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Background Paper

1. Global Environment Outlook 6

The Global Environment Outlook (GEO) is an integrated environmental assessment that informs environmental decision-making and aims to facilitate the interaction between science and policy. The GEO is also a consultative, participatory process that builds capacity for conducting integrated environmental assessments to report on the state and trends of, and outlooks for, the environment.

UNEA resolution 1/4 on the science-policy interface requested the Executive Director to undertake the preparation of the sixth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6), supported by UNEP Live. The overarching objective of GEO-6 is to provide a comprehensive, integrated assessment of the effects and implications of environmental change on human well-being.

The structure and processes for GEO-6 were agreed at the global Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Consultation (IGMS) in Berlin (21-23 October 2014) and are presented in the official Outcome Document (UNEP/IGMS.2 Rev.2). The consultation was informed by the findings of the formal UNEP GEO-5 independent evaluation, the MCC-led Collaborative Initiative on Global Environmental Assessments with particular focus on the GEO process, and experience gained from the recently completed GEO SIDS assessment.

The global analysis for GEO-6 will build upon regional assessment processes and create a comprehensive picture of the environmental factors contributing to human well-being, accompanied by an analysis of policies leading to greater attainment of global environmental objectives and goals. It will provide the first integrative baseline in light of global megatrends supported by open access to data, with due consideration given to gender, indigenous knowledge and cultural dimensions. The assessment will lay the foundation for continued socio-environmental assessments across relevant scales, with a thematic as well as an integrated focus, enabling and informing societal transitions and the tracking of SDG targets and goals as well as previously agreed international environmental goals. The enhanced policy analysis in GEO-6 will be aimed at assisting member states to position themselves on the most effective pathways for transitions towards a sustainable future.

The following advisory bodies have been established for GEO-6 to ensure a policy-relevant and scientifically-credible assessment: a High-Level Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Group (HLG) to ensure policy relevance and lead the preparation of the Summary for Policy Makers (SPM); a Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) to ensure scientific credibility and the overall quality of the assessment; an Assessment Methodologies, Data and Information Working Group (AMG) to provide guidance on assessment methodologies and to ensure the overall quality of data and information flows; and an Interagency GEO Support Group comprised of experts from UN agencies, funds and programmes, and multilateral bodies to provide technical support and foster interagency collaboration.

2. GEO 6 Nomination and selection process

In accordance with the Outcome Statement (UNEP/IGMS.2 Rev.2) of the Berlin meeting, experts were nominated using the criteria outlined in Annex II of the Outcome Statement, and selected by the Secretariat. The selection process was led by the Office of the Chief Scientist in consultation with regional offices, UNEP divisions and the UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch. UNEP Live provided an open and transparent platform for the nomination process which concluded on 31 January 2015. The selection process was conducted in a transparent manner with due consideration for geographic, disciplinary and gender balance.

The Secretariat received 870 nominations in total from 128 countries from governments, scientific institutions, collaborating centres, Major Groups and Stakeholders, civil society groups and indigenous groups. This represents a significant increase from previous GEOs, and a much broader spectrum of engagement. The nomination processes yielded 596 males and 274 females.

A provisional list of selected experts and nominees for the three advisory bodies was sent to governments on 22 February 2015, and the final list of selected experts and roles was published in early March 2015: http://www.unep.org/geo/pdfs/geo6/GEO-6_ExpertsList.pdf

3. Global assessment

In addition to the key thematic areas of air quality, water quantity and quality, biota and ecosystems, and land management and cities, six provisional themes for integrated global analyses are proposed for consideration by the SAP. These include:

- Global burden of disease in relation to environmental pollution
- Climate sensitivity and ecosystem resilience
- Resource efficiency: economics and outlooks
- Food security and access to common resources
- Global policy analysis outlook
- Global environmental monitoring and the data revolution

The SAP will deliberate on these as well as the overall structure of GEO-6, and present their conclusions and recommendations to the HLG. Further explanation of the six themes is provided below.

Global burden of disease in relation to environmental pollution

Ensuring a clean and healthy environment through effective environmental management provides multiple benefits to society and the economy. Experts have estimated that nearly 25 percent of all diseases and deaths are due to hazards from unhealthy living and working environments. Air pollution, inadequate management of chemicals and wastes, poor water quality, ecosystem degradation, climate change and ozone layer depletion all pose significant threats to human health, both individually and combined.

The World Health Organisation's global burden of disease measures the burden of disease using the disability-adjusted-life-year (DALY). This time-based measure combines years of life lost due to premature mortality and years of life lost due to time lived in states of less than full health, and was developed in the original GBD 1990 study to assess the burden of disease consistently across diseases, risk factors and regions. This global analysis will examine the latest scientific evidence on the effects of environmental pollution on premature deaths and years of life lost and the effectiveness of environmental policies and measures to address these problems.

Climate sensitivity and ecosystem resilience

Climate sensitivity is the equilibrium temperature change in response to changes in the radiative forcing of the planet. It can be inferred from palaeoclimatic data and shown to include slow and rapid feedbacks relating to changes in ice sheet extent, atmospheric CO₂ and water vapour, which can amplify the overall Earth's sensitivity. What is less clear is how the biosphere affects climate sensitivity. This analysis will examine the latest evidence on potential feedback processes and the effects on ecosystem resilience globally.

Resource efficiency: economics and outlooks

As part of the International Resource Panel activities a series of regional and global resource Efficiency: Economics and Outlook (REEO) assessments and related policy options are being developed to support planning and policy-making. These assessments will track trends and changes over time, through Resource efficiency and material flows updates.

Food security and access to common resources

Profound imbalances are increasing pressures on ecosystems, stemming partly from a need to satisfy a growing demand for quantity, quality and diversity of food. This will require substantial changes in the production, consumption and quality of food. More food will need to be produced, more efficiently and in a way that preserves the natural resource base to guarantee adequate food supply for the future.

In this regard pastoralism – extensive livestock production in the rangelands practised by 200-500 million people worldwide – and small scale fisheries are two of the most sustainable food systems on the planet. This analysis looks at the evidence relating to pastoralists and small-scale fishermen as stewards of more than a quarter of the world's land and coasts, and in their conserving biodiversity and protecting ecosystem services in the face of land degradation, coastal erosion and climate change, and the effect of policies on access to common resources in delivering food security.

Global policy analysis outlook

The process from science to policy-making involves interactions between many actors and institutions: governments, policy-makers, businesses, entrepreneurs, scientists, civil society representatives, citizens and the media. There is often a long time period between scientific confidence in the causality underpinning emerging issues and effective policy action. This science-policy time lag can thus be explained by analyzing both the restraining forces and the driving forces in the policy-making process.

Based on existing case studies, GEO-6 will analyze the forces operating to improve or change the situation and those operating against improvement or change. It will analyze how scientific findings (precautionary principle) can be complemented through identifying the information needs corresponding to the various groups and individual agents for change, and ways to influence specific actors and stakeholders regarding emerging issues based on lessons learned from the case study analysis.

The analysis will also reflect on today's global socio-economic setting, such as: (a) re-balancing the prioritization of economic and financial capital over social, human and natural capitals; (b) broaden the nature of evidence and public engagement in choices about key innovation pathways; and (c) build

greater adaptability and resilience in governance systems to deal with multiple systemic threats and surprises.

Global environmental monitoring and the data revolution

The Secretary-General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development report highlights two major global challenges, that of invisibility (gaps in what we know from data and when these become known) and the challenge of inequality (gaps between those who are with and without information, and what data are needed to make decisions), which can be addressed through an effort to mobilise the data revolution for sustainable development.

This global analysis looks at how new technologies, data and policies offer opportunities to improve environmental data for use as a common good. It includes ways in which traditional and new data sources (including big data) can be brought together for faster and wider data sharing, the spread of open data policies and their effectiveness in bringing information to the public, the use of ontologies to increase integration across domains, development of more robust indicators for decision making, improvements in co-operation between old and new data producers and how a global set of standards to improve environmental data quality can also enhance accessibility to information in a rapidly changing data ecosystem.

4. Regional to global GEO assessments

The GEO-6 global assessment will be strengthened by the development of regional GEO assessments for all six UNEP regions. The findings of the regional assessments will inform the development of the global assessment. Each of the six UNEP regions to be covered by these assessments has unique characteristics in terms of the socio-economic, political, biophysical, environmental and governance characteristics, issues and priorities. The regional assessments will be based above all on the established political and institutional processes and mechanisms which exist in each region, and will engage with regional partners and stakeholders to make maximum use of these in the assessment process. The assessments will be developed and produced through separate intergovernmental multi-stakeholder processes.

Regional assessments covering state, trends, outlooks, emerging issues and progress towards meeting internationally-agreed goals will be conducted based on regional priorities agreed in relevant regional Ministerial fora and guided by consultations during the Regional Environmental Information Network (REIN) Conferences (see below).

5. Regional Environmental Information Network Conferences

The Secretariat will convene REIN Conferences in each UNEP region to consult with stakeholders, and to inform these stakeholders on the structure, scope and development of the regional assessment.

The purpose of the REIN conferences is “to prepare countries to make valuable contributions and participate in regional and global assessment work and processes to build institutional and technical capacity to support regional and national assessment work”. In particular, the REIN conferences will be organized to: (1) support the development of UNEP's Global Environment Outlook regional assessments based on priorities set by relevant regional ministerial fora; (2) promote information access, data delivery towards development of indicators, and the sharing of national and regional data in UNEP Live; (3) facilitate data monitoring and reporting through the National Reporting System (NRS); and (4) support capacity building in SoE reporting. The Conferences will also host the first GEO Regional Authors' meeting to discuss roles and responsibilities in detail and develop annotated outlines.

6. European GEO assessment and regional priorities

UNEP, in collaboration with UNECE, will coordinate a European GEO assessment during 2015 and early 2016 to support the preparation of GEO-6. It will provide policy relevant information on the environment to support deliberations at UNEA and the 8th Ministerial Conference on Environment for Europe, both taking place in June 2016. The assessment will build on previous assessment reports, most significantly the EEA's State and Outlook Report (SOER) 2015, and also the Resource Efficiency: Economics and Outlook for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (UNEP, 2013), as well as national SoE reports and Environmental Performance Reports (see Section 10: Building the evidence base for the regional assessment).

Regarding European priorities, the "8th Ministerial Conference - Environment for Europe" has two main themes: air quality and the green economy. In addition to these themes most countries in the region – as in the rest of the world - are placing great importance on the post-2015 development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Recent assessment findings have also provided insights in to priority areas for policy makers' attention and action. The REIN will discuss and agree on such priority areas, in order to assure the policy relevance of the regional assessment.

7. Proposed scope of GEO regional assessment

The proposed scope for the regional assessment is based on the agreed framework for the global assessment. The regional assessment will be comprised of three parts:

- Part A: State and trends;
- Part B: Environmental Policies, Goals and Objectives: A Review of Policy Responses and Options; and
- Part C: Outlooks

The assessment will be data-rich, using national sources where possible and strive to be succinct (see Section 10: Building the evidence base for the regional assessment).

Part A: State and trends

The state and trends assessment will be an integrated assessment using a DPSIR (Drivers-Pressures-State-Impact-Response framework) and will be structured around four⁶ themes (Air quality, Water quantity and quality, Biota and ecosystems, and Land management and cities). Based on the regional priorities, the integrated assessments for each theme will also consider the following cross-cutting themes: climate change; environmental disasters; food; chemicals and waste; resource use; economic development; human health; energy; sustainable consumption and production; and culture and society, and their affect on human well-being.

Note: A list of core indicators in the region has been posted on the European GEO Community of Practice.

Part B: Environmental Policies, Goals and Objectives: A Review of Policy Responses and Options

Part B of the assessment will comprise three major components:

- An assessment of all countries to establish what environmental data and indicators are published in the region. This analysis will provide information around the following questions: what indicators exist (core and otherwise); length of time series; what institutional arrangements are in place to support this process; do open access policies exist for the data; how are the data and indicators published; and where can they be found?

- A national and regional assessment of progress towards internationally agreed goals, global Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA) and regional multilateral environmental agreements¹. This will comprise a comprehensive analysis that will identify objectives, goals and targets from all environmental Conventions, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and relevant internationally agreed goals. A detailed assessment of progress will be undertaken for objectives, goals and targets that are quantitative, using data from the Conventions gathered through their established reporting processes. For those objectives, goals and targets which are not quantified, a review will be undertaken to determine which policies, plans and programmes exist at the national level to support their potential attainment and evidence of reporting implementation. This will provide an understanding of how well environmental objectives, goals and targets are being implemented, and the gaps and challenges that exist at the sub-regional, regional and global levels. This part of the assessment will also provide a review of policy responses and options which could address the gaps (i.e. policy, capacity, data, financing, implementation) and governance and technical challenges (i.e. resources, monitoring, compliance and enforcement, access to information).
- An analysis to map existing indicators published by countries against the proposed SDG indicators to support streamlining of reporting for the future SDGs. This section will address the question: What are countries collecting now compared to what they will need to collect to monitor progress towards achieving SDGs?

Part C: Outlooks

Whilst there are different approaches to developing outlooks, it may be more relevant to policy-makers to define ‘plausible futures’ or ‘narratives’ for the region up to 2050. Outlooks to 2050 would provide a longer time perspective than the focus of the SDGs, which are anticipated to run to 2030.

Due to the significant costs in both time and financial resources required to undertake quantitative modelling to support the ‘futures’, it would be more practical for the ‘futures’ to be qualitative and contain elements of quantification where existing information is available (i.e. OECD Environment Outlook). The outlooks would also be supported by examples of best practices and case studies, and address cultural aspects and values in the region using indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) where relevant.

In order for outlooks to be credible to the policy-makers, they need to be developed with broad stakeholder participation and one day has been set aside for agenda Item 6 (UNEP/GEO-6/REIN 1.1). During the discussions on outlooks, the consultation will identify emerging issues based on current and projected trends.

Possible ‘futures’ to be considered by the consultation are:

- Low carbon, resource-efficient societies
- Natural capital at the core of decision-making
- A clean and healthy environment with green and decent jobs

¹ Major European regional agreements include : Carpathian Convention; Tehran Convention; Mediterranean Action Plan; Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP); Convention on Environmental Impact assessment in a Transboundary Context; Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes; Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents; Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters.

Guiding questions for Part 2 could include:

- What are the risks to achieving the ‘future’ (including examples of failures)?
- What opportunities exist to achieve the ‘futures’?
- Will the SDGs help achieve the ‘futures’?
- Will the constraints of the earth’s life support systems hinder or stop the ‘future’ being achieved?

8. Emerging Issues

Emerging environmental issues will be discussed under agenda Item 6 on “emerging issues and outlooks”. The discussion will focus on agreeing on a set of questions to solicit suggestions on emerging issues for the regional assessment to include.

9. Gender-environment nexus and sex disaggregated data

Around the world, environmental conditions impact the lives of women and men in different ways as a result of existing inequalities. Gender roles often create differences in the ways men and women act in relation to the environment, and in the ways men and women are enabled or prevented from acting as agents of environmental change. Recognizing women as part of the solution is therefore not only a human right in itself, but also provides a unique opportunity to address the often deep-rooted inequality in society that impacts negatively on the urban and rural environment. By exploring future sustainability pathways from a gender perspective, we have the opportunity to envisage the future we can have and make a tangible difference in the lives of people around the world, while taking care of the environment. The session on gender-environment nexus will present brief initial findings of the Global Gender and Environment Outlook (GGE0) - a global environmental assessment with a strong gender lens. This assessment is underway; UNEP has just completed the first authors’ meeting whose results highlight identified key drivers such as social norms, unequal rights and opportunities, poverty, disaster conflicts and violence, and environmental change and the current state, trends and impacts of the relation between gender equality and the environment prove that there is a strong connection between a healthy environment and gender equality and vice versa.

The discussion will focus on:

- Validating initial findings on the key drivers that enhance or prevent the roles of women and men in environmental change;
- Validating initial findings on key areas where the linkages of gender and environment are highlighted, including sustainable energy, water and sanitation, food security, biodiversity and terrestrial ecosystem, oceans/seas and marine resources, and sustainable consumption and production;
- Vision and outlook on supporting gender mainstreaming in environmental and development policies;
- What are the envisaged pathways to achieve gender equality in environmental-related issues; and
- Examples and case studies of successful lessons to be learnt.

The expected outcome of this session will be:

- Comments and inputs for current findings of the gender-environment drivers, state, trend and impacts

- Contributions from countries on their ‘vision’ of different future scenarios and the relationship to the roles of men/women
- A list of good examples and case studies that demonstrate ‘the future we can have’ in relation to enhancing gender equality and improved sex-disaggregated data.

10. Building the evidence base for the regional assessment

To strengthen the evidence base, and thus the credibility, of the global GEO-6 assessment, there is a requirement to strengthen the regional assessments by using national data wherever possible. There are many sources of data and information and approaches and services where data, indicators and information can be accessed in and for the region. The following sections provide an overview of these.

UNEP Live supporting assessments

UNEP Live (www.unep.org/uneplive) is UNEP’s knowledge management platform which makes available national, regional and global data and knowledge. GEO-6 global and regional assessments will be based on a variety of data flows made available through UNEP Live; in many instances these are provided through APIs associated with the original data providers. These include: global data sets from international organizations (e.g. WB, UNSD, FAO, WHO, WMO, NASA, NOAA etc.); regional data sets from regional organizations and economic commissions (e.g. ADB, AfDB, CAF, UNECE, UNESCAP, UNECA etc.); data made available through the reporting obligations of Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEA) (e.g., CBD, Montreal Protocol, CITES, CMS etc.); earth observation systems and remote sensing data (e.g., members of GEO/GEOSS community); near-real time data flows (e.g. air quality data, sea-level data, sea ice extent); data from research by the scientific and monitoring community (e.g. GEMS, ICSU, ISSC); and from national data sets (currently over 156 countries have data represented in UNEP Live).

National Reporting Systems

UNEP has developed an online National Reporting System (NRS) to facilitate reporting on national, regional and global obligations. The NRS will enable the regular sharing and updating of data and indicators between ministries/agencies so that the same data can be used to report on different obligations. The NRS includes a Dashboard that enables decision-makers to access and have at their finger-tips the state and trends of the environment.

The following major functions can be performed by the NRS:

- Enables data and indicators to be uploaded from a country’s database server, or an excel file on a desktop or via an API;
- Users can add formulae, create a chart for each dataset and indicator, create a map;
- For each data and indicator, users can add descriptions, tags, metadata information, narratives;
- Generate reports using reporting templates that can automatically bring in required data and indicators; and
- Create user groups so different users can access different parts of the NRS based on their roles and responsibilities.

UNEP will provide training on the NRS during the REIN Conference under agenda Item 8: UNEP Live and National Reporting Systems.

Shared Environmental Information Systems

Shared Environmental Information Systems (SEIS) should be seen as an approach to be followed for facilitating regular environmental assessments and reporting. At the heart of SEIS are existing data and information flows relevant at the country as well as the international level, which should be linked with the support of modern technologies such as the Internet and shared between existing networks.

The data and information flows at the country level should allow a particular country to track changes in specific environmental thematic areas (e.g., air, water, waste), as well as concerning the various interlinks between them, and to assess these changes against the policy framework.

The international data and information flows should make it possible to track changes in the environment, again as per specific thematic areas and the interlinks between them, sub-regionally or regionally, and to provide information on the progress made on the agreed regional or global commitments. They should help in:

- Preparing assessments on the state of the environment at the sub-regional, regional or global levels (e.g., the European GEO assessment and the GEO-6 global assessment);
- Understanding changes or progress in addressing the issues covered by the regional MEAs and further developing them or strengthening their implementation;
- Contributing to global initiatives related to sustainable development or the post-2015 development agenda, for which environmental data and information are key.

The establishment of SEIS as an approach for facilitating regular environmental assessment and reporting is guided by the following principles:

- (a) Information should be managed as close as possible to its source;
- (b) Information should be collected once, and shared with others for many purposes;
- (c) Information should be readily available to public authorities and enable them to easily fulfil their legal reporting commitments;
- (d) Information should be readily accessible to end-users, primarily public authorities at all levels from local to pan-European, to enable them to assess in a timely fashion the state of the environment and the effectiveness of their policies, and to design new policy;
- (e) Information should also be accessible to enable end-users, both public authorities and the public, to make comparisons at the appropriate geographical scale (e.g., countries, cities, catchments areas) and to participate meaningfully in the development and implementation of environmental policy;
- (f) Information should be fully available to the public, after due consideration of the appropriate level of aggregation and subject to appropriate confidentiality constraints, including at the national level and in the relevant national language(s); and
- (g) Information sharing and processing should be supported through common, free and open standards.

The UNECE Programme on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA) is working in partnership with the European Environment Agency (EEA) to establish the Shared Environmental Information System across the pan-European region in support of regular assessment and reporting process focused in particular but not limited to environmental policy making. In that sense the data and information will provide the basis for assessing the state of the environment across the pan-European region but also they are expected to fit the purpose to review and assess the progress of the pan-European countries in the context of the sustainable development agenda.

In the course of 2015 the work on SEIS is focused on agreeing the data flows that should constitute the pan-European SEIS, i.e. data flows that each country of the region would need to produce and share in support of regular assessment and reporting processes.

With SEIS established, these agreed data are to be accessible without any limitation through the internet. The accessibility and hence the production and sharing of data by the all European countries is to be overseen by UNECE's WGEMA, a subsidiary body to the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP). An annual evaluation process of countries' performance in establishing and operating SEIS is being put in place, which is based on the SEIS targets and performance indicators adopted by the CEP.

Access to data within the SEIS that are available on the various websites of the national agencies in charge of them can be facilitated by a common entry platform such as UNEP Live.

11. Conducting the regional assessment

Authors

The regional assessment will be coordinated and facilitated by the secretariat. The work of the authors' team will be managed by two co-chair Coordinating Lead Authors (co-chair CLAs). The co-chair CLAs will work closely with the CLAs working on each part of the assessment and in turn the CLAs of each part will work closely with Lead Authors (LA), contributing authors and GEO fellows. The work of the Community of Practice (CoP) will be led by the CoP Moderator. Whilst some experts have signed up for the review process, the review editors will be selected at a later stage based on consultation with the SAP.

The Terms of Reference (ToRs) for CLAs, LAs and Reviewers and Review Editors are contained in UNEP/GEO-6/7 – GEO-6 Supplementary Information. The ToRs for the CLA co-chairs and CoP Moderators will be developed in due course with the relevant individuals. Please note the Terms of Reference for the advisory bodies are also available in the same document. These draft ToRs were agreed at the first meetings of the HLG, SAP and AMG, and shared with the assessment community.

Everyone who is engaged in the assessment process will help to make relevant data available, or linked through UNEP Live.

Communities of Practice

A CoP is a group of people who are active practitioners in a topic or domain of human endeavour. The purpose of a CoP is for practitioners to actively participate, share knowledge, best practices, ask/answer questions of their colleagues and peers. A CoP connects people from different countries, affiliations and disciplines – who might otherwise not have an opportunity to interact – on common issues of concern. This helps to build dialogue and insights, stimulate learning and collaboration and deliver tangible results, knowledge and products. Membership will be based on expertise and experience performing in the role or subject area of the CoP. The CoP will contribute to the development and peer review of the assessments and will be moderated by world leading experts.

The Secretariat will provide technical support for the CoP and support to the moderators. The CoP will help to identify data, information and sources of knowledge to inform the assessment, undertake drafting, and participate in the peer review and "outreach" of the findings. Governments will also be invited to review the global and regional assessments.

The Secretariat invites all participants to join the CoP before the REIN by visiting: <http://uneplive.unep.org/community/>. The Secretariat will also help register participants into the CoP during the REIN.

Guidance

The secretariat has produced revised guidance on assessment processes and best practices, including multi-stage peer review, building on previous GEOs and other leading global and integrated assessments and their evaluations. This guidance, including for the use of ILK and grey literature, will be reviewed and subject to the work of the AMG and following any amendments/revisions, approved by the SAP. This guidance will then be made available to everyone who is engaged in the assessment.

12. Provisional schedule and key milestones

Date	Activity
April 13 th – 17 th	REIN & 1st authors' meeting – develop annotated outline
June	Outlines approved by Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP)
June	Guidance on assessment methodologies, data and information provided by the Assessment Methodologies, Data and Information Working Group (AMG)
April – September	Develop regional assessment
September 14 th – 18 th	Joint authors' meeting – finalize Draft Zero (Nairobi)
October	Stage 1 Review (by experts)
November	Stage 2 Review (by governments and stakeholders)
December	Final draft
December – February 2016	Design, Layout, Production, Translation
February	Key findings presented to UNEP's Open Ended CPR
May	Launch UNEA 2
June	Launch at Environment for Europe

13. Additional information

Before the REIN, the Secretariat will provide the key outcomes from the meetings of the three advisory bodies held between 25-31 March.

All other relevant information will be placed in the Community of Practice.