

**Online consultations with Member States, UNEA-4 Resolution 1 Innovative pathways to
achieve sustainable consumption and production
15th, September 2020**

Consultation Minutes

I. Agenda

The agenda of the consultation included the presentation of progress in the inventory of coherent product policies in sustainable consumption and production (SCP), including circular economy. The consultation was enriched by the presentation of the case "Roadmap for Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Accommodation" by the participants representing Dominican Republic.

It also set out the state of the collection of innovative design practices in SCP. During the meeting, a participatory online workshop dynamic was developed to obtain recommendations on the topics covered. The guidance questions that were used to stimulate discussion were:

1. Coherent product policies

- a) How product policies in your country have been instrumental to preserve the environment?
What are the enabling conditions for higher impact of product policies?
- b) How to create further coherence among product policies?

2. Innovative design practices

- a) How is your country performing in identifying and taking up innovative design practices of products/services, which minimize harmful environmental impacts?
- b) What are the requirements to implement, replicate and scale up such design practices?

3. Role of the international community

What role should UNEP, the UN system, and the wider international community play in addressing gaps and challenges highlighted during the above discussions?

The developed agenda is in annex 1.

II. Participants

Representatives of the following Member States and institutions participated: Barbados, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and representatives of UNEP and Grupo GEA (implementing partner in LAC).

The participant's list is available in annex 2

III. Consultation development

The consultation was held in English using the Zoom platform, the recording of which is available at <https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/Mainstreaming-SCP-policies-best-practices-recommendations>

3.1 Welcome

The presentation of the objectives and methodology of the consultation was carried out by Ignacio Sánchez Diaz of UNEP’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.

3.2 Inventory of coherent product policies and innovative design practices

Marcos Alegre from Grupo GEA presented the status overview of the inventory of coherent product policies on SCP in LAC. He acknowledged all the countries for sharing their cases, which summary is shown in the following graphic. In addition, Olga Rosario, Director of Sustainable Production and Consumption and Eddy Rosado, Coordinator of the "Roadmap for Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Accommodation in the Dominican Republic" of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) presented the Dominican Republic case.

Status overview of the inventory of coherent product policies in LAC



Regarding the collection of innovative design practices, Marcos Alegre noted that these came from the following countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Dominican Republic.

3.3 Results

In annex 3, a transcription of participants' comments on each guidance question has been made. The results are summarized below.

1. Coherent product policies

- a) How product policies in your country have been instrumental to preserve the environment? What are the enabling conditions for higher impact of product policies?
 - b) How to create further coherence among product policies?
- ✓ It is necessary to develop the coherent product policies integrating in the process all stakeholders, as well as the roadmaps and policies of SCP available at national level.
 - ✓ The representative of Jamaica shared the experience on prohibitions of single use plastics. Banning the import and manufacture of targeted single use plastics (e.g. straws and bags) is a policy option to consider, specially aligning regional policies and strategies among countries with similar realities.
 - ✓ The representative of Trinidad and Tobago underlined the formulation of an overarching waste recycling policy and the development of economic tools that places a monetary value on a specific waste stream (e.g. beverage containers) to avoid harmful effects on the environment and loss of valuable resources through their disposal. Also, mentioned that it is necessary to integrate all stakeholders during formulation and implementation of policies instruments; as well as, gain political will, development of regulations and engagement of community.

2. Innovative design practices

- a) How is your country performing in identifying and taking up innovative design practices of products/services, which minimize harmful environmental impacts?
 - b) What are the requirements to implement, replicate and scale up such design practices?
- ✓ We should take into consideration lessons learned of innovative design practices (and policies) which has been implement in similar countries, such as islands; as well as polices that are been supported by international agencies or collaboratives organizations.
 - ✓ Requirements to replicate and scale up such design practices are the technical support and actionable goals.
 - ✓ Redesign products and/or alternatives materials to the use of plastics (e.g. straws) and connect them with new business models. In addition, it was mentioned that in general there are not monetary incentives to produce alternatives for plastics.

3. Role of the international community

What role should UNEP, the UN system, and the wider international community play in addressing gaps and challenges highlighted during the above discussions?

- ✓ UNEP and UN should keep supporting the different projects and initiatives in the countries throughout technical and financial support. In addition, this is a good way to cooperate on building regional partnerships.
- ✓ Contribute with the implementation of projects and provide technical assistance, highlighting the importance of waste as a resource and promoting the concept of circular economy.
- ✓ Support pilot projects on critical areas, for example banning the importation of Styrofoam products and looking for the opportunities to exchange experiences and generate economies of scale, especially in the Caribbean Community.
- ✓ Develop of a knowledge management/sharing platform for the exchange of ideas, experiences, and discussion of challenges in SCP issues.

Next steps

Ignacio Sánchez of UNEP thanked the participants for the contributions provided and indicated that there is still time to send contributions and information. To that end, it sought to consider the following:

- Submit written inputs on the consultation questions in view of the formulation of recommendations until September 30th to Ignacio Sanchez Diaz, Regional Office for Latin America and The Caribbean, ignacio.sanchez@un.org – Claire Thiebault, Economy Division, Claire.Thiebault@un.org – Grupo GEA, Marcos Alegre, malegre@grupogea.org.pe
- Share inputs on national product policies and good examples of design practices until October 30th to Grupo GEA, Marcos Alegre, malegre@grupogea.org.pe

ANNEX 1

Online consultations with Member States, UNEA-4 Resolution 1 Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production 15th, September 2020

Agenda

10.00 am – 10.05 am: Introduction on the mandate of the UNEA-4 Resolution on SCP, and on the key components of the follow-up (*UNEP*)

10.05 am – 10.10 am: Presentation of the consultation objectives and key questions (*UNEP*)

10.10 am – 10.25 am: Status overview of the inventory of product policies in Latin America and the Caribbean region (*Grupo GEA, Dominican Republic representative*)

10.25 am – 10.35 am: Status overview of the collection of examples of innovative design practices in Latin America and the Caribbean region (*Grupo GEA*)

10.35 am – 11.25 am: Discussion in plenary

11.25 am – 11.30 am: Closure and next steps

ANNEX 2

List of Participants

N°	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Email	Country	Organization
1	Eddy	Rosado	Consultor	e.rosado@ambiental360.com	Dominican Republic	Ambiental 360
2	Marcos	Alegre	President	malegre@grupogea.org.pe	Peru	Grupo GEA
3	Ignacio	Sanchez	Programme Officer	ignacio.sanchez@un.org	Panama	UNEP
4	Bethune	Morgan	Manager Pollution Prevention Branch	bethune.morgan@nepa.gov.jm	Jamaica	National Environment and Planning Agency
5	Neldo	Murillo	Analista de Proyecto	nmurillo@grupogea.org.pe	Peru	Grupo GEA
6	Jeanel	Volney	Sustainable Development and Environment Officer	jeanel.volney@gmail.com	Saint Lucia	Department of Sustainable Development
7	Claire	Thiebault	APO	claire.thiebault@un.org	France	UNEP
8	Yitzhak Alftedo	Dextre	Project assistant	ydextre@grupogea.org.pe	Peru	Grupo GEA
9	Shannon	Coley	Environmental Officer	shannon.coley@nepa.gov.jm	Jamaica	National Environment and Planning Agency
10	Elisa	Tonda	Head of Unit, Consumption and Production Unit	elisa.tonda@un.org	France	UNEP
11	Keima	Gardiner	Waste Management Speciliast	keima.gardiner@planning.gov.tt	Trinidad and Tobago	Ministry of Planning and Development
12	Johnil	Morgan	Environmental Officer	johnil.morgan@nepa.gov.jm	Jamaica	National Environment and Planning Agency
13	Suzanne	Elder	Research Officer	suzanne.elder@barbados.gov.bb	Barbados	Ministry of Environment and National Beautification
14	Olga	Rosario	Directora	olga.rosario@ambiente.gob.do	Dominican Republic	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales

ANNEX 3

Transcription of the interventions

First Question: How product policies in your country have been instrumental to preserve the environment? What are the enabling conditions for higher impact of product policies? How to create further coherence among product policies?

1. Olga Rosario (Dominican Republic): Developed a National SPC Policy integrating all the relevant stakeholders, as well as the National SPC Roadmap.
2. Bethune Morgan: Jamaica has promulgated legislation that has prohibited the import, manufacture and use of targeted single use plastics (e.g. straws and bags one use). It is phased in now there are some phases to be effective in January 2021.
3. Keima Gardiner (Trinidad and Tobago): Underlined the formulation of an overarching Waste Recycling Policy and the development of economic tools that places a monetary value on one specific waste stream (beverage containers) to avoid harmful effects on the environment and loss of valuable resources through their disposal. Also, it is necessary to integrate all stakeholders during formulation and implementation of policy instrument, political will, development of regulations, engagement of community (T&T).

Second Question: How is your country performing in identifying and taking up innovative design practices of products/services, which minimize harmful environmental impacts? What are the requirements to implement, replicate and scale up such design practices?

4. Olga Rosario (Dominican Republic): We take count the products or policies which has been implement in similar countries, such islands and polices that are been supported by strong commitments agencies or collaboratives organizations. A requirement to replicate and scale up such design practices are the technical support and actionable goals.
5. Bethune Morgan (Jamaica): Redesign products and/or alternatives materials to the use of plastics (straws) and the companies start initial assessments of the new business models. In addition, there is no monetary incentives although there is potential marketing toolkit related to environmental impacts.
6. Johnil Morgan: Another requirement to replicate and scale up such design practices is to have good research and analysis on the alternatives that are available on the market (consumer's demand).
7. Suzanne Elder (Barbados): There is a need for more cost-efficient packing alternatives in the market.
8. Keima Gardiner (Trinidad and Tobago): Integration of innovative design policies across various sectors to encourage mainstreaming. Moreover, the government need to develop a green public procurement (pilot scale) under green policies (T&T).

Third Question: What role should UNEP, the UN system, and the wider international community play in addressing gaps and challenges highlighted during the above discussions?

9. Olga Rosario (Dominican Republic): UNEP and UN should keep supporting the different projects and initiatives in the countries throughout technical and financial support. In Addition, this is a good initiative and is a good way to build regional partnerships.
10. Johnil Morgan: Funding to support implementation of projects and providing technical support or highlighting the importance of waste as a resource and promoting the concept of circular economy.
11. Keima Gardiner (Trinidad and Tobago): Supporting pilot scale projects. In this context, ban the importation of Styrofoam products and looking for the opportunities to exchange experiences and generate economies of scale (CARICON).
12. Suzanne Elder (Barbados): Consideration can be given to the development of a knowledge sharing platform/portal for the exchange of ideas, experiences, discussion of challenges, etc.