Substantive session of 2014
Item 16 (a) of the provisional agenda*
Economic and environmental questions:
sustainable development

Progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns

Note by the Secretary-General

Summary

The Secretary-General is transmitting herewith the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 67/203 and 68/210. The report builds on the informal report submitted in 2013 by the secretariat of the 10-year framework to the Economic and Social Council and the background document submitted as part of the dialogue with the Chair of the board of the 10-year framework during the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council in June 2014. The objectives of the present report are to share with the Member States and stakeholders the activities of the framework and the latest developments at the global, regional and national levels, and to highlight key outputs, challenges and opportunities.

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.
I. The 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns: milestones for the first year

1. The 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns is a concrete and operational outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.¹

2. The main goals for the secretariat of the framework during the first year (prior to the nomination of the framework board in September 2013) were to set up the organizational structure of the framework, develop clear guidelines for an open and transparent process to develop the framework programmes, launch the global sustainable consumption and production patterns clearinghouse and prepare and disseminate communication tools (including the framework website, brochures and newsletter). After the establishment of the board and its first meeting, on 1 and 2 October 2013, key milestones for the next year were to accelerate the consultation process and launching of the five initial framework programmes, hold the first five regional consultations and undertake fundraising activities to secure resources for the 10-year framework trust fund.

II. Setting up the organizational structure of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns (board, secretariat, Inter-Agency Coordination Group, national and stakeholder focal points)

3. By its resolution 67/203, the General Assembly established a 10-member board of the 10-year framework, consisting of two countries from each United Nations regional group, with an initial term of two years. The board was nominated and formally established² in September 2013 (decision A/67/564) and has since convened two meetings in New York, on 2 October 2013 and 30 March 2014. The board has adopted its terms of reference, guided development of the 10-year framework programmes, set up the criteria and process for the adoption of new programme areas,³ approved the establishment of a sixth programme, and is guiding the operationalization of the framework trust fund. A third meeting is planned to take place in Santiago on 15 and 16 October 2014. Members of the board have convened and participated in regional meetings in Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa, and are expected to attend a regional meeting for Eastern Europe late in October 2014 and a framework multi-stakeholder


² Chile and Mexico for Latin America and the Caribbean; Romania and the Russian Federation for Eastern Europe; Switzerland and Finland sharing a seat with Germany for the Western European and other States Group; Japan and the Republic of Korea sharing a seat, and Indonesia and Bangladesh sharing a seat for Asia; and South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania for Africa.

meeting of the Western European and other States Group before the end of the year. The board was chaired by Mexico and co-chaired by Indonesia for its first year (until 16 September 2014).

A. **Secretariat of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns**

4. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) serves as the secretariat of the 10-year framework. The secretariat has put in place the framework’s mandated governance structure and organized seven regional meetings, two capacity-building workshops for national focal points and various webinars with Governments and stakeholders. It has also guided the multi-stakeholder consultation process, which is developing the 10-year framework programmes, and established transparent and inclusive procedures for their launch and subsequent further development. Two programmes have been launched, respectively, on sustainable public procurement and consumer information, and three additional ones are expected to be launched by the end of 2014.

B. **Inter-Agency Coordination Group of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns**

5. The Inter-Agency Coordination Group was established in May 2013, with the participation of 19 United Nations bodies. It is chaired by UNEP and co-chaired by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The Coordination Group is providing inputs for the development of the 10-year framework programmes and prepared a document on “SCP in the SDG [Sustainable Development Goals] Focus Areas”, which was issued in June 2014. Some members of the Group are also contributing to the forthcoming publication on “SCP for Poverty Eradication, Competitiveness and Climate Change Mitigation” as part of a review committee.

C. **National focal points**

6. Invitation letters were sent by UNEP to all Member States through the United Nations missions to nominate national focal points for the 10-year framework. To

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4 The members of the Inter-Agency Group are: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNEP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the United Nations University (UNU), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Food Programme, the World Trade Organization, the International Trade Centre and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNEP as co-chairs.

5 Available at www.unep.org/10yfp/Activities/InternationalActivities.
date, over 110 countries\textsuperscript{6} have nominated their focal points and alternates. These nominations include representatives from ministries of the environment, foreign affairs, trade and industry, economic development, planning, rural development and agriculture.

7. The secretariat of the 10-year framework has organized four webinars for the national focal points to increase knowledge about the framework and to discuss their role. Regional meetings with focal points and other stakeholders have been organized in the Arab region (June 2013), Latin America and the Caribbean (June 2013), the Asia-Pacific region (November 2013) and Africa (October 2013 and May 2014). One meeting was organized with the focal points of the Western European and other States (Paris, July 2013). Capacity-building workshops for focal points in the West-Asia region and Africa were held, respectively, in December 2013 and May 2014, and a workshop for focal points will take place in October 2014 in South-East Asia. In West Asia, efforts are focusing on the Arab regional road map for implementing the framework, enhancing the capacities of the focal points of those countries and establishing a network between them and members of the Arab chapter of the Global Network for Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production.

8. Various national focal points are playing an active role. For example, in France, Jordan, Sweden and Switzerland, national focal points have organized interministerial and multi-stakeholder round tables to inform and raise awareness about the importance of sustainable consumption and production and to engage more actors in the 10-year framework. The Government of the United States of America has set up an interministerial task force to coordinate governmental action on sustainable consumption and production and participation in the framework. Many focal points have requested capacity-building on sustainable consumption and production and in some cases have indicated a need for additional support to effectively coordinate interministerial cooperation.

D. Stakeholder focal points

9. Six of the nine major groups of States set out in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development have nominated global and regional focal points, following the invitation sent by the 10-year framework secretariat to both Economic and Social Council organizing partners and UNEP facilitating committees. They have already engaged in some regional and international dialogues and activities. The secretariat has organized two webinars to facilitate the nomination process for global and regional focal points and to introduce the framework and the global sustainable consumption and production clearinghouse.

10. The first meeting of the stakeholder focal points, “Driving the shift towards SCP patterns”, took place in Nairobi on 20 June 2014, at which 21 stakeholders participated, including those from the five United Nations regions. The meeting was held back to back with the first United Nations Environment Assembly and the associated Global Major Groups and Stakeholder Forum. It provided an overview of the 10-year framework and made possible a dialogue on the expectations and

\textsuperscript{6} A total of 27 countries in Africa, 27 in Asia, 16 in Eastern Europe, 19 in Latin America and the Caribbean and 22 in Western European and other States.
contributions from the focal points, during which specific areas of cooperation within the framework programmes were identified. Participants expressed the need to strengthen the stakeholder engagement and bring new partners, other major groups and stakeholders to support implementation of the framework at the regional and national levels. During the Environment Assembly, an informal dialogue took place between a representative group of the focal points and four members of the framework board. This meeting indicated a strong willingness among the board members and the stakeholder focal points to provide mutual support for implementation of the framework.

E. Global sustainable consumption and production clearinghouse

11. The global sustainable consumption and production clearinghouse was launched in May 2013 to serve as the “one-stop” information hub for the 10-year framework, focusing on policymakers and the wider global sustainable consumption and production community. The dynamic and interactive hub collects, disseminates and shares experiences, best practices and knowledge about sustainable consumption and production, offering relevant initiatives, an e-library, news, events and cooperation opportunities in the form of an experts directory, working groups and discussion forums. The clearinghouse has over 2,000 members, including experts from more than 500 organizations based in 193 countries worldwide. In November 2013 a new energy efficiency community was launched, which is being co-managed by the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation. A sustainable consumption and production community has also been established in the Mediterranean region and a community in the small island developing States is under construction.

F. Trust fund of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns

12. The secretariat has established the trust fund of the 10-year framework to provide financial support to the framework and specific programmes and initiatives in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Under the guidance of the board, the secretariat is developing specific guidelines for the operationalization of the trust fund. The board has agreed to launch the first call for proposals for activities focusing on sustainable public procurement. Current contributions to the trust fund amount to $650,000.

13. Financial support for the framework, amounting to $4.4 million, has been provided in the period 2012-2014 by Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and the European Commission. Further official pledges totalling $3.5 million were made at the United Nations Environment Assembly in June 2014, comprised of $2.5 million from Japan and $1 million from Brazil.

14. In addition, a number of countries, namely France, Germany, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland, have supported the development of programmes, thus reinforcing the programmes on sustainable public procurement, consumer information and sustainable tourism, and contributing to the development of the new sustainable food systems programme. The leads and co-leads of the two framework programmes launched so far, namely Germany, Indonesia, the Korea Environmental
Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI), ICLEI — Local Governments for Sustainability, UNEP and the non-governmental organization (NGO) Consumers International, are supporting the respective coordination desks of these programmes. The framework secretariat will report biennially to the Economic and Social Council, as ad interim body, on the activities and financial performance of the trust fund, starting in November 2015.

III. Developing the 10-year framework programmes: key mechanisms to delivering capacity-building and implementation at the regional and national levels

15. The 10-year framework programmes are designed to meet the objectives, goals and functions of the framework, responding to national and regional needs, priorities and circumstances. The programmes will build capacity to design and implement policies, voluntary instruments and management practices, and to carry out information, education and awareness-raising activities to promote the shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns. An initial, non-exhaustive and indicative list of five programme areas was included in the 10-year framework document adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, namely consumer information, sustainable lifestyles and education, sustainable public procurement, sustainable buildings and construction, and sustainable tourism, including ecotourism. At its second meeting, in March 2014, the framework board approved a new programme area on sustainable food systems, based on a joint proposal from FAO and UNEP, developed at the request of Member States.

16. In order to facilitate an inclusive and participatory process for the development of the framework programmes, the secretariat has developed a five-step model, which was validated by the board. To date over 880 institutions and organizations, representing all regions, many stakeholder groups and economic sectors, have participated in the online surveys and public consultations for the development of the programmes.

A. Sustainable public procurement programme

17. The sustainable public procurement programme, led by UNEP and co-led by KEITI and ICLEI, was formally launched on 1 April 2014, in the margins of the tenth session of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals, held in New York. The programme builds on the previous work of the Marrakech Process Task Force on Sustainable Public Procurement (2005-2011) and the Sustainable Public Procurement Initiative (2012-2013). It brings together representatives from Governments, local authorities, the business sector and civil society, and 69 participating institutions and experts, including departments and agencies of 21 Governments from all regions, as well as UNOPS, UNEP, ICLEI, the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

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18. The objectives of the programme are (a) to build the case for sustainable public procurement by increasing knowledge about such procurement and its effectiveness as a tool to promote sustainable consumption and production and to support greener economies and sustainable development, and (b) to promote the implementation of sustainable public procurement on the ground through increased collaboration and better access to capacity-building tools and the provision of support to sustainable public procurement experts.\(^8\)

19. The sustainable public procurement programme work plan is organized around four main work areas:

(a) **Implementing sustainable public procurement on the ground.** The first work area focuses on facilitating implementation and building synergies with other existing sustainable public procurement projects, including the ICLEI Procura+ project, the IISD sustainable public procurement programme and the UNEP sustainable public procurement and eco-labelling project. Cooperation is coordinated through informational webinars, online working platforms, the sustainable consumption and production global clearinghouse and virtual meetings;

(b) **Assessing implementation and impacts.** This work area consists of taking a step back from implementation to see how organizations keep track of sustainable public procurement and tangibly measure its outcomes. There are three subgroups: monitoring sustainable public procurement implementation; measuring impacts and communicating benefits created by sustainable public procurement; and promoting best practices;

(c) **Addressing barriers to sustainable public procurement implementation and promoting innovative solutions.** This area aims to develop innovative solutions that address current barriers to sustainable public procurement implementation through the work of three subgroups that focus on integrating product service systems into sustainable public procurement; overcoming legal barriers; and including small- and medium-sized enterprises. A white paper on product-service systems, prepared with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment of the Netherlands, is currently under development;

(d) **Collaborating with the private sector.** This area calls for analysing the integral part that the private sector plays in public procurement and seeking ways to improve that collaboration through two subgroups: greening supply chains (team leader: Swedish Environmental Management Council); and sustainable public procurement through eco-labels and standards (team leader: ISEAL Alliance).

### B. Consumer information programme

20. After a global and multi-stakeholder consultation, which engaged about 150 initiatives, organizations and institutions from more than 20 countries, the 10-year framework consumer information programme was launched during the high-level political forum, held in New York on 1 July 2014. The programme is co-led by Germany, through the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety; Indonesia, through the Ministry of Environment; and

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\(^8\) More information is available at [www.unep.org/10yfp/Programmes/ProgrammeConsultation andCurrentStatus/Sustainablepublicprocurement/tabid/106267/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/10yfp/Programmes/ProgrammeConsultation andCurrentStatus/Sustainablepublicprocurement/tabid/106267/Default.aspx).
Consumers International. The programme serves as a global platform to support the provision of quality information on sustainable goods and services, and the identification and implementation of the most effective strategies to engage consumers in sustainable consumption. It raises the profile of relevant policies, strategies, projects as well as initiatives and partnerships, building synergies and cooperation between different stakeholders to leverage collective effort and resources so as to achieve shared sustainable consumption and production goals.

21. The main objectives of the programme are: (a) improve availability, accessibility and quality of consumer information to create a basis for the provision of credible information; (b) drive change in business and Government to ensure that the framework conditions are provided to support best practices in relation to consumer information; and (c) enhance communication to drive behavioural change and ensure the transition from being informed to taking action.

22. Each objective has three specific work areas for which the consumer information programme is engaging a wide range of stakeholders and partners, including consumer associations, businesses, retailers and Governments, in a consultative process for joint action. These work areas will be:

   (a) Improve availability, accessibility and credibility of consumer information through principles and guidelines; address data gaps and quality; and improve methodologies of key sustainability impact indicators;

   (b) Support retailers and brand owners to promote sustainability; encourage the uptake of new business models and the design of products that make sustainability the easy choice; and encourage the uptake of policies which enable more sustainable practices;

   (c) Stimulate inter-operability of consumer information tools; identify and scale up effective practices of consumer information; and promote understanding of the impact of sustainability information on consumer behaviour.

C. Sustainable tourism (including ecotourism) programme

23. In 2013 an initial stocktaking exercise on sustainable tourism involved a survey (available in English, French and Spanish) to which 355 initiatives and organizations have responded9 (40 per cent from governmental institutions, 27 per cent from businesses and 21 per cent from non-profit and non-governmental organizations), as well as regional and subregional expert workshops in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region. As a result, a draft concept note for the sustainable tourism programme has been developed, following close cooperation between UNEP and the United Nations World Tourism Organization. An online public consultation on the draft sustainable tourism concept note of the 10-year framework was held in May and June 2014. Consultations were held with and feedback was received from 80 stakeholders, with representation from NGOs (30 per cent), business (15 per cent), Governments (39 per cent), intergovernmental organizations (6 per cent), national cleaner production centres (3 per cent), United Nations agencies (4 per cent) and academia (3 per cent). Likewise, 37 expressions of interest were received from tourism stakeholders

9 The results of the sustainable tourism survey are available at www.unep.org/10yfp/tourism.
willing to play an active role in the coordination and implementation of the programme. Following the consultation, the selection of the lead actors and the multi-stakeholder advisory committee is taking place, facilitated by the framework secretariat. The sustainable tourism programme is expected to be launched by the fourth quarter of 2014.

24. The potential focus areas of the sustainable tourism programme are: (a) integrating sustainable consumption and production patterns in tourism policies and frameworks; (b) promoting collaboration among tourism stakeholders for the improvement of the tourism sector’s sustainable consumption and production performance; (c) fostering the application of guidelines, instruments and technical solutions to mitigate tourism impacts and to mainstream sustainable consumption and production patterns among tourism stakeholders; and (d) enhancing sustainable tourism investment and financing.

D. Sustainable lifestyles and education programme

25. The sustainable lifestyles and education programme will promote the development of efficient infrastructures, individual actions and choices that minimize the use of natural resources, emissions, waste and pollution, while supporting equitable socioeconomic development and a better quality of life for all. An informal expert meeting, co-hosted by UNEP and UNESCO, was held on the programme in Paris on 12 December 2013. An Advisory Group has been set up, with the participation of Japan, Sweden, UNESCO, UNU, UNEP, the Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living (PERL), Akatu, Consumers International and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), which will be providing support, guidance and feedback for the shaping of the programme.

26. A global and multi-stakeholder online public consultation took place in June and July 2014. It garnered 171 responses from all regions, most from Governments, academia/researchers and NGOs. The three main findings reveal (a) the need for a change in the perception of what sustainable lifestyles are, moving away from a consumption perspective and giving more consideration to well-being and social interactions, integrating them into policies, (b) education has been identified as a key to shifting towards sustainable lifestyles and an important factor to help reduce poverty, and (c) consideration of and action on sustainable lifestyles need to be included in all stages of citizens’ lives and across all sectors of society.

27. A multi-stakeholder expert meeting, held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on 9 and 10 July 2014, gathered more than 20 experts to shape the outline of the sustainable lifestyles and education programme. The proposed work areas are (a) identifying sustainable lifestyles, (b) activating sustainable lifestyles, (c) educating for sustainable lifestyles and (d) measuring sustainable lifestyles.

28. The formal proposal for the sustainable lifestyles and education programme will be submitted to the 10-year framework secretariat and board in October 2014 for validation and approval. It is foreseen to launch it at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, to be held in Nagoya, Japan, in November 2014.
E. Sustainable buildings and construction programme

29. A first consultation on the sustainable buildings and construction programme took place at the UNEP Sustainable Buildings and Construction Initiative Symposium, held in Paris on 25 and 26 November 2013. The consultation highlighted the importance of sustainable social housing and energy efficiency as potential activities of the programme, in addition to policy development, and resource efficiency in construction throughout the supply chain. A stocktaking analysis was undertaken during the second quarter of 2014 with the support of UNEP-Initiative partners and subject matter experts.

30. The sustainable buildings and construction programme aims to reach a point where all stakeholders involved in the planning, commissioning, design, construction and deconstruction, management and operation of buildings have a common understanding of sustainable buildings and the knowledge, resources and incentives required to create, maintain and use them, and where structures that are healthy to live and work in, that sustainably utilize energy, water, land and other key resources, respecting environmental limits, and ultimately have a minimally adverse impact on the natural world, are built or refurbished.

31. A draft concept note, currently under development with support from the NGO BioRegional, is based on interviews with stakeholders and experts in the buildings and construction community. A public online consultation on the note will take place in September. The programme is expected to be launched by the end of 2014.

F. Sustainable food systems programme

32. The framework sustainable food systems programme will build on the existing work on the FAO-UNEP sustainable food systems programme developed by the Agri-food Task Force on Sustainable Consumption and Production. The Task Force includes national Governments, the European Commission, United Nations agencies and programmes, civil society and private sector representatives. The proposed goal is to improve resource use efficiency and reduce the pollution intensity of food systems, from production to consumption, while addressing issues of food and nutrition security. An online consultation was conducted in July 2014 and gathered 212 responses (29 per cent from researchers, 25 per cent from NGOs, 18 per cent from governmental institutions, 8 per cent from the private sector, 6 per cent from intergovernmental organizations, 14 per cent from other institutions or individuals).

Initial results indicate that food losses and waste, sustainable food consumption, sustainable supply chains and data availability for sustainable production could play a prominent role in the programme. The suggested focus areas for the programme were further defined at an expert session of the Agri-food Task Force held at FAO headquarters in Rome on 11 and 12 September 2014. The outcome of that meeting will be a first draft of the concept for the sustainable food systems programme of the 10-year framework, which is expected to be launched in the first or second quarter of 2015, following finalization of the governance of the programme during the fourth quarter of 2014.
IV. Progress at the regional level: regional road maps for implementation of the 10-year framework

33. Regional consultations and activities have identified priorities, needs and emerging issues, and the best ways to address them in the course of seven regional meetings and capacity-building workshops. These events were attended by 70 national focal points and brought together policymakers, experts, civil society organizations and the business sector. Regional road maps for framework implementation have been developed in the Arab region (June 2013), and in the Asia-Pacific region (official launching in April 2014). In March 2014 the 19th Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted a decision reaffirming commitment to framework implementation and outlining key actions. The African road map for framework implementation is currently being developed.

34. A first regional meeting on the 10-year framework was organized in close cooperation with the 8th African Round Table on Sustainable Consumption and Production, held in Namibia in May 2014. This meeting brought together the African national focal points, the Round Table experts and the African Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Network, so as to strengthen capacities and cooperation for sustainable consumption and production implementation at the national and regional levels. Interregional cooperation has been fostered as well. In the case of small island developing States, in paragraph 69 of the SAMOA (Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action) Pathway outcome document, Member States called for support for the efforts of small island developing States to develop and implement programmes under the 10-year framework to advance sustainable consumption. The framework secretariat, in close consultation with small island developing States, is developing a sustainable consumption and production initiative for such States within the 10-year framework, which will provide support for specific activities, projects and capacity-building in order to shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns and respond to the priorities of small island developing States.

35. The European Union-funded SWITCH projects in the Asia-Pacific, Africa and Mediterranean regions provide additional opportunities to promote sustainable consumption and production, and synergies are being developed with the 10-year framework programmes through these regional activities. For example, following the adoption of the framework, the SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Support Component organized a policy workshop, “The post-Rio+20 future we want in Asia and the Pacific region: the SCP engine”, in May 2014. The workshop resulted in policy recommendations for sustainable consumption and production, including the 10-year framework, and a proposal to amend the SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Support Component to reflect more strongly the support of this programme to framework implementation in the Asia-Pacific region. This coordination with regional projects allows for subregional projects, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (ASEAN+3)

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10 Information is available at www.unep.org/10yfp/Portals/50150/downloads/Roadmap_10YFP_Arab.pdf.
green public procurement and eco-labelling project, to indirectly support framework implementation.

36. Two outreach sessions were organized to strengthen science-based knowledge on sustainable consumption and production in cooperation with the International Resource Panel. The first was held in the Latin America and the Caribbean region (Lima, June 2013) and the second in the Asia-Pacific region (Bangkok, November 2013).

V. Progress at the national level

37. Since the adoption of the 10-year framework, sustainable consumption and production is more widely and clearly understood as a universal and integrated approach to sustainable development, simultaneously addressing environmental, economic and social objectives.

38. At the national level, countries have developed/implemented national action plans following adoption of the 10-year framework. In Indonesia, since the launch of its national 10-year framework programme on sustainable consumption and production (formally adopted by BAPPENAS, the former Ministry of National Development Planning), on 5 June 2013, the uptake of sustainable consumption and production in the national development policy has been advanced. This is reflected in Presidential Decree No. 43 of 2014 as a focus in the first year of the midterm national development plan of 2015-2019. Mexico too has developed a special programme on sustainable consumption and production which is now part of the national development plan for 2012-2018. In addition, Chile launched an interministerial committee on sustainable consumption and production on 10 September 2014, with the objective of developing a national programme on the matter by the end of 2015. Moreover, new funds provided by the United Nations Development Account will provide support for the implementation of sustainable consumption and production in five countries, namely Colombia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Zambia, to advance the implementation of their national sustainable consumption and production plans, and Honduras and Pakistan, to develop their own national plans.

VI. The 10-year framework in the international agenda

A. Sustainable consumption and production at the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

39. During the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, held at UNEP headquarters in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014, a plenary meeting at the ministerial level focused on “sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda, including sustainable consumption and production”. The ministers highlighted the potential of the 10-year framework as an important implementation mechanism for the goals and as an operational tool for the development of economies on a sustainable basis. Many Member States recognized
the positive value of sustainable consumption and production, including for poverty eradication.

40. Some key points that were raised by the ministers during the plenary meeting were as follows. There is a need for more focus on sustainable consumption and production, and how to shift to these patterns. This requires more work, engaging all stakeholders, including consumers and business throughout the supply chains, of large and small companies alike. There is also a need for leadership to achieve the shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns, not only from Governments but also from actors in civil society and business. Developed countries should take the lead in the shift to sustainable consumption and production in the light of their high levels of material consumption. Such a shift also offers developing countries an opportunity to leapfrog to cleaner, more efficient and competitive models of development. Sustainable consumption and production is thus a universally applicable approach for sustainable development. The measures required to achieve the shift require political will for their effective implementation.

41. Outcomes of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly were reflected in the ministerial outcome document of the Assembly, in which the ministers called upon the international community and reaffirmed their commitment to accelerate and support efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through sustainable lifestyles and resource efficiency, and to accelerate actions, with the support of UNEP, to implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns as a tool for action on sustainable consumption and production, including its section on means of implementation.

42. During the Environment Assembly, on 23 June 2014, the 10-year framework secretariat also organized a side event on “transforming consumption and production systems through the sustainable development goals”. At this event, Governments and stakeholders discussed the relevance of sustainable consumption and production to the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda, and the framework as a means of implementation of the goals.

B. Sustainable consumption and production at the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development

43. At the 2014 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and at the second meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened in New York from 30 June to 11 July 2014, sustainable consumption and production and the 10-year framework were included in the agenda and highlighted in dedicated dialogues held during the forum.

44. Responding to General Assembly resolution 67/290, in which the Assembly decided that the forum may provide recommendations to the board of the 10-year framework and its secretariat, a dialogue with the Chairs of the 10-year framework board was organized on 31 May 2014 and an interim progress report was prepared for the forum. During the dialogue session, Balthasar Kambuaya, Minister of Environment of Indonesia, co-Chair of the board, reported on progress in the establishment of the framework and in regional road maps for its implementation.
Sylvia del Carmen Trevino (Mexico), Chair of the board, presented some of the challenges faced, such as ensuring that sustainable consumption and production is integrated in the decision-making processes, enhancing interministerial cooperation, coordinating broader stakeholder action at the national level and securing predictable and adequate finance. They both shared their experience in developing their countries’ national sustainable consumption and production programmes.

45. It was noted that the 10-year framework has gained momentum, but implementation of the framework and delivery on its mandate need to proceed quickly. Political leadership is needed as well as additional resources on the scale required for implementation at the regional and national levels. Stakeholders’ roles were further highlighted, especially that of national focal points of the framework, who should be empowered to promote interministerial cooperation at the domestic and regional levels.

46. Another dialogue, entitled “How could sustainable consumption and production contribute to the sustainable development goals?”, was also organized. It gathered various partners from Governments, the private sector and civil society organizations, who emphasized that sustainable consumption and production is applicable to all Member States, requiring leadership from developed countries and offering opportunities for developing countries to leapfrog to more sustainable development pathways. The need for effective action to promote sustainable consumption patterns was also noted, the main challenge being how to scale up and mainstream sustainable consumption and production in core national policies and planning. All stakeholders have an important role to play in achieving sustainable consumption and production and long-term sustainability after 2015, and the private sector should be engaged, from small- and medium-sized enterprises to multinational companies. It was also highlighted that a solid monitoring and accountability mechanism, based on transparency in information and the use of indicators, would support an effective shift towards sustainable consumption and production.

47. In paragraph 19 of the ministerial declaration of the 2014 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum convened under the auspices of the Council, the Ministers welcome the operationalization of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns and look forward to the launch of all of its programmes.

48. As mentioned above, during the high-level political forum, the 10-year framework programme on consumer information was launched and the Inter-Agency Coordination Group organized a side event on “One UN for sustainable consumption and production: joint action to implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns”. At this event the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNEP, FAO, UNESCO and ESCAP presented the role of the United Nations in building cooperation, as well as joint capacity-building activities on sustainable consumption and production, and on implementing the 10-year framework.
C. Sustainable consumption and production and the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

49. The objective of shifting to sustainable consumption and production patterns is gaining political support and is of increasing relevance in intergovernmental discussions on the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals. The need for this shift has been highlighted by Governments and stakeholders, recalling that sustainable consumption and production is one of the three overarching objectives and an essential requirement for sustainable development. The High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda reaffirmed that the adoption of sustainable consumption and production in a world of limited resources is an essential requirement for sustainable development. In its report of May 2013 it also mentioned that “the MDGs [Millennium Development Goals] fell short by not integrating the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration, and by not addressing the need to promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production”.

50. In this context, the 10-year framework provided inputs, through outreach sessions and papers, highlighting the potential contribution that a shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns could make to the future sustainable development goals. The framework board and secretariat organized a side event during the seventh session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in January 2014 and during the eleventh session of the Working Group. A UNEP discussion paper on sustainable consumption and production targets and indicators and the sustainable development goals was subsequently issued in an advance copy in May and in a final version in June 2014.

51. Moreover, the framework board, with the support of the secretariat, prepared a brief document on “Potential contribution of the 10YFP programmes to the SDGs”, and the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, with support provided by the secretariat, prepared a document on “SCP in the SDGs”. Both documents were issued in June 2014.12

52. On 19 July 2014, the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals adopted by acclamation an outcome document of proposed sustainable development goals. Target 12.1 calls for the implementation of the 10-year framework, with all countries taking action and with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries. This target is further supported by other targets within the proposed goal 12 (“Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns”) and other closely related targets. The proposal of the Open Working Group has been recognized by the General Assembly as the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals in the post-2015 development agenda pursuant to its resolution 68/309.

53. The framework secretariat provided further information and documentation on the links between sustainable consumption and production and the sustainable development goals, and the potential contribution of the 10-year framework to the achievement of those goals, as required by Member States, the framework board, the Inter-Agency Consultative Group and other stakeholders.

12 Both documents are available at www.unep.org/10yfp.
VII. Conclusions and recommendations

54. The adoption of the 10-year framework at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development has created important momentum for the shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns, placing this topic on the agenda of global and regional ministerial meetings. This has also been evident in the sessions of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, where many Member States have stressed the universality of sustainable consumption and production and the need to embed this objective in those future goals, and has been reflected in the approved outcome document of the Open Working Group. In this context, many Member States have called for the effective and accelerated implementation of the framework.

55. The nomination of over 110 national focal points for the framework and the engagement of six major groups have also signalled widespread interest in engaging in framework implementation. Significant numbers of Governments have formally expressed their intent to play central roles in the implementation of the most advanced programmes.

56. While progress has been achieved, there is still the challenge to communicate and demonstrate the added value of sustainable consumption and production and its potential contributions to competitiveness, social development, poverty eradication and climate change mitigation. Attracting funding and enhancing the participation of the private sector and financial institutions are additional, related challenges.

57. Furthermore, in order to develop opportunities for improving the comprehensiveness of programmes under the 10-year framework in support of national sustainable development transitions, it will be necessary for actors in all programmes to identify areas of cooperation and synergies with other framework programmes, with the aim of ensuring a wider collective impact and life cycle approach. For example, the programme on sustainable tourism could make important contributions to the programme on sustainable lifestyles and education (information to tourists on sustainable choices and behaviour) as well as to the programme on sustainable buildings and construction, by providing guidelines and practical tools for constructing or refurbishing more resource-efficient hotels. There remains a need to identify other priority themes, sectors and emerging issues that should be addressed in the framework and its programmes, to support resource efficiency and the increasing number of national and regional strategies which are currently being designed and implemented by Governments. Additional programme areas that have been suggested by Governments include waste, manufacturing, small- and medium-sized enterprises, cities and urban sprawl. There is also a need to showcase, through framework programmes and other existing sustainable consumption and production initiatives, the opportunities and potential that the shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns offers for achieving triple-win solutions for the benefit of people, the planet and the economy in all countries.

58. In order to build support for, accelerate the implementation and improve the comprehensiveness of programmes under the 10-year framework, the
Economic and Social Council may wish to consider the following recommendations:

(a) The Economic and Social Council should encourage all countries to ensure that sustainable consumption and production is integrated in their decision-making processes, including by increasing technical and financial support to Governments in their efforts to mainstream sustainable consumption and production objectives into the design and implementation of a range of economic, development and sectoral policies;

(b) The Economic and Social Council should encourage all countries to empower the 10-year framework national focal points, nominated by their respective Governments, to enable them to define and convey countries’ needs related to the shift to sustainable consumption and production, enhance interministerial cooperation and coordinate broader stakeholder action at the national level, as well as serve as the channel for submitting proposals to the framework trust fund;

(c) There are untapped opportunities to induce more active participation of the private sector and financial institutions in the 10-year framework by demonstrating the economic case for, and return on investment generated by, the shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns;

(d) The United Nations system should strengthen communication to facilitate the exchange of best practices and share the progress made on the implementation of 10-year framework programmes through the sustainable consumption and production global clearinghouse and the framework website;

(e) The Economic and Social Council should call upon all countries and other stakeholders in the position to do so to secure predictable and adequate financial contributions to the 10-year framework trust fund, as well as through other funding channels to the framework, so as to enable the timely implementation of its programmes at the national and regional levels, on the scale being requested by a wide range of actors;

(f) The United Nations system should ensure that the development of the 10-year framework and its programmes is consistent with and supportive of the post-2015 development agenda;

(g) The United Nations system should support the implementation of the sustainable consumption and production regional strategies and road maps and build synergies with regional intergovernmental bodies and sustainable consumption and production initiatives, including in support of small island developing States;

(h) The United Nations system should promote, within the current programme areas of the 10-year framework, mainstreaming of the following cross-cutting policy measures which have the greatest potential for increasing the overall effectiveness of the framework: a life cycle approach to ensure a holistic approach to promoting sustainable consumption and production; measures to promote sustainable supply chains which also enhance the engagement of the private sector; promoting innovation and new thinking to leapfrog to sustainable consumption and production patterns; combining capacity-building undertaken in framework programmes with policies and decision-making processes which generate financial investments, both public and private.