

Implementation of UNEA 5/12 Resolution on Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management

Briefing to Member States
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UNEA-5 resolution 12 “Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management”

The UNEA-5 resolution focusses on improving the environmental aspects of minerals and metals along their full life cycle and requests UNEP, subject to available resources, to:

*“...**convene transparent and inclusive intergovernmental regional consultations**, including with relevant international organizations, with regional and multilateral environmental agreements, and with relevant stakeholders acting as observers, to feed into a global intergovernmental meeting, with the aim of developing non-prescriptive proposals to enhance the environmental sustainability of minerals and metals along their full life cycle, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”*

UNEA-5 resolution 12 “Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management”

- *Requests the Executive Director, (...) to **strengthen scientific, technical and policy knowledge with regard to sand**, and to support global policies and action regarding the environmentally sound extraction and use thereof;*
- *Also requests the Executive Director, (...), to **compile a report on knowledge gaps in relation to the environmental aspects of tailings management**;*

Engagement with Member States and other Stakeholders



- **43 national focal points**
- Appointment of **co-chairs**
- Continuous **outreach** with Member States
- Informal **consultations organized by Member States/Regions**
- **Briefing and webinars** organized by the Secretariat
- **Background document** with guiding questions
- **UNEP ED's report** by November 2023

Intergovernmental Consultations



Format

Hybrid (in-person and online)

2 days:

- Day 1 on development of non-prescriptive proposals
- Day 2 on sand and tailings management

- **Eastern European States:** 24-25 April 2023, Geneva, Switzerland
- **Western European and Other States:** 27-28 April 2023, Paris, France
- **Asia-Pacific States:** week 13-17 June 2023, Bangkok, Thailand
- **African States:** Dakar, Senegal – dates TBC
- **Latin American and Caribbean States:** dates and location TBC
- **Global intergovernmental consultation** 7-8 September 2023, Geneva, Switzerland

Development of Non-Prescriptive Proposals



- Potentially categorized by standards, regulations, financial, economic; technological; educational and informational, R&D

Potential topics

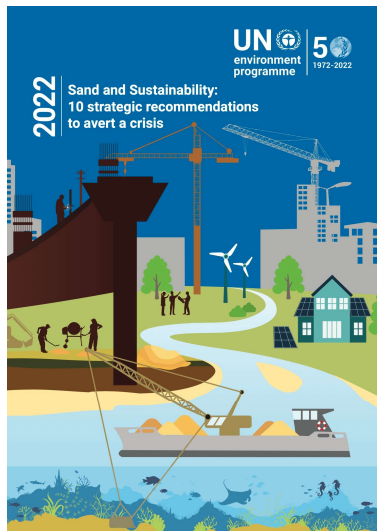
- Role of minerals, incl. construction materials, in disaster recovery and planning
- Sustainability standards
- Enhancing ESG approaches
- Advancing international collaboration on environmental due diligence
- Gaps in rehabilitation approaches: ASM, mine closure, recycling, LSM
- Environmental aspects of frontier issues in minerals and metals

Examples: Non-Prescriptive Proposals



- Stocktaking of existing national / international activities
- Establishment of a digital toolkit/online repository
- Developments of technical documents (including reports, analyses, assessments, guidelines/guidance) on any of the potential topics previously listed
- Creation of a cooperation and capacity-building platform to promote sharing/learning on technical, technological, and scientific cooperation
- Convening of a multistakeholder dialogue/initiative
- Establishment of a group of experts to provide strategic guidance in the development of any of the proposals/topics
- Mobilization of resources to scale up capacity-building, knowledge sharing and cooperation

Sand and Sustainability (OP4)



The Global Sand Observatory : a new UNEP/GRID-Geneva initiative

- Support countries for policy and regulatory coherence for sand extraction
- Contribution to knowledge base on sand extraction through data collection and publications
- Identifying and dissemination of best practices, standards and best solutions
- Awareness raising through webinars, media articles, events

Tailings Management (OP5)




**GLOBAL INDUSTRY
STANDARD ON
TAILINGS
MANAGEMENT**
AUGUST 2020

ICMM
International Council
on Mining & Metals

UN
environment
programme

PRI
Principles for
Responsible Investment

Resolution

- **Research** on tailings management
- **Raise awareness** on environmental aspects of mine tailings
- Organization of **expert roundtables** on tailings management
- **Report** on knowledge gaps to be finalized in October 2023

Background

- Launch of the **Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management**, co-convened by UNEP, International Council on Mining and Metals and Principles for Responsible Investment (August 2020)
- Development of a **compendium by Global Tailings Review**
- UNEP and PRI support the process to establish an **independent and multi-stakeholder Institute** to oversee implementation of the Standard by mid-2023

Resources

GGKP Initiative page on UNEA 5/12 implementation:

<https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/initiatives/environmental-aspects-minerals-and-metals-management>

UNEA resolution 5/12 on environmental aspects of minerals and metals management:

<https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/39927/ENVIRONMENTAL%20ASPECTS%20OF%20MINERALS%20AND%20METALS%20MANAGEMENT.%20English.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

UNEP report Sand and Sustainability: 10 Strategic Recommendations to Avert a Crisis:

<https://www.unep.org/resources/report/sand-and-sustainability-10-strategic-recommendations-avert-crisis>

UNEP's work on extractives: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/extractives>

Executive summary "Mineral resource governance and the Global Goals: an agenda for international collaboration":

<https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/research/mineral-resource-governance-and-global-goals-agenda-international-collaboration>

Compendium of papers prepared for the Global Tailings Review:

<https://globaltailingsreview.org/compendium/>

Thank you



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