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**United Nations
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**Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the
Implementation of the Global Programme of Action
for the Protection of the Marine Environment from
Land-based Activities**

Fourth session

Bali, Indonesia, 31 October and 1 November 2018

**Report of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Review
Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of
Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from
Land-based Activities**

I. Introduction

1. The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities was held at the Inaya Putri Bali resort, Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, on 31 October and 1 November 2018.

II. Opening of the session

2. A minute of silence was observed in memory of the victims of the Lion Air crash that had occurred on 29 October 2018 off the coast of the Indonesian island of Java.

3. Ms. Lisa Svensson, Coordinator, Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch, Ecosystems Division, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), introduced the master of ceremonies. After welcoming remarks by the latter, participants viewed a short performance of traditional music and dance.

4. Welcoming statements were made by Mr. Wayan Koster, Governor of Bali; Ms. Dechen Tsering, Director, Asia and the Pacific Office, UNEP, on behalf of the Executive Director of UNEP, Mr. Erik Solheim; Ms. May Ofrasio, Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Philippines in Nairobi; and Mr. Habib El-Habr, Coordinator of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities.

5. The meeting was declared open by Ms. Siti Nurbaya Bakar, Minister for the Environment and Forestry of Indonesia, at 11.05 a.m.

III. Organizational matters

A. Election of officers

6. The following officers were elected, by acclamation, to the Bureau:

Chair: Ms. Siti Nurbaya Bakar (Indonesia)

Vice-Chairs: Mr. Alain De Comarmond (Seychelles)

Ms. Marine Arabidze (Georgia)

Ms. Elizabeth Taylor Jay (Colombia)

Ms. Judith Neumann (Germany)

Rapporteur: Ms. Neumann agreed to serve as rapporteur. She was later replaced by Mr. Jacob Hagberg (Sweden) for the afternoon of 1 November.

B. Adoption of the agenda

7. The following agenda for the session was adopted on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/GPA/IGR.4/1/Rev.1):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of officers;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Review of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities at the national, regional and international levels during the period 2012–2018.
5. Future of the Global Programme of Action for the period 2018–2022.
6. Programme of work of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office for the period 2018–2022.
7. Adoption of the Bali Declaration and any other outcome documents of the session.
8. Closure of the session.

C. Organization of work

8. The Chair announced that an ad hoc open-ended working group on the drafting of the Bali Declaration had been established and would be chaired by Mr. Makarim Wibisono (Indonesia). It would work in parallel to the plenary and outside of official meeting time.

D. Attendance

9. Representatives of the following States participated in the session: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam and Yemen.

10. Observers for the European Union and the Holy See also participated.

11. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Maritime Organization (IMO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

12. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: Global Environment Facility, Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

13. Representatives of many non-governmental organizations and of academia, the private sector and other entities, as well as invited individuals, also attended (see UNEP/GPA/IGR.4/INF/2).

IV. Review of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities at the national, regional and international levels during the period 2012–2018

14. A representative of the secretariat introduced the document “Progress in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities at the national, regional and international levels during the period 2012–2018” (UNEP/GPA/IGR.4/2/Rev.1). Other representatives of the secretariat provided additional background information on the work of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and the Global Wastewater Initiative. In addition, participants’ attention was drawn to the documents “Implementation of the Global Programme of Action by the regional seas conventions and action plans between 2012 and 2017” (UNEP/GPA/IGR.4/INF/8) and “From source to sea: protecting our oceans through Global Environment Facility partnership and investments” (UNEP/GPA/IGR.4/INF/5).

15. In the ensuing discussion, comments were made by representatives of Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, Germany, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Netherlands, Seychelles, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and the United States of America, as well as by a representative of IAEA speaking on behalf of non-governmental organizations, and by representatives of IMO and UNEP.

V. Future of the Global Programme of Action for the period 2018–2022

16. A representative of UNEP presented the document entitled “Future Direction of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities” (UNEP/GPA/IGR.4/3/Rev.1).

17. In the ensuing discussion, comments were made by representatives of Belize, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Netherlands, Norway, Seychelles, Sweden, Timor Leste, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America, as well as by a representative of IAEA, a representative of UNEP and a representative of a non-governmental organization.

18. Ms. Svensson gave a presentation on the Global Ocean Agenda and the structure of her organization’s Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch. She, the chair and a representative of a non-governmental organization took part in the ensuing discussion.

19. Mr. Wibisono, chair of the drafting group, provided a progress report on the drafting of the Bali declaration. After a discussion in which representatives of Cuba and Seychelles participated, along with a representative of UNEP, and after further work by the drafting group, Mr. Wibisono reported that the group had reached agreement on a few key issues but required additional time to discuss critical elements of the declaration in greater depth.

VI. Programme of work of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office for the period 2018–2022

20. A representative of UNEP presented the draft programme of work of the Global Programme of Action Coordination Office for the period 2018–2022 (UNEP/GPA/IGR.4/4/Rev.1) for consideration by the participants.

21. During the ensuing discussion, comments were made by representatives of Finland, Indonesia and the United States of America, as well as by a representative of IAEA.

22. It was decided that further discussion of the programme of work would be deferred pending a decision regarding the future of the Global Programme of Action.

VII. Adoption of the Bali Declaration and any other outcome documents of the session

23. Mr. Wibisono presented the draft Bali declaration.
24. The Bali Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities was adopted by acclamation. The text, as adopted, is set out in the annex to the present report.

VIII. Closure of the session

25. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the meeting was declared closed at 7.35 p.m. on Thursday, 1 November 2018.

Annex

Bali Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities

We, the representatives of 60 Governments and the European Union, having met in Bali, Indonesia, on 31 October and 1 November 2018 at the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,

Acknowledging the achievements of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and recognizing the role that it has played in the prevention of the degradation of the marine environment from land-based activities,

1. *Agree* to continue work on:

(a) Enhancing the mainstreaming of the protection of coastal and marine ecosystems, especially from the environmental threats caused by increased nutrients, wastewater, and marine litter and microplastics;

(b) Enhancing capacity-building, know-how and knowledge sharing through collaboration and partnerships involving governments, the private sector, civil society and experts at the regional and global levels in the protection of coastal and marine ecosystems from land-based activities and sources of pollution;

2. *Note* that the follow-up work of the Global Programme of Action should include, subject to future discussions on the form and implications:

(a) Continued efforts relating to the three pollution streams – nutrients, wastewater and marine litter and microplastics from land-based sources – in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a framework for sustainable development;

(b) Strengthening of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and the Global Wastewater Initiative, as well as the interlinkages between the partnerships;

(c) Improvement of the coordination, engagement and support of the work with Member States on land-based pollution, and fostering of linkages with the Regional Seas Programme and other relevant platforms and international initiatives for effective delivery;

(d) Continued efforts to combat pollution from nutrients, wastewater, and marine litter and microplastics from land-based sources in an integrated manner, and the inclusion of the land/sea and freshwater/seawater interfaces in action plans for addressing marine litter, wastewater and nutrients;

(e) Encouragement of the exchange of information, practical experiences and scientific and technical expertise through cooperative and collaborative action and partnership among governmental institutions and organizations, communities, the private sector and non-governmental organizations having relevant responsibilities and/or experience;

3. *Agree*, on the basis of the discussions held at the fourth Intergovernmental Review Meeting and the documents provided for that session, to work, during the intersessional period leading up to the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, on the function, form and implications (including legal, budgetary and organizational) of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, including the future of the intergovernmental review process and the work currently coordinated by the Coordination Office of the Global Programme of Action;

4. *Request* the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme to present, for this purpose, an analysis of options and alternatives for the overall programme and the associated coordinating mechanism, including consideration of the following elements:

(a) Legal aspects

(b) Financial/budgetary aspects

(c) Organizational coordination

(d) Stakeholders: convening and mandate setting;

5. *Express our gratitude and appreciation* to the Government and people of the Republic of Indonesia for successfully hosting the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.

Bali, 1 November 2018
