

Virtual consultation with Member States

UNEA-4. Resolution 1. Innovative ways to achieve sustainable consumption and production

October 6th, 2020

Minutes

I. Agenda

The meeting agenda included the presentation of the progress in the inventory of comprehensive and coherent policies, which was enriched with the presentation of the case study of Jordan on SCP. Likewise, the state of the compilation of good design practices in sustainable consumption and production was presented.

During the meeting, a participatory consultation dynamic was developed in order to obtain recommendations on the topics discussed. The guiding questions that were used to stimulate discussion were:

1. Product policies

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?

2. Innovative Design Practices

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?

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 agenda that was followed is in *Annex 1*.

II. Participants

Representatives of the following member states and institutions participated: Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia as well as representatives of UNEP and CSIR.

The list of attendees is in *Annex 2*.

III. Meeting's Arrangements

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

The meeting was held at 10 a.m. AST time.

3.1 Welcome

The welcome, the introductory remarks and the moderation of the meeting in general, and of the online discussion with Member States in particular, was in charge of Tarek Alkhoury Abdul Ahaad – UNEP West Asia Regional Coordinator: Resource Efficiency and SCP.

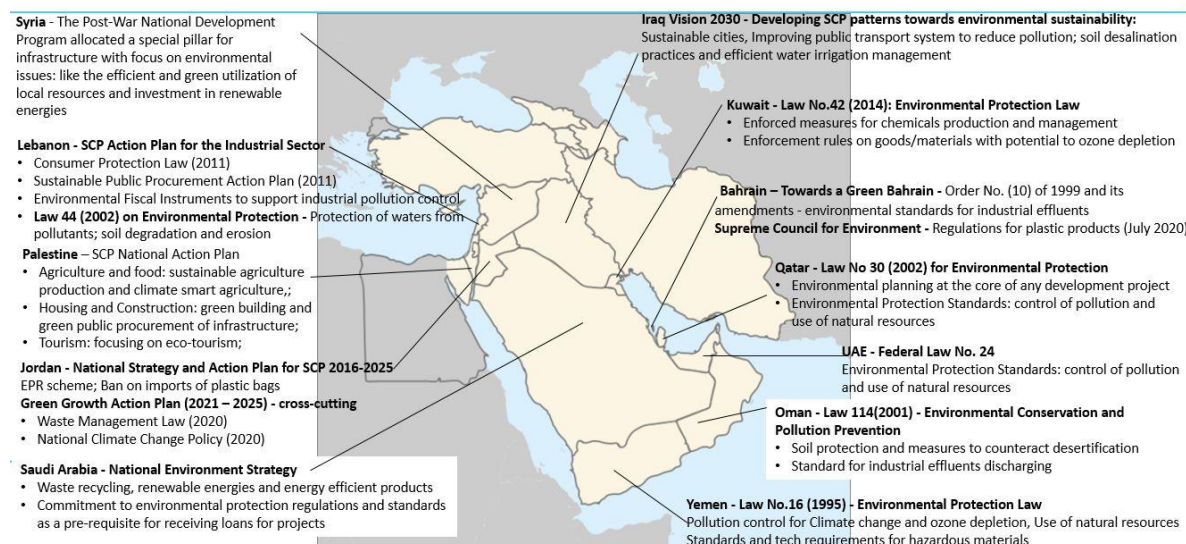
The presentation of the objectives, the expected results to inform UNEA-5 discussion and the new concept of Product Policy on which today's meeting and the on-going information collection by CISR (South Africa) is focussed, was in charge of Claire Thiebault – Associate Programme Management Officer, UNEP Economy Division.

3.2 Inventory of comprehensive and coherent policies and good design practices

Mr Lee-Hendor Ruitter from NCPS-SA presented the inventory of comprehensive and coherent policies for sustainable consumption and production, the summary of which is shown in the following graph. In addition, Eng. Maha Al-Ma'ayta - Director of policy and international corporation, Ministry of Environment, Policy and Development Directorate, presented on the National Policy for Sustainable Production and Consumption of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Status overview of the inventory of product policies

Information collected through online questionnaire, bilateral interviews, literature review



Furthermore, regarding the presentation of good design practices, Lee-Hendor Ruiters, presented two successful Innovative Design Practices stories collected to date, namely the **Kampala Jellitone Suppliers (Uganda) and Champion Shoes – Thika (Kenya)**.

3.3 Results

Feedback and experiences have been collected during the interactive discussion from the participants in relation to each question has been made. The results are summarized below.

Product policies

*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?*

Bahrain mentioned the following policy interventions:

- new plastic standards requiring all plastic products to be biodegradable
- ban on the import of plastic waste

Jordan:

- Worked mainly with 3 sectors: agriculture, transport and waste management
- Coordinates with relevant ministries to work towards a green economy
- Raises funds through collaborating with international and local sectors
- Focuses on adaptation to tackle climate change

Saudi Arabia made reference to Saudi GAP (Good Agriculture Practices):

- Fertilizer and pesticides regulation (must be eco-friendly)
- Regulation on pesticides residues on vegetables
- Initiation of programmes for the efficient use of fertilizers
- Programme targeting renewable energy and recycling of hazardous and chemical waste

Innovative Design Practices

*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?*

Jordan:

- Awareness raising campaigns for the industrial sector on the importance of eco-friendly products
- Evaluation of factory practices to determine their environmental responsibility
- Industrial sector is encouraged through recognition programmes

Iraq:

- Vision 2030 includes collaboration between private and public sector
- Shifting in energy consumption is considered to reduce economic spending
- Decrease production of harmful and hazardous materials

- Developing SMEs, shifting to sustainable production, and issuing consumer protection law are considered as a priority.

Bahrain highlighted that policies shall not be associated with a financial burden to reassure the private sector of upcoming changes.

Role of UNEP, and 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?

- Provide support with the adoption of policies
- Aid in the shifting from small initiatives to larger impactful initiatives, for example on green tourism in collaboration with UNIDO
- Call for funds from international banks
- Provide assistance and aid to evaluate and oversee the execution of programmes/initiatives/products (Bahrain)
- Support the development of industries through programmes in close collaboration with national authorities.

Next Steps

Tarek Alkhoury Abdul Ahaad – UNEP West Asia Regional Coordinator: Resource Efficiency and SCP, thanked the participants for their contributions and indicated that there is still time to send contributions and information. To do this, she asked to consider the following:

- **Submit written inputs to formulate recommendations until October 7th to:**
Mr. Tarek Alkhoury, UNEP West Asia Regional Office, tarek.alkhoury@un.org,
Ms. Claire Thiebault, Economy Division, Claire.Thiebault@un.org
- **Share inputs on national product policies and good examples of design practices until October 30th to:**
Dr. Valentina Russo, CSIR, Vrusso@csir.co.za
Mr. Lee-Hendor Ruiters, CSIR, NCPC-SA, Lruiters@csir.co.za

ANNEX 1

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 - *Tarek Akhoury Abdul Ahaad – UNEP West Asia Regional Coordinator: Resource Efficiency and SCP*

10:05 am – 10:10 am Presentation of the consultation objectives and key questions - *Claire Thiebault – Associate Programme Management Officer, UNEP Economy Division*

10:10 am – 10:20 am Status overview of the inventory of product policies in the Africa region - *Lee-Hendor Ruiters – Regional Manager NCPC South Africa*

10:20 am – 10:30 am A national experience in Jordan - *Maha Al-Ma'ayta - Director of policy and international corporation, Ministry of Environment, Policy and Development Directorate, Kingdom of Jordan.*

10:30 am – 10:35 am Status overview of the collection of examples of innovative design practices in the Africa region - *Lee-Hendor Ruiters – Regional Manager NCPC South Africa*

10:35 am – 11:25 am Interactive discussion

11:25 am – 11:30 am Closure and next steps

ANNEX 2 - List of Registered Participants

UNEP SCP Stakeholder Consultation: West Asia Session 6 October 2020 - Registrations

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