

# Future of GEO Consultation Online Webinars

## 9 September – 9 October 2020

### Webinar Objectives:

- To convene interested parties to share the highlights of the Co-Chairs' Discussion Paper and Background Paper, and the process for answering key questions of focus for the consultation;
- To provide a forum for clarifying questions and answers regarding the process for the consultation;
- To introduce and facilitate feedback from Member States, Stakeholders and Assessment Experts on the Co-Chairs Discussion Paper and Background Paper and the set of strategic questions.

### Timing:

- Four dates (Sept. 10, 15, 22, 29) will be offered featuring six 90-minute webinars held over four weeks in two time zones to facilitate global participation.

Time	Section	Content
-15 min	<b>GoToWebinar Platform Open</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants can join up to 15 min prior to the workshop.</li> </ul>
00:00	<i>Section 1</i> <b>Welcome and Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNEP Secretariat welcome</li> <li>• GEO Steering Committee Co-Chair welcome</li> <li>• Objectives of the webinar, schedule, how to participate (slide), and introductions, <b>Gillian Martin Mehers, Bright Green Learning</b></li> </ul>
00:15	<i>Section 2</i> <b>Future of GEO Co-chair's Discussion Document Background Paper: Analysis and Key Considerations for Stakeholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the speakers and the strategic questions, and decision-making criteria questions that form the basis for the consultation over the next 4 weeks, <b>Gillian Martin Mehers, Bright Green Learning</b></li> <li>• Introduction to the Future of GEO process thus far and overview of the Co-Chairs Discussion Document, <b>GEO Steering Committee Co-Chair</b></li> <li>• Overview of the Background Paper and how it is related to the Co-Chairs Discussion Document, <b>Dr. Laszlo Pinter, Lead, Consulting Team CEU/IISD</b></li> <li>• Review of the <b>6 strategic questions</b> to be answered through the consultation:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What should be GEO's objectives?</li> <li>2. What should be GEO's functions?</li> <li>3. What process and methods should be followed and to what extent should they be formalized for GEO?</li> <li>4. What should be GEO's scope?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. What should be GEO's utility, i.e. who will be the main users of GEO and how will they use it, what products do they require, when will these products be needed?</li> <li>6. What would the preferred governance and implementation structure look like, and to what extent should GEO be a scientific intergovernmental assessment? How should GEO work with partners?</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions from attendees</li> </ul>
01:05	<p><i>Section 3</i>  <b>Criteria for Decision-Making</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the 4 Criteria for Decision-making– these are the criteria that the SC should use to select the options, GEO Steering Committee <b>Co-Chair</b>,</li> <li>• Criteria/questions:</li> <li>• <b>What key criteria or aspects should be used to assess the limited set of options for the future of GEO to be presented to the UNEA?</b></li> <li>• Proposed criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Relevance (or saliency), or how directly relevant the report is to the needs of end users;</li> <li>2. Legitimacy, or having the endorsement and, where practicable, the participation of the main user community;</li> <li>3. Credibility, or based on authoritative and convincing information and analysis, and</li> <li>4. Overall feasibility (see figure 2.1 from UNEP's Integrated Environmental Assessment Guidelines).</li> <li>5. Flexibility to adapt and fill gaps in UNEP's science-policy interface</li> <li>6. Alignment with the needs of Multilateral Environmental Agreements</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Questions from attendees regarding the decision-making criteria and process questions.</li> </ul>
01:25	<p><i>Section 4</i>  <b>How to Contribute Further and Closing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on how to contribute additional comments, <b>Gillian Martin Mehers, Facilitator</b></li> <li>• Thanks and closing of the online webinar, <b>GEO Steering Committee Co-Chair</b></li> </ul>
01:30	<i>End of the Online Webinar</i>	