Agenda item 6c

Summary of Working Document UNEP/AHEG/2019/3/5

Proposed methodology for analysis of the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities in contributing towards long-term elimination of discharge of marine plastic litter and microplastics into the oceans

Third meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics
18-22 November 2019 – Bangkok, Thailand
Subparagraph 7(d):

“Analyse the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities with regard to marine litter and microplastics at all levels to determine the contribution that they make to solving the global problem.”

*(UNEP/EA.4/Res.6)*
Scope - Four focus areas

1. Lifecycle phases
2. Environmental zones
3. Geographic range
4. Compliance / reporting
Reasons for the four focus areas

Lifecycle phases

1. Urgent **global response** is needed taking into account a **product life-cycle approach** (UNEP/EA.2/11, par 1)

2. Member States and the private sector should address the problem of marine litter, **prioritizing a whole-life-cycle approach** (UNEP/EA.4/6, par 1)

3. UNEP/EA.2/11, par 18; UNEP/EA.3/7 par 6; UNEP/EA.4/9, par 5
Reasons for the four focus areas

Environmental zones

2

• UNEP/EA.2/INF/23: Technical report on marine plastic debris and microplastics: Global lessons and research to inspire action and guide policy change
  • Microplastics sources = river and atmospheric inputs (p. 176)

  • Gaps in regulatory frameworks – waterbodies, air (incl. microplastics, additives)
Reasons for the four focus areas

Geographical range
• Develop integrated and source-to-sea approaches (UNEP/EA.3/7, par 4e)
Reasons for the four focus areas

- Governments and the **private sector** should promote **sound management of plastics** across their **life cycle** (UNEP/EA.4/9, par 5)

- Governments to take prioritized measures nationally, ... , **in cooperation with industry** (UNEP/EA.2/11, par 17)

- Cooperation between Governments, regional bodies, the **private sector** and civil society (UNEP/EA.3/7, par 5)
2. The usefulness of the **four focus areas**
Focus Area 1: Lifecycle phases & criteria

- PRODUCTION
- CONSUMPTION
- WASTE MANAGEMENT
Focus Area 1: Lifecycle phases & criteria

**Criteria**

1. *Eco design*
   - Durability, reuse, end-of-life treatment

2. *Microplastics*
   - Primary, secondary

3. *Additives & associated chemicals*
   - Legacy chemicals
   - Manufacturing, recycling processes
Focus Area 1: Lifecycle phases & criteria

Criteria

1. Reduction
   • taxes on products

2. Elimination
   • product bans

3. Waste prevention
   • guidelines & policies across sectors and spaces
Focus Area 1: Lifecycle phases & criteria

Criteria

1. Environmentally sound treatment
   • waste hierarchy, separation, collection, disposal, trade
2. Mitigation & environmentally sound removal
   • wastewater, fishing nets
3. Economic instruments
   • EPR, advanced recycling fees, pay-as-you-throw, deposit schemes
4. Disaster debris prevention & management
   • preparation and response
Focus Area 2: Environmental zones

Criteria

1. Air
2. Land
3. Freshwater
4. Sea
   - within national jurisdiction
   - beyond national jurisdiction
Focus Area 3: Geographic range

**Criteria**

1. Mountains
2. Rivers & river basins
3. Water catchments
4. Coastal zones
5. Maritime areas
   - within national jurisdiction
   - beyond national jurisdiction
Focus Area 4: Compliance/reporting

Criteria
1. Production
2. Consumption
3. Waste management
Identifying & grouping response options & activities

- NORMATIVE
- EVIDENTIAL
- CAPACITY BUILDING

Lifecycle phases, geographic range, environmental zones, reporting
Identifying & grouping response options & activities - examples

- Inter-ministerial committees
- Inter-governmental & private sector partnerships
- Relevant policy instruments
- Economic incentives
- ....
Identifying & grouping response options & activities - examples

- Monitoring programmes
- Reporting
- Other stakeholder engagement programmes
- ...
Identifying & grouping response options & activities - examples

NORMATIVE

EVIDENTIAL

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Awareness:
  - Impact
  - Behaviour
  - Regulatory
- Sectoral & spatial guidelines
- Workshops & conferences
- Bilateral programmes
- ...

[Image]
4. The feasibility of grouping response options and activities, where appropriate.

1. The appropriateness of primarily basing the analysis of effectiveness on the findings of the stocktaking exercise (7a).
Rating response options and activities

- Lifecycle components
- Environmental zones
- Geographic range
- Compliance/reporting

- Aggregate within groupings at sub-national, national, regional & international level
- Summarize by mandatory or voluntary
- Group into current and potential
Rating response options and activities

Lifecyle components

Production

Consumption

Waste management

Small

Medium

High
Rating response options and activities

Environmental zones

- Air
- Land
- Freshwater
- Sea x 2

Possible ratings:
- Small
- Medium
- High
Rating response options and activities

Geographic range

- Mountains
- Rivers, river basins
- Water catchments
- Coastal zones
- Maritime areas x 2

Rating options:
- Small
- Medium
- High
Rating response options and activities

Production

Consumption

Waste management

Compliance/reporting

Small

Medium

High
3. The comprehensiveness of the criteria identified under each of the four focus areas.
# Summarizing results - examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response option and activity</th>
<th>Mandatory, Voluntary</th>
<th>Sub-National, National, Regional, International</th>
<th>Lifecycle phases</th>
<th>Environmental zones</th>
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<th>Reporting</th>
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Examples only and do not indicate analysis of the activities listed
Questions (UNEP/AHEG/2019/3/INF/3)

1. The appropriateness of primarily basing the analysis of effectiveness on the findings of the *stocktaking exercise* (7a).

2. The usefulness of the **four focus areas**.

3. The comprehensiveness of the **criteria** identified under each of the four focus areas.

4. The feasibility of **grouping** response options and activities, where appropriate.
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