Comments by Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

PART B: INPUTS TO SUBPARAGRAPHS 10 a) - c)

Operative Paragraph 10 of decision 4/2 reads as follows: “Decides that the scope of the consideration during the review process will be:

(a) The preparation, working arrangements, and scheduling of sessions of the Environment Assembly and the objectives, preparation, working arrangements and the scheduling of meetings of its subsidiary body, namely the meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and the regular and annual meetings of the subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives;”

Guiding questions for subparagraph 10 (a):

1. How can UNEA and its working arrangements be leveraged to further enhance its ability to take strategic decisions and provide political guidance?
2. What steps can be taken to meaningfully enhance stakeholder engagement, including from the scientific community, at UNEA?
3. Are the designations of the subsidiary intersessional bodies – i.e. OECPR and the annual subcommittee – adequately reflecting their roles and functions?
4. Should the respective roles of the OECPR and the annual subcommittee be further clarified and reinforced? If so, how?
5. Are the timing and duration of the meetings of the different UNEP governing bodies optimal, or should they be reconsidered, including with respect to facilitating meaningful stakeholder participation? If so, how?

Provided inputs:

1) there should be a monitoring mechanism of decisions and resolutions adopted at UNEA. Any resolution tabled should come with a budget to guarantee it can be achieved. This should be part of the CPR agenda.
2) the Stakeholder Engagement Policy should be adopted. Scientific community is already quite involved. Less dominance should go to the business community, or at least give more space for SMEs and other social entrepeneurs.
3) focus more on policy (resolutions) implementation
4) see above
5) a liaison office for MGoS would be useful to strenghten the connection with
activities/meetings in Nairobi. Also for capacity building of the MGFC, which is quite weak for the moment.

(b) The respective roles and responsibilities of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly and of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, including those related to interactions with their respective constituencies;

Guiding questions for subparagraph 10 (b):

1. Should the respective roles and responsibilities of the CPR and UNEA Bureaux and their Chairs be more distinguished and clarified, including with regard to representation of regional constituencies?
2. Should the two Bureaus further strengthen their working relationship? If so, how?
3. How can individual Bureau members contribute to enhancing the visibility of UNEA as the leading global environmental authority in other international fora?

Provided inputs:

1) yes, it would be good to have closer communication and coordination between the 2 bureaux. Clarify their roles. Based on that
2) strengthen their working relation and division of tasks.
3) be present in other UN meetings and don’t be shy

(c) Criteria, modalities and timing for presenting and negotiating draft resolutions and decisions;

Guiding questions for paragraph 10 (c):

1. What should be the key criteria and focus for draft UNEA resolutions and decisions, and how should they relate to the theme of the Assembly?
2. How to better ensure that informal deadlines for submitting draft resolutions are respected?
3. How to ensure that resolutions and decisions are complementary and not duplicative to the UNEP programme of work and budget?
4. How can the secretariat better support the chairs of the working groups that negotiate resolutions including through possible submission of proposals for suggested action?

Provided inputs:

1) limited amount of resolutions (merge) and present budget implications, to make the implementation of the resolutions workable. In all UNEAs there should be a space for monitoring and reviewing adopted resolutions. This can also be done/prepared by the regional
offices.
2) make the informal deadlines formal
3) if the bureaux work closer together there will be more communication and information on each other work and hopefully this will lead to more synergy and complementarity
4) when you have a limited amount of resolution, the secretariat has more time and will also spend it more efficient and effectively.