reforms requiring a decision of the Governing Council,]

1. *[Urges* the Executive Director to complete any remaining incremental reforms that do not require a decision of the Governing Council as early as possible;]
2. *[Notes* that there is a need to strengthen the role of the [Governing Council/]Global Ministerial Environment Forum in setting the global environmental agenda [and a need to enhance collaboration on the social and economic [and environmental] aspects of sustainable development] and therefore [requests] [invites][Governments to encourage ministers of the environment and ministers with other portfolios] [Governments to encourage ministers other than those for the environment] to attend the sessions of the Forum;]
3. *Encourages* the [Governing Council/]Global Ministerial Environment Forum to provide [views on environmental issues in] [recommendations and advice across] the United Nations system [including governing bodies of] [and to] multilateral environmental agreements [on the global environmental agenda and its priorities], [keeping in mind that each United Nations body and agreement has its own governing body empowered to take decisions];
4. *[Invites* the conferences of the parties to the biodiversity-related conventions,<sup>2</sup> in close collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, to launch a synergies process among those conventions, taking into account the lessons learned from the synergies process involving the conventions relating to chemicals and wastes<sup>3</sup> and the important role of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions contemplated by decision IX/27 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity];
5. *Requests* the Executive Director to [foster] [explore the opportunities for] further synergies in the administrative functions of the multilateral environmental agreement secretariats administered by the United Nations Environment Programme, taking into account the lessons learned from the synergies process involving the conventions relating to chemicals and wastes;
6. *[Requests] [Invites]* the General Assembly [to consider] [to examine the possibility of] adopting the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building as a United Nations system-wide plan for the environment in accordance with resolution 63/220 of 19 December 2008;]
7. *Encourages* member States [in a position to do so] to provide [on a voluntary basis, (Argentina)] extrabudgetary funding to strengthen the regional offices of the United Nations Environment Programme [and to support and expand the multilateral environmental agreement focal point programme[.] [;]]
8. *Requests* the Executive Director to revitalize, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, its strategic presence model for regional offices, including by strengthening coordination between the regional offices and other United Nations agencies.]

1 UNEP/GCSS.XI/11, annex II.

2 [The Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterfowl Habitat, and the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.]

3 [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.]

## 2. World environmental situation

*The Governing Council,*

*Pursuing* its functions and responsibilities as outlined in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and subsequent mandates such as those set out in the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme<sup>4</sup> and the Malmö Ministerial Declaration,<sup>5</sup> which include the responsibility to keep the world environmental situation under review 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 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, and 24/2 and 25/2, of 9 February 2007 and 20 February 2011, respectively, on the world environmental situation,

*[Taking note of the publication Keeping Track of Our Changing Environment: From Rio to Rio+20 (1992–2012), which is based on the fifth Global Environment Outlook assessment report and shows how global economic, social and environmental conditions have changed over the 20 years since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,]*

*[[Welcoming] [Taking note of] the progress in preparations for the fifth Global Environment Outlook [,] [assessment] [report]*

*[[Welcoming also] [Taking note also of] the summary for policymakers of the fifth Global Environment Outlook report, which presents the findings of that report,]*

### [I

#### **Follow-up to the fifth Global Environment Outlook process]**

1. *Welcomes* the progress in preparing the fifth Global Environment Outlook report;]
2. *[Also welcomes] [Takes note of] the summary for policymakers of the fifth Global Environment Outlook report;*
3. *Notes with great concern* the [rapid] [severe] changes that have taken place in the environment, ranging from the impact of climate change, the loss of biodiversity and species extinction to the degradation of land and the deterioration of the oceans;]
4. *Stresses* that the transition to sustainable development may require the making of difficult choices as a result of the various concerns and interests in society [, including the issue of equitable access to sustainable development, (Brazil) (Thailand)] that must be addressed by well-governed, effectively managed, innovative and results-oriented institutions [and new and innovative financial mechanisms (Thailand)] able to create appropriate conditions for change;]
5. *Also stresses* that the United Nations Environment Programme should [promote efforts] [provide science-based information to support parties and other relevant stakeholders in their efforts] to make such choices and should lead by example [with regard to its own policies and administrative solutions];]
6. *Calls upon* Governments to demonstrate strong leadership individually and collectively, to implement effective policies to monitor, regulate, [sustainably] manage and improve the environment, [ecosystems] and government services and to continue to cooperate within the framework of multilateral processes that aim to [prevent and] reverse environmental degradation;]
7. *[Urges] [Calls upon] Governments, United Nations bodies, international organizations, the private sector, civil society and the public at large to work with the United Nations Environment Programme and other environmental [authorities] [entities] at the global, regional, national and local levels [,as appropriate,] to improve the state of the environment so as to foster the conditions required to achieve sustainable development [by informing the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development using [science-based information, including, as appropriate,] the findings of the fifth Global Environment Outlook report];*

4 Governing Council decision 19/1 of 7 February 1997, annex.

5 UNEP/GCSS.VI/9, annex I.

[8 *Recognizes* that there are gaps in our knowledge of the state of the environment resulting from a lack of data and regular monitoring, particularly in areas such as freshwater quality and quantity, groundwater depletion, ecosystem services, loss of natural habitat, land degradation and waste;]

[9 *Calls upon* Governments and the multilateral system to design and implement programmes to bridge the data gaps referred to above, including by building national and regional capacities and establishing regular processes for data-based environmental monitoring and early warning at the national and local levels;]

[10 *Requests* the Executive Director to make it a priority for the United Nations Environment Programme to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to build their capacities to collect and analyse data and monitor environmental trends, as stipulated in the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Transfer and Capacity-building;]

[11. *[Also] Requests* the Executive Director, through the programme of work, to continue developing and implementing an outreach strategy for disseminating the findings of the fifth Global Environment Outlook report;]

12. *[Further] [Also] requests* the Executive Director, through the programme of work and by working with national and regional environmental authorities, to build capacity and to [promote and] support technology transfer [for developing countries], within the framework of the Bali Strategic Plan, [in order for them adequately] to respond to current and future challenges facing humanity:

(a) *[By] [When requested by a member State, by] partnering* with centres of excellence and other stakeholders to develop a coherent and multiscaled programme to [support developing countries to] conduct national assessments of environmental change and its implications for development [in order] to provide compelling evidence for informed decision-making;

(b) *By cooperating* with other bodies in the United Nations system [and with other expert bodies] to develop environmental [targets,] indicators and data sets and to promote the exchange of best practices in the areas of environmental governance through policy instruments, including regulations, market instruments and stakeholder engagement [, provided that such targets, indicators, data, best practices, policy instruments, market instruments and other such approaches have been previously submitted for approval to member States];

## [II

### **Response to the findings of *Keeping track of our changing environment: from Rio to Rio +20 (1992–2012)***

[13. *[Welcomes] [Takes note of]* the timely production of the publication *Keeping Track of Our Changing Environment: From Rio to Rio +20 (1992–2012)*, which [shows] [indicates] how global economic, social and environmental conditions have changed over the 20 years since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;]

[14. *Notes with great concern* the [rapid] changes that have taken place in the environment, ranging from the impact of climate change, the loss of biodiversity and species extinction to the degradation of land and the deterioration of the oceans;]

[15. *[Urges] [Calls upon]* Governments, in the lead-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to assess progress and shortfalls in the implementation of their goals, policies and programmes to arrest environmental degradation [and to agree] [with a view to agreeing] on a way forward;]

[16. *Recognizes* that there are gaps in our knowledge of the state of the environment resulting from a lack of data and regular monitoring, particularly in areas such as freshwater quality and quantity, groundwater depletion, ecosystem services, loss of natural habitat, land degradation and waste;]

[17. *Calls upon* Governments and the multilateral system to design and implement programmes to bridge the data gaps referred to above [,according to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and when requested by a member State], including by building national and regional capacities and establishing regular processes for data-based environmental monitoring and early warning at the national and local levels[,] [subject to national priorities and policies and the availability of funding (Argentina);]

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[18. *Requests* the Executive Director, as stipulated in the Bali Strategic Plan, to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to build their capacities to collect and analyse data and monitor environmental trends.]

ADVANCE

### 3. Work by the United Nations Environment Programme on sustainable consumption and production

*The Governing Council,*

*Stressing* the call in Agenda 21<sup>6</sup> for action to [change] [adopt] [unsustainable] patterns of consumption and production [that reduce environmental stress and meet the basic needs of humanity] and recognizing that sustainable consumption and production is an essential requirement and, as stated in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,<sup>7</sup> one of the overarching objectives of sustainable development,

*Recalling* its decisions 22/6 of 7 February 2003, on the promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns, and 26/5 of 24 February 2011, on a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production,

*Recalling also* [the invitation for support for] target 4 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with its Aichi Biodiversity Targets,<sup>8</sup> adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting, in October 2010, which provides that by 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels will have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and will have kept the impacts of the use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits,

*[Recognizing* that resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production together constitute one of the six cross-cutting priorities of the United Nations Environment Programme medium-term strategy for the period 2010–2013,]

*[[Commending] [Acknowledging]* the work by the United Nations Environment Programme since the twenty-second session of the Governing Council in advancing sustainable consumption and production,]

*[Welcoming* the sustainable consumption and production partnerships and joint initiatives developed in close cooperation with other [regional and] United Nations entities such as the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Tourism Organization, [the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development] and other key stakeholders,]

*Noting* the achievements of the Marrakech Process on sustainable consumption and production, a global, multi-stakeholder process launched [by Governments and major groups initiatives, with their valuable support, and implemented in all regions [by] [with]] the United Nations Environment Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, [which has supported the implementation of sustainable consumption and production in all regions]), [which has played] [which is playing] a key role in providing input for the elaboration of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production called for in chapter III of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which was considered by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development during its 2010–2011 implementation cycle,

*[Expressing gratitude* for the valuable support for the Marrakech Process by Governments and major groups,]

*Noting* that while the 2010–2011 cycle of the Commission on Sustainable Development did not result in the adoption of a decision on sustainable consumption and production it did highlight the readiness of the international community to take action to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production, its willingness to establish a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production and its support for the continuation and reinforcement of the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme in the area of sustainable consumption and production,

6 *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.

7 *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.

8 UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/2.

*Acknowledging* that further progress in achieving sustainable consumption and production requires a more coherent and sustained approach and the provision of tools, information and capacity-building for mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production at all levels,

*Recognizing* that consumption and production are central to global and national economic activity and that the promotion of sustainable consumption and production and resource efficiency is therefore essential to achieving [the transition to a green economy] [sustainable development] [in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication] as a means of improving human well-being and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of sustainable consumption and production to the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme and requests the Executive Director to enhance support for the development and implementation of the resource efficiency/sustainable consumption and production subprogramme, which encompasses and contributes to work by the United Nations Environment Programme on [the green economy] [in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication] [sustainable development];

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide support for the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, [including target 4 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity], which focuses on the implementation of sustainable production and consumption plans at the national level;

3. *Urges* Governments and the private sector to [step up][enhance] efforts to shift to sustainable consumption and production, particularly in sectors with high environmental and social impact, including through efforts to foster innovation and scale up work on corporate environmental and social responsibility;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to play an active role in promoting and facilitating cooperation on sustainable consumption and production at all levels, including by supporting awareness-raising and [offering] [facilitating] financial and technical support and capacity-building [for] [to facilitate] [to support] the implementation of policies and actions on sustainable consumption and production [in close cooperation with other relevant entities of the United Nations system];

5. *Also requests* the Executive Director further to strengthen efforts to mainstream sustainable consumption and production and resource efficiency at the national level, supporting the development of inter-ministerial collaboration and a network of national sustainable consumption and production focal points [and providing necessary capacity-building, policies and tools] [through the joint United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Industrial Development Organization programme strategy for resource efficiency and cleaner production in developing countries and countries with economies in transition];

[6 *Further requests* the Executive Director to include in the programme of work the promotion of partnerships and initiatives on sustainable consumption and production and to develop such partnerships and initiatives in close coordination with [regional and] other United Nations entities such as the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the economic and social commissions, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Tourism Organization[, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development] and other key stakeholders,]

7. *Calls upon* the Executive Director to support strengthened [national,] regional [and international] cooperation on sustainable consumption and production in close consultation with all relevant stakeholders[,] [and] to encourage the development and expansion of sustainable consumption and production networks and communities of practice[, including national cleaner production centres,] and] to encourage and support the establishment of [national cleaner production centres] [centres] of expertise on sustainable consumption and production and [the][ facilitate the] development and management of [an online platform] [a clearing house] for sharing information, experience and knowledge-management tools [in cooperation with other regional and global information management initiatives];

8. *Encourages* [the Executive Director to support multi-stakeholder] [national Governments and stakeholders, in particular developed countries, to advance in] [partnerships for advancing] the implementation of sustainable consumption and production, [in particular by strengthening cooperation with other international organizations, and to facilitate the establishment [and operation] of a United Nations inter-agency [multi-stakeholder] cooperation mechanism on sustainable consumption and production];

9. *Calls upon* [the Executive Director] [member States] to enhance the development and dissemination of policy-relevant scientific knowledge on resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production, in particular with the support of the International Resource Panel;

[10. *Calls upon* Governments to support the adoption of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as agreed by the relevant working group of the nineteenth session of the commission on Sustainable Development, and calls upon the Executive Director to promote its adoption;]

[10 bis *Also calls upon* the Executive Director to promote the adoption of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production and to renew the offer by the United Nations Environment Programme to take a lead role in its implementation;]

11. *Urges* Governments actively to support the adoption of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as [agreed] [elaborated] by the relevant working group of the nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development[;] [.]

[12. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a report on the implementation of the present decision to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session, in 2013.]

ADVANCED

## 4. 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 sustainable, predictable, adequate and accessible financing for the chemicals and wastes agenda,

*Recalling also* that in decision SS.XI/8 it requested 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 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,

*Recalling* its decision 26/7 of 24 February 2011, by which it requested 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 decisions SS.XI/8 and 26/7,

*Recognizing* the importance of an integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and wastes to maximize impact, particularly at the national level,

*Having considered* the final report submitted by the Executive Director on the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes,<sup>9</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the outcome document of the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes<sup>10</sup> and the final report of the Executive Director;

2. *Also welcomes* the constructive discussions and deliberations during the consultative process that led to its outcome, including in respect of the integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and wastes described in the outcome document;

3. *Further welcomes* the co-chairs' summary of the discussions of the contact group on finance and technical assistance convened during the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, which took place in November 2011,<sup>11</sup> in which the participants considered possible long-term financing options for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, including elements of the integrated approach pertinent to the Strategic Approach;

4. *Encourages* the participants in other processes related to chemicals and wastes, in particular the sessions of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury and the International Conference on Chemicals Management, including the third session of the latter, to take into account the integrated approach and the final report of the Executive Director;

5. *Encourages* Governments and other relevant stakeholders to make full and appropriate use of the integrated approach, [taking into account the specific financing requirements of the chemicals and wastes conventions, in addition to] the outcome document and the final report of the Executive Director in preparing for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to take place in June 2012, and other high-level international policy processes[, including processes on enhancing coordination and cooperation within the chemicals and wastes cluster as described in decision 26/12];

6. *Requests* the Executive Director, on the basis of the outcome of the consultative process and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue to facilitate a country-driven process for the preparation of a fully fledged proposal on an integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and wastes and to submit such proposal to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session, in 2012, and to the Governing

9 UNEP/GCSS.XII/8.

10 UNEP/GCSS.XII/INF/7.

11 UNEP/GCSS.XII/INF/8.

Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-seventh session, in 2013, for consideration and possible decision;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Director, in collaboration with relevant partners, to continue to launch initiatives to raise awareness of the importance of the sound management of chemicals and wastes[,including electrical and electronic waste] and to report on progress in the implementation of the present decision to the participants in relevant intergovernmental processes and meetings;

8. *Invites* Governments and other interested parties, including members of the private sector, to provide financial and in kind support for the process.

ADVANCE

## **5. Accountability and financial and administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariat or performs secretariat functions**

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* paragraph 18 of its decision 26/9 of 24 February 2011, by which it requested the Executive Director, in consultation with relevant multilateral environmental agreement secretariats, the United Nations Board of Auditors, the Office of Legal Affairs and all relevant bodies, to address issues of accountability and the financial and administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements that it administered,

*Having considered* the report submitted by the Executive Director on progress in the implementation of paragraph 18 of Governing Council decision 26/9,<sup>12</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the progress made and action taken by the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of paragraph 18 of decision 26/9;
2. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue, in consultation with the relevant multilateral environmental agreement secretariats, the United Nations Board of Auditors, the Office of Legal Affairs and all relevant bodies, to address the issues of accountability and the financial and administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariat or performs secretariat functions with a view to further strengthening the cooperation and coordination between the United Nations Environment Programme and those multilateral environmental agreements;
3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session on progress in the implementation of the present decision.

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12 UNEP/GCSS.XII/9.

## 6. 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 enhancing coordination and collaboration across the United Nations system to achieve greater coherence in environmental activities,

*Recalling* its decision 26/11, 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 the Group's 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 seventeenth meeting and as presented by the Executive Director,<sup>13</sup>

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

*Welcoming* in particular the Group's contribution to the tenth session 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, and its decision to continue its support for the drylands agenda across the United Nations system,

*[Welcoming also] [Expressing appreciation for]* the Group's contribution to the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development through its reports "Working towards a Balanced and Inclusive Green Economy: A United Nations System-wide Perspective" and "Advancing the Environmental and Social Sustainability in the UN System",<sup>14</sup>

1. *Supports* the Group's continued efforts 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 environmental activities across the United Nations system, including by mainstreaming environmental concerns into sectoral programmes, through such measures as:

(a) Contributing to the implementation of the international agenda on biodiversity and, in particular, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its tenth meeting;<sup>15</sup>

(b) Preparing for consideration by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification at its eleventh session a United Nations system-wide action plan for the period 2012–2018 on follow-up to its report on drylands;<sup>16</sup>

(c) [Supporting consideration by States Members of the United Nations of the concept of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, one of the themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development];

3. *Also encourages* the Group to continue its consultations on advancing the framework for environmental and social sustainability in the United Nations system and to move towards environmental sustainability management systems and climate neutrality in the United Nations;

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 twenty-seventh session;

13 UNEP/GCSS.XII/10.

14 To be published on the Group's website at [www.unemg.org](http://www.unemg.org).

15 Decision X/2, annex.

16 "Global Drylands: A UN system-wide response".

5. *Invites* the Executive Director in his capacity as the Chair of the Group to transmit a progress report on the Group's work to the governing bodies of the Group's member organizations, through the heads of those organizations, for their information and [perusal] [approval].

ADVANCE

## [7. Enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and wastes cluster

*The Governing Council,*

*Mindful* of decision IX/10 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, decision RC-4/11 of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and decision SC-4/34 of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,

*Mindful also* of decision BC.Ex-1/1 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, decision RC.Ex-1/1 of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and decision SC.Ex-1/1 of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention,

*Recalling* its decision 26/12 of 24 February 2011, in which it underlined the need for an approach to the sound management of chemicals and wastes at all levels that responded in an effective, efficient, coherent and coordinated manner to new and emerging issues and challenges,

*Recalling also* that in that decision it requested the Executive Director to continue efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination regarding the chemicals and wastes agenda at the national, regional and global levels,

*Recalling further* that in that decision it requested the Executive Director to report on progress in those efforts at the 2011 meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and to provide input to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Having considered* the progress report submitted by the Executive Director on the implementation of Governing Council decision 26/12,<sup>17</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the progress made and the activities carried out to date by the Executive Director in the implementation of decision 26/12;
2. *Also welcomes* the adoption of decisions BC-10/29, RC-5/12 and SC-5/27 by the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, respectively, on enhancing cooperation and coordination among those conventions;
3. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to facilitate an inclusive, country-driven consultative process on the challenges to and options for further enhancing cooperation and coordination in the chemicals and wastes cluster in the long term;
- [4. *Invites* the participants at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to step up efforts in the area of chemicals and wastes to ensure an effective, efficient, transparent, [accountable], robust and future-proof international chemicals and wastes regime;]
5. *Reiterates* its invitation to Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to contribute extrabudgetary resources for the conduct of the process;
6. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-seventh session a final report on the outcome of the consultative process on the challenges to and options for further enhancing cooperation and coordination in the chemicals and wastes cluster in the long term and on the implementation of decision 26/12 and the present decision.]

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17 UNEP/GCSS.XII/11.