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**INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW MEETING ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT
FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES**

First meeting

Montreal, Canada 26-30 November 2001

Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDAAnnotated provisional agendaBackground

1. The Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities was adopted at an intergovernmental conference convened for this purpose in Washington, D.C., United States of America, from 23 October to 3 November 1995 (UNEP (OCA)/LBA/IG.2/7)¹. In its decision 20/19 B of 5 February 1999, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) decided to undertake the first intergovernmental review of the status of implementation of the Global Programme of Action in 2001, and also requested the Executive Director, in cooperation with Governments, United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations, to organize an expert group meeting in order to facilitate the preparations for such a review.
2. In accordance with the above decision, the Executive Director of UNEP convened the expert group meeting to prepare the first Intergovernmental Review Meeting on Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities at The Hague, from 26 to 28 April 2000. The report of that meeting is available as document UNEP/GPA/EG.1/8.
3. Subsequently, the UNEP Governing Council in its decision 21/10 of February 2001 requested the Executive Director to organize the intergovernmental review meeting in November 2001 with participation of Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, international financing institutions, private sector and other stakeholders and major groups, paying due attention to the use of innovative financial instruments for implementing the Global Programme of Action and to promote the

* UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/1.

¹ All documents referred to in this annotated provisional agenda are or will be available on the Global Programme of Action clearing-house Web site, www.gpa.unep.org.

involvement of Governments, the private sector, international financial institutions and the civil society in addressing this issue.

Item 1. Opening of the Meeting

4. The first Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities will be opened by Mr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director, UNEP, at 10 a.m. on Monday, 26 November 2001, and by Mr. David Anderson, Minister of the Environment of Canada and President of the Governing Council of UNEP.

Item 2. Organization of the Meeting

(a) Rules of procedure

5. The rules of procedure of the UNEP Governing Council will be applied mutatis mutandis for the Meeting.

(b) Election of officers

6. As is customary, the host Government is expected to provide the Chair of the Meeting. The Meeting will also be invited to elect from among the participants three co-Chairs and a Rapporteur. These officers will constitute the Bureau of the Meeting.

(c) Organization of work

7. The Executive Director will propose to the Bureau, and the latter to the Meeting that it be divided into three segments: a multi-stakeholder segment from Monday 26 to Wednesday 28 November 2001, to consider items 1 to 9 of the provisional agenda; a Ministerial/High-level segment on Thursday 29 and Friday morning 30 November 2001, to consider item 10 of the provisional agenda; and a final segment on Friday afternoon 30 November, to consider items 11 to 13 of the provisional agenda.

8. It is proposed that the Meeting work in plenary sessions and establish substantive working groups as and when necessary. The Meeting will be requested to decide on how to divide the work between the working groups and the plenary.

9. It is further proposed that on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and as an integral part of the Meeting, representatives of the member States of the regional seas conventions or their secretariats, who wish to do so, present their regional work programmes to implement the Global Programme of Action during 2002-2006, focusing on concrete activities and opportunities for action by all stakeholders.

10. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish will be the working languages of the Meeting. Simultaneous interpretation in these languages will be provided by the secretariat for the plenary sessions and the working groups. The working documents of the Meeting will be available in these languages.

Item 3. Adoption of the agenda

11. The provisional agenda (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/1), as proposed by the Executive Director, will be submitted for consideration and adoption by the Meeting. The documents available to the Meeting are listed in document UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/INF/1.

Item 4. Review of accomplishments in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, 1995-2001(a) Global level

12. In accordance with paragraph 77 of the Global Programme of Action, the secretariat will introduce a report bearing a succinct review of accomplishments in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action from a global perspective since its adoption in 1995, as an aid in charting the path for the future (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/2). This progress report is based, among others, on the reports prepared by Governments within the framework of the Regional Seas Programme and those provided by other partners (e.g., United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations). All reports are available on the Global Programme of Action clearing-house Web site. The secretariat will also introduce, under agenda item 6, a progress report on the activities of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office during the period 1996-2001 (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/3).

13. The Meeting will be invited to briefly discuss the progress report presented by the secretariat with a view to further improving it and exchanging views and experiences. The revised document will be submitted to the Ministerial/High-level segment of the Meeting.

14. The chair of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) will summarize the major findings and recommendations of the global report on land-based sources and activities affecting the quality and uses of the marine, coastal and associated freshwater environment (GESAMP 2001a, 2001b).

(b) Regional level

15. Since the adoption of the Global Programme of Action in 1995, one legally-binding agreement dealing with pollution from land-based activities has been negotiated at the regional level: the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities to the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region. A representative of the Wider Caribbean region will present the process and lessons learned in developing and negotiating that agreement as an illustration of regional progress. It is expected that a representative of a second region will also attend and present their progress in addressing pollution from land-based activities. Furthermore, a document reviewing existing binding and non-binding agreements related to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action will be made available to the Meeting (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/INF/2).

(c) National level

16. Representatives of Brazil, Canada and the Russian Federation will provide, as an illustration of the process and lessons learned, reports on the preparation and implementation of their national programmes of action on land-based activities. Other States will also be given an opportunity during the meeting to exchange experiences and present their efforts in addressing land-based activities.

Item 5. The Global Programme of Action's strategic action plan on municipal wastewater

17. Municipal wastewater discharges are one of the most significant threats to sustainable coastal development worldwide. The Global Programme of Action's strategic action plan on municipal wastewater (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/4), prepared by UNEP, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), will be presented, as well as a progress report on the implementation of the plan. This strategic action plan was prepared to further develop the guidance given in the Global Programme of Action for sewage as a priority pollutant source category.

18. The results of, and follow-up to, two of the meetings on regional cooperation for innovative action on municipal wastewater, a major component of the strategic action plan on municipal wastewater, will be presented (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/INF/3).

19. The secretariat will introduce the draft recommendations for decision-making on municipal wastewater (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/5; UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/INF/4), a further major component of the strategic action plan on municipal wastewater. These draft recommendations are intended to serve as a consensus guide on appropriate and environmentally sound systems for wastewater management and associated investments. They contain key principles and annotated checklists of recommended practices and procedures, including those needed for investment decisions and public-private partnerships.

20. The Meeting will be invited to discuss the overall approach of the strategic action plan on municipal wastewater with a view, *inter alia*, to recommending, as appropriate, that its approach be used as a model to address other priority source categories listed in the Global Programme of Action. Furthermore, the Meeting will also be invited to review the approach taken to develop the draft recommendations for decision-making on municipal wastewater and to make recommendations on how to further develop them as general guidance to wastewater management approaches worldwide, in accordance with national policies and plans. The Meeting will be invited to consider the needed regional, national and local follow-up to forward implementation of the strategic action plan and the recommendations for decision-making.

Item 6. The proposed 2002-2006 work programme of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office and partner organizations, with indicative costs

21. The secretariat will present the major programmes and activities supported by the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office during the period 1996-2001, with a special focus on the last biennium (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/3). The presentation will include the clearing-house mechanism, the national programmes of action on land-based activities and the potential role of voluntary initiatives in addressing land-based activities.

22. Partner United Nations organizations will be invited to present their contributions to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, including constraints encountered and particular needs. In view of ongoing consultations, the work programmes of other partner organizations, including WHO, UNCHS (Habitat) (sewage), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (nutrients), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO/IOC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (physical alteration and destruction of habitats), will be presented at the Meeting and also included as an addendum to document UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/6/Add.1.

23. There will be a presentation of an analysis of the methodological approaches used in addressing land-based activities at the regional level, jointly prepared by the secretariat and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/INF/5), and of UNEP/Global Environment Facility (GEF) activities in support of implementation of the Global Programme of Action (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/INF/6). In addition, there will be an opportunity for interested countries and GEF to present, in a side event, selected projects supported by GEF and contributing to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action.

24. The secretariat will introduce the draft 2002-2006 work programme with indicative costs for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, including objectives, policy focus and strategy, main activities, critical linkages and funding necessary for implementation over a five-year period (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/6). The work programme is presented at different funding levels (minimum, intermediate, appropriate) focusing on the following priority Global Programme of Action source categories: sewage, physical alteration and destruction of habitats, and possibly, nutrients (depending on level of funding).

25. Other Global Programme of Action stakeholders will be invited to indicate, if they so wish, their contributions to the implementation of the Programme during the period 2002-2006.

26. The Meeting will be invited to consider and revise, as appropriate, the 2002-2006 work programme for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, which will be forwarded to the

Ministerial/High-level segment of the Meeting for endorsement and to the Governing Council of UNEP for further consideration.

Item 7. Improving the implementation of the Global Programme of Action through improved ocean governance

27. The Meeting will be invited to consider:

- (a) Multi-stakeholder platforms for generating action and better coordination;
- (b) Improving cooperation and delivery between global and regional environmental conventions;
- (c) Intraregional cooperation among United Nations agencies and other organizations;
- (d) The role of civil society and local governments; and
- (e) The role of river basin commissions and coastal zone areas management.

28. The discussions might draw, in particular, on regional seas programmes and consider how coordinated regional approaches provide realistic opportunities to improve the delivery of global mandates on the one hand, and enhance effectiveness and economies of scale of national efforts on the other.

29. The Meeting will also be invited to consider document UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/7 outlining some of the options related to the specific measures required to improve the current coastal and ocean governance framework for the purpose of accelerating implementation of the Global Programme of Action at the global, regional and national levels. This document, as amended by the Meeting, will be forwarded to the Ministerial/High-level segment.

30. The Meeting will be invited to agree on specific recommendations on how to mainstream the Global Programme of Action and integrate it with relevant multilateral environmental agreements related to ocean governance, and, in that context, to consider the role of the United Nations and other organizations, civil society, non-governmental organizations and river basin commissions, in its implementation.

31. Based on the above, the Meeting will be invited to agree on elements and recommendations to be included in the draft Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, to be considered and adopted by the Ministerial/High-level segment.

Item 8. Building partnerships and financing the implementation of the Global Programme of Action

32. The discussions on this agenda item will build upon, *inter alia*, document UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/8 which outlines some of the options related to the specific measures required to ensure sustainable financing of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action; the deliberations and recommendations of the World Bank/UNEP workshop on promoting sustainable financing for the protection of the marine environment from land-based activities (The Hague, 9-11 July 2001) (UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/INF/7), and frame the topic in the context of the United Nations initiative on financing for development and other relevant activities.

33. Under each of the sub-items listed below, the Meeting will be invited to agree on elements or recommendations to be included in the draft Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, to be considered and adopted by the Ministerial/High-level segment.

(a) Conditions for the successful application of appropriate financial arrangements

34. The Meeting will be invited to consider some of the major conditions for the successful financing of projects addressing land-based activities, which could include: confidence-building among all stakeholders (achieved, for instance, by ensuring the transparency of executed projects); capacity-building for project identification, formulation, negotiation and implementation; provision of alternative technological and managerial options; mitigation of the risks and provision of financial guarantees; and enhancement of long-term sustainability and stable investment climates.

(b) Role of Governments, private and financing sectors and civil society

35. The Meeting will be invited to discuss how to enhance traditional financial arrangements and, when needed, augment them in appropriate ways and generate new and additional funds (including through public-private partnerships) at domestic, regional and international levels. It will also be invited to recommend financial arrangements that are particularly suited for wider application and further development.

36. The Meeting will be invited to consider the involvement of GEF, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, regional development banks and other international financial mechanisms, in financing activities and projects contributing to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action at the local, national, regional and global levels.

37. The Meeting will be invited to consider the further involvement of the private sector and civil society in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action.

(c) Operationalization of appropriate financial arrangements for environmental protection

38. The Meeting will be invited to formulate recommendations and identify lessons learned, as well as a selected set of concrete examples that have the potential to be replicated. The recommendations shall include, *inter alia*, ways and means of enhancing the public sector capacity to work with international financial institutions, the private sector, civil society and non-governmental organizations, and how to engage and commit them to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action.

Item 9. Recommendations to be forwarded to the Ministerial/High-level segment

39. Based on the draft report of the Rapporteur, the Meeting will discuss and agree on the recommendations, information and documents for adoption to be forwarded to the Ministerial/High-level segment, drawn from the deliberations of the multi-stakeholder segment of the Meeting (days 1 to 3).

Item 10. Ministerial/High-level segment and Montreal Declaration on the Global Programme of Action

40. The President of the Meeting will open this Ministerial/High-level segment highlighting the current global environmental agenda as it relates to the Global Programme of Action.

41. The Executive Director of UNEP, Mr. Klaus Töpfer will address the Meeting.

42. The President will invite the Rapporteur and the co-Chair of the Meeting to report on the main issues, conclusions and recommendations from the preceding days.

43. On the basis of the previous discussions raised at the multi-stakeholder segment and on documents UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/7 and UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/8, the Meeting will be invited to consider the following topics:

(a) Improving the implementation of the Global Programme of Action through improved coastal and ocean governance (document UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/7)

44. The primary issue for consideration by the Ministerial/High-level segment could be the specific measures required to improve the current coastal and ocean governance framework for the purpose of accelerating the implementation of the Global Programme of Action.

45. In the above context, the Meeting will be invited to consider some or all of the following main topics: how to incorporate (mainstream) the Global Programme of Action more effectively into the mandates and work plans of United Nations organizations, global and regional conventions and multilateral environmental agreements, and international financial institutions, including GEF and the World Bank; how to facilitate international cooperation and linkages between initiatives, agreements and organizations relating to the management of river catchment basins, the coastal zone and the marine environment; how to strengthen the capacity of the regional seas programmes to implement the Global Programme of Action; how to improve cross-sectoral cooperation among regional organizations and conventions, such as the UNEP Regional Seas Programme, the UNESCO-IOC regional commissions, regional fisheries organizations, regional health organizations, regional ministerial forums, economic commissions and development banks; how to incorporate (mainstream) the Global Programme of Action into national, provincial or local development plans, and establish links with their respective commitments under regional or global conventions; how to facilitate, at all levels, extensive stakeholder participation and commitment to implementing the Global Programme of Action, particularly among the private sector, financial institutions, and civil society; and how to present the outcome of the first Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on the Oceans and the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) and other appropriate international coordination mechanisms.

(b) Leveraging the necessary resources, in particular financial resources, for addressing land-based activities (document UNEP/GPA/IGR.1/8)

46. The primary issue for consideration by the Meeting could be the specific measures required to ensure sustainable financing of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action at the local, national, regional and global levels.

47. Lack of financial resources is one of the major impediments to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action. The scarce knowledge of the socio-economic and environmental valuation of marine and coastal resources, and the services they provide, as well as of alternative options and procedures available to address land-based sources of pollution, limit action and contribute to a general low awareness of the need to implement the Global Programme of Action.

48. The Meeting will be invited to discuss some or all of the following main topics: the respective roles of Governments, private and financial sectors, the civil society and the international community in financing the implementation of the Global Programme of Action (e.g., promoting microfinancing, institutional and financing reforms, greater transparency and accountability, providing an enabling environment for investment); how international financial institutions and the private sector can work more effectively with the regional seas programmes to implement the Global Programme of Action; how GEF, the World Bank and other international financial institutions can support and further contribute to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action; how public sector capabilities, including those of the local authorities in developing countries, can be strengthened to work together with the private sector and large investment companies (e.g., through capacity-building related to technological, financial, institutional and managerial solutions); and steps that need to be taken to mobilize new and additional financial resources to implement the Global Programme of Action.

49. The Meeting will also be invited to discuss and agree on the role that UNEP and its Global Programme of Action Coordination Office should play, consistent with the role of UNEP as environmental catalyst and honest broker, in promoting sustainable financing for the protection of the marine environment

from land-based activities. For example, could the clearing-house mechanism be used to track and increase the transparency of investments related to implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and thus contribute to the mobilization of resources?

50. In addition to the two major topics addressed by the Ministerial/High-level segment, the Ministers or their representatives will also be invited to, inter alia: consider and endorse, as appropriate, the recommendations of the multi-stakeholder segment; endorse the overall approach of the strategic action plan on municipal wastewater and ensure that this approach is used as a model to address other priority source categories; endorse the approach to develop the draft recommendations for decision-making on municipal wastewater as general guidance to wastewater management approaches worldwide, in accordance with national policies and plans; and endorse the (revised) programme of the Global Programme of Action for the period 2002-2006.

51. The draft Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities will be presented. The Meeting will be invited to adopt it, with amendments as appropriate. The Declaration is expected to focus on improving implementation of the Global Programme of Action through improved coastal and ocean governance and building partnerships and financing the implementation of the Global Programme of Action.

52. The Ministerial/High-level segment will be closed by the President of the Meeting and the Executive Director of UNEP.

53. The multi-stakeholder segment will then resume.

Item 11. Other matters

54. The Meeting may decide to consider any other business relevant to the protection of the marine environment from land-based activities and the Global Programme of Action.

Item 12. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

55. The Rapporteur will present the draft report to the Meeting. The Meeting will be invited to adopt it, with amendments as appropriate.

Item 13. Closure of the Meeting

56. The Meeting is expected to be closed by the co-Chairs at 5 p.m. on Friday, 30 November 2001.
