

1st Meeting of the Issue Management Group on Sustainability Management 9-10 February 2010, 9am – 5:30pm Geneva, Palais de Nations, Salle XXVII	IMG/SM.1/02 3 February 2010 Distribution: IMG members
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Agenda item 2

Terms of Reference for the Issue Management Group on Sustainability Management in the UN System

A. *Background*

1. The 15th senior officials meeting of the Environment Management Group (EMG) held in New York 23 September 2009¹ considered the ongoing and future work related to moving toward climate neutrality, sustainable procurement and a coherent approach to sustainable management in the United Nations system. The senior officials stressed that efforts related to greening the United Nations, such as through sustainable procurement, must be anchored in intergovernmental processes and in the United Nations system's internal management and operational structures.
2. The senior officials decided to consolidate the work of the issue management group (IMG) on climate neutral United Nations and on sustainable procurement under a single issue management group on sustainable management in the United Nations system for a period of two years. They welcomed the support of the United Nations Environment Programme's Sustainable United Nations facility for the work of the issue management group on sustainable management in the United Nations.

B. *Composition, function and responsibilities*

3. The issue management group (IMG) on sustainable management in the United Nations system is composed of focal points nominated by EMG members and is open to observers as agreed by the IMG.
4. The senior officials in its 15th meeting requested the IMG to build on and enhance the cooperation underway with the High-level Committee on Management and the United Nations Development Group and build on the work of the High-level Committee on Management on facility management, procurement, information and communications technology, travel, finance and budget by:
 - a) Facilitating continued cooperation between Environment Management Group members on implementing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination statement on moving toward a climate-neutral United Nations, in particular by:
 - i Facilitating a common methodology for greenhouse gas inventories and tracking performance through an online reporting and monitoring system with appropriate linkages to enterprise-resource-based planning systems;
 - ii Facilitating the development of individual emissions reduction strategies for each organization by the end of 2010, including for travel, in addition to a common approach on emission reductions throughout the United Nations system;
 - iii Exploring modalities for the common purchase of offsets;
 - b) Developing, in cooperation with the procurement network of the High-level Committee on Management, support services for integrating sustainable procurement practices in the United Nations system in line with a common definition and approach by the United Nations,² including by:
 - i Promoting training for requisitioners and procurement practitioners and finalizing an online training module;
 - ii Documenting success stories and good practices related to sustainable procurement from within the United Nations system;

¹ See report of the 15th Senior officials meeting of the Environment Management Group (EMG/SOM.15/02)

² As outlined in the comprehensive report on United Nations procurement activities: report of the Secretary-General: addendum: sustainable procurement (A/64/284/Add.2).

- iii Continuing the development of sustainable procurement practical tools such as product guidelines;
 - iv Updating the section of the United Nations procurement practitioner's handbook on sustainable procurement;
 - v Promoting awareness on sustainability for the business community through business seminars in collaboration with the United Nations Global Compact;
- c) Exploring how sustainable management in the United Nations system can be developed, including by identifying options for developing sustainable management systems as an integral part of enterprise-resource-based planning systems;
 - d) Reporting on progress and proposed further actions to the senior officials of the Environment Management Group at their sixteenth meeting;
 - e) Preparing a short practical overview guide to sustainable management practices in the United Nations system that includes references to relevant technical documents.

C. *Timeframe, work-plan and secretariat support*

5. The IMG was constituted by the 15th senior officials meeting of the EMG for a period of two years. In performing its functions and responsibilities set out in paragraph 4 above, the IMG shall prepare its own work-plan and working modalities. Secretariat support to the IMG is provided by UNEP through the UNEP Sustainable UN facility.