United Nations
Department of Operational Support
Department of Peace Operations
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

REF. NO: DOS/2022.01

Policy

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND FIELD-BASED SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS

Policy for peacekeeping operations and special political missions that manage or maintain facilities and infrastructure, or have operational control of energy or water provision, or wastewater or waste treatment or disposal, or any other significant environmental aspect relevant to this Policy

Approved By: USG DOS	**Signature**	**Date**	18 March 2022
Approved By: USG DPO	**Signature**	**Date**	28 March 2022
Approved By: USG DPPA	**Signature**	**Date**	30 March 2022

Effective Date: 1 April 2022

Contact: Environment Section, Office of the Under-Secretary-General, DOS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. PURPOSE 2
B. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY 3
C. POLICY 3
C.1. Environmental Policy 3
C.2. Principles, Objectives and Expectations 3
Principle 1: stewardship of the environment 4
Principle 2: efficiency in resource use and operations 8
Principle 3: continuous improvement of environmental performance 11
Principle 4: stakeholder engagement at all levels 12
Principle 5: adaptation and resilience 13
D. RESOURCES 15
E. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 16
E.1. General requirements 16
E.2. Head of Mission 16
E.3. Director of Mission Support / Chief of Mission Support 16
E.4. Force Commander 16
E.5. Police Commissioner 17
E.6. Environmental Officer 17
E.7. Waste Management Officer 17
E.8. Environmental Focal Point(s) 18
E.9. Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Operational Support 18
E.10. Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Peace Operations 18
E.11. Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs 18
F. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS 19
G. REFERENCES 19
G.1. Normative or superior references 19
G.2. Related procedures, guidelines 20
G.3. Mission-level references 21
G.4. Other references 21
H. MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE 21
I. HISTORY 21

ANNEXES:
A: Wastewater Quality Standards for Disposal or Restricted Reuse
B: Waste Disposal Standards
C: Product and Service Standards / Specifications
D: Environmental Reporting Standards

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND FIELD-BASED SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS

A. PURPOSE AND RATIONALE

1. The purpose of this document is to outline an operational policy for United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKOs) and field-based special political missions (SPMs), in support of the implementation of General Assembly mandates [1] to reduce the overall environmental footprint of missions, in full compliance with the relevant rules and regulations [2]. This Policy outlines measures to ensure that missions institute sound environmental practices and fully consider the environmental impact of their operations[3].

2. Due to their operational footprint, size, mandates, and various organisational supporting structures, PKOs and field-based SPMs have unique environmental considerations that are distinct from other Secretariat entities. This Policy has been developed to provide operational policy and standards for field-based missions in order to meet the overarching principles and objectives for environmental management provided in the *Environmental policy for the United Nations Secretariat* ST/SGB/2019/7, to which this Policy is fully aligned .

3. This Policy builds on the 2009 *Environmental Policy for UN Field Missions* and the 2018 *Waste Management Policy for UN Field Missions*, the *Environment Strategy for field missions* (Jan 2017-Jun 2023) and the associated operational standards and guidance developed for field-based operations by UN environmental and engineering technical teams, and the continuous efforts in the field by PKOs and SPMs to improve on their environmental footprint and to avoid the negative impacts of their activities.

4. This policy supports Secretariat endeavours to align its own practices in support of the aims and goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[4] and international agreements on climate change and protection of the environment. It also supports implementation of the shared commitments made in relation to the Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) initiative[5].

> "*United Nations peace operations are one of the most effective tools we have to maintain international peace and security and to create the conditions for sustainable development. Providing the right operational support for our field missions is essential for the people we serve, and to deliver on the SDGs by 2030*"
>
> Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed[6]

[1] A full list of relevant mandates, and text pertaining to environment, is provided in the references section.

[2] A/RES/70/286.

[3] A/74/19.

[4] A/RES/70/1 and A/RES/72/219.

[5] *Action for Peacekeeping: Declaration of Shared Commitments on UN Peacekeeping Operations*, United Nations, 2018.

[6] Address to the Directors and Chiefs of Mission Support Conference, October 2021

B. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

5. This Policy, including all Annexes, applies to PKOs and SPMs that manage or maintain facilities and infrastructure, or have operational control of energy or water provision, or wastewater or waste treatment or disposal, or any other significant environmental aspect relevant to this Policy[7]. The terms *mission* and *field operation* are used throughout this document to refer to the peacekeeping operations and the field-based special political missions to which this Policy applies.

6. This Policy applies to all phases[8] of the mission/operation and all sites, facilities, and infrastructure, where the mission—either civilian, contractors or uniformed components[9]—has operational control.

7. This Policy carries the expectation of compliance, and the Head of Mission shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the observance of this document by the mission.

8. This Policy supersedes any earlier policies, directives, instructions or guidance on the subject, including the *Environmental Policy for UN Field Missions (2009.06)* and the *Waste Management Policy for UN Field Missions (2018.14)*.

9. Relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, particularly the financial rules and regulations, must be respected while implementing this policy.

10. The effective date for this Policy is stated on the cover and it is not intended to be retroactively applied.

C. POLICY

C.1. Environmental Policy

11. Each PKO and SPM shall uphold the principle of "do no harm" and seek to achieve maximum efficiency in their use of natural resources and operate at minimum risk to people, societies and ecosystems, contributing to a positive impact on these wherever possible.

Mission Framework

12. Further, each PKO and SPM shall comply with the *Environmental policy for the United Nations Secretariat* (ST/SGB/2019/7).

13. Finally, applicable PKOs and SPMs shall comply with this policy, as it outlines further operational expectations and standards for field operations that aim to assist in the implementation of ST/SGB/2019/7.

C.2. Principles, Objectives and Expectations

14. Applicable PKOs and SPMs are committed to adhering to the following principles, objectives and standards, through systematic and continuous improvements that take into account local and regional conditions.

[7] The concept of operational control is determined by whether a peacekeeping operation or special political mission has authority over the procurement, operation or disposal, of a site, facility, or infrastructure, noting that the level of operational control can vary depending on many parameters including local regulations, the specific contractual arrangements with service providers/building owners, location of the asset/facility (e.g., whether on a UN site or off site), ownership, and safety and security requirements. Each mission should make its own determination, or contact Environmental Section in the OUSG, for guidance.

[8] Including start-up, sustainment, and drawdown/transition/liquidation, and including temporary locations.

[9] i.e., irrespective of whether equipment is UN owned, or self-sustained / contingent owned.

15. The expected standards outlined in this Policy reflect minimum requirements. Given the dynamic nature of UN operations, they may not be exhaustive, and all personnel should consider the environmental aspects of their respective roles and functions within the mission. Particular attention to environmental issues should be made when undertaking changes in operational processes, for example, when planning a deployment, sourcing equipment, constructing facilities, and during decommissioning / demobilisation.

Principle 1: stewardship of the environment[10]

	Objective	Expected standard
1.1 Seek to do no harm to the environment & communities **1.2 Observe, on a voluntary basis, the highest environmental standards, and exceed them when feasible** **1.3 Maximize opportunities to contribute positively to the environment**	Prevention of pollution to water, land and air	16. All mission personnel, including civilian and uniformed components, are responsible for ensuring that their conduct in the mission conforms to the requirements outlined in the Environmental Policy for the United Nations Secretariat (ST/SGB/2019/7) and any related instructions and operating procedures of the mission. 17. There shall be no discharge of untreated wastewaters directly into streams, rivers, groundwater or other bodies of water. Wastewater discharged shall comply with the standards provided in the *Wastewater Quality Standards for Disposal or Restricted Reuse* (Annex A) or by the host country, whichever is more stringent. 18. The use of host country wastewater treatment facilities that are able to meet UN standards (in Annex A) should be preferred to the construction and operation of onsite treatment infrastructure. Where utilised, if municipal treatment does not consistently align with the risk management practices described in Annex A, this shall be reported in accordance with this policy and commensurate actions shall be undertaken to manage the environmental risks, including, where feasible, onsite treatment. 19. Wastewater treatment infrastructure and operational management controls should meet the standards outlined in Annex A. Unless reuse of treated wastewater is an environmental or operational objective, treatment systems requiring the least amount of operation and maintenance should be implemented to reduce the risks associated with wastewater mismanagement, both during, and post, deployment. 20. Underground fuel storage systems shall not be installed unless there is an unavoidable operational requirement. In such cases, storage systems shall be suitably engineered and have pollution protection equipment and a fuel loss (leakage) monitoring system[11]. 21. Petroleum, oils and lubricant storage facilities, distribution facilities and fuel transfer area infrastructure shall have appropriate secondary containment with an impermeable floor and berms/side walls. The berm/side wall would normally be capable of containing 110% of the tank rated capacity of the largest tank, or 25% of the capacity of all the tanks within the containment area, whichever is

[10] Principles and objectives as outlined in ST/SGB/2019/7.

[11] There are a number of relevant industry best practice standards that may be consulted. As a minimum, the *Fuel Management Guideline*, available on the Knowledge Gateway / Fuel Community of Practice SharePoint site, should be adhered to.

Objective	Expected standard
	greater, with a drain into a contained and enclosed system requiring positive action for operation[12].
	22. All contaminated soil should be immediately remediated to the acceptable levels provided in the *Waste Disposal Standards* (Annex B) or removed for treatment elsewhere. Remediation shall be completed prior to site handover.
	23. A list of prohibited hazardous materials[13] and labelling requirements for other hazardous materials is provided in the *Product and Service Standards/Specifications* (Annex C). Hazardous material storage facilities shall be covered and have ground protection. Hazardous materials shall be handled and stored in accordance with the applicable safety data sheet of the material, and in accordance with hazard compatibility[14]. Emergency spill kits and safety data sheets[15] (SDSs) shall be readily available, and any incidents (e.g., leaks, spills) immediately addressed and reported to the Environmental Officer.
	24. Hazardous wastes shall be clearly separated from non-hazardous wastes and handled and stored in accordance with the applicable safety data sheet of the material, and in accordance with hazard compatibility. Records concerning those substances should be kept and copies provided to the Environmental Officer or Waste Management Officer.
	25. Hazardous wastes shall be subject to formal treatment and disposal. No hazardous or biomedical wastes shall be disposed of to land or water without prior treatment in accordance with Annex B, or through formal means described in Annex C.
	26. The use of host country waste disposal facilities that are able to meet the standards provided in Annex B should be preferred to the construction of UN facilities. Where utilised, if municipal / contractor disposal facilities do not consistently align with the risk management practices described in Annex B, or are prone to informal waste recovery activities by the local community, this shall be reported in accordance with this policy and commensurate actions should be undertaken to manage the environmental and social risks, such as, prior incineration, segregation, and/or diversion of organic/food waste material (see Annex B).
	27. Open burning of wastes is prohibited (exceptions being garden wastes, paper and untreated wood). Incineration of waste should be via a fit-for-purpose incinerator to the standard provided in Annex B.

[12] Refer the *Fuel Management Guideline*, with additional Guidance on aboveground fuel storage tank design and technical requirements found in the Field Fuel Operations repository / Fuel Community of Practice – D.3 – Fuel distribution systems.

[13] Hazardous materials/wastes are classified based on their biological, chemical, and physical properties. These properties generate materials that are either toxic, reactive (e.g., oxidants), ignitable/explosive, corrosive, infectious, or radioactive. Hazardous wastes may be in solid, liquid and gaseous forms. The definition of hazardous materials/wastes for the purposes of this policy is: *Waste material that may cause damage to human health or the environment that requires precautions when storing, handling, transporting or disposing due to its toxicity, corrosiveness, ignitability or reactivity*. If there is any doubt, consult Annexes I and III of the *Basel Convention on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal*, Secretariat of the Basel Convention (SBC), April 2020.

[14] Incompatible dangerous and hazardous goods should not be transported or stored together to avoid possible reactions between the goods and to reduce the hazards associated with any accidental leakage or spillage.

[15] Refer *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (IV)*, United Nations, 2011.

Objective	Expected standard
	28. Non-hazardous waste not able to be re-used, recycled, composted or incinerated should be disposed of in a landfill demonstratively engineered to minimise environmental impact in accordance with the standards provided in Annex B. 29. Fuel shall conform to the lowest sulphur content and highest fuel quality standards available in the mission's operational area. 30. New refrigeration / air conditioning equipment shall use refrigerants with zero ozone depleting potential (ODP), unless no practicable alternative is demonstrated. Existing units using the high the ODP refrigerant R22 shall be phased out as a priority. Disposal of R22 from existing equipment shall be through a licenced contractor or facility.
Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions	31. Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions [16], and significant sources of Scope 3 emissions, such as from commercial air travel and charted transport, shall be reported annually on an absolute and per capita basis. 32. Missions shall identify, plan and budget initiatives[17] that in aggregate achieve at least a 25% reduction in absolute and per capita greenhouse gas emissions by 2025, and 45% by 2030[18]. All appropriate measures to implement initiatives shall be taken and progress on implementation reported annually. 33. To the greatest extent possible, alternative methods should be employed in lieu of official business travel. Managers shall certify that alternative methods, such as videoconference, audioconference and other remote business practices, such as virtual meetings, have been carefully reviewed, and were found not to be effective for mandate implementation. Where direct face-to-face contact, or field inspection, is necessary, the number of attendees should be minimised. Where possible, travel should be by the most direct route, minimising stopovers, with staff members encouraged to voluntarily downgrade their entitlement to economy class, making use of rest periods, when able to do so in accordance with ST/AI/2013/3[19]. 34. New refrigeration / air conditioning equipment shall use refrigerants with a maximum of 700 global warming potential (GWP), or better, unless no practicable alternative is demonstrated. Existing units using the high GWP refrigerants R410A or R134A shall be phased out as a priority. Disposal of refrigerants shall be through a licenced contractor or facility.

[16] Namely, direct emissions (fuel combustion and fugitive emissions) and emissions arising from electricity use. Refer *GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.* The Scope 3 emissions of commercial air travel, charted travel (i.e., UN chartering of air, sea and land vessels for the transport of personnel and materiel) are included due to their relative significance in terms of emissions, materiality in terms of delivery of mandate, and the level of operational control by the UN over such emissions sources (i.e., determining the need, modality and routing of the services).

[17] See A/74/19 and refer 2018.33: *Development of Energy Infrastructure Management Plans for UN Field Missions (SOP)*.

[18] Reflecting objectives established by Secretariat senior leadership, such as in the *United Nations Secretariat Climate Action Plan 2020-2030*, and in accordance with the *Greenhouse Gas Science-based Targets Guidance for UN Organisations*, UNEP, April 2021.

[19] *Official travel* (ST/AI/2013/3). Efficiencies within the UN's aviation fleet are addressed in the *Aviation Manual* 2018.21

Principle 1: stewardship of the environment

Objective	Expected standard
Provision of safe and healthy workplaces	35. Facilities generating noise and air emissions (such as heliports, generator houses, incinerators and areas of high transport movement) shall be designed, placed and constructed and subsequently occupied, maintained and operated in a manner that minimises safety and health hazards and risk exposure, such as, for example, noise and air emissions (including dust)[20].
	36. Offices and residential buildings shall be designed, constructed and subsequently occupied, maintained and operated in a safe manner. Construction methodology, operations and materials should at minimum fully meet national occupational safety and health (OSH) legislation and standards, and where such does not exist, or are inadequate, the UN shall provide such standards. DOS must be consulted if there are any uncertainties concerning OSH standards and/or legislation regarding UN facilities, areas, or residential buildings under UN administration and control. 37. The use of asbestos in construction is prohibited and removal shall only be undertaken by a qualified and licenced contractor. Construction materials and furniture shall not include the hazardous substances, and should meet the toxic substances performance standards, provided in Annex C.
Contribution to the preservation and rehabilitation of ecosystems and cultural heritage	38. Hunting, logging, harvesting, collecting, purchasing or acquiring wild animals or wild plants, live or dead, or any parts and derivatives is prohibited (including the use of charcoal that is not sustainably managed). Directions to that effect should be issued by the mission and incorporated into induction briefings. Domesticated animals and/or pets should not be kept by individuals and animal welfare and control programs for stray animals should be endorsed by senior mission management. 39. Attacking or using places of cultural, religious, historical and/or architectural value or their immediate surroundings for purposes which might expose them to destruction or damage; and attacking, destroying, removing or rendering useless, objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population, such as food stuff, livestock, and drinking water installations and supplies is prohibited in accordance with Secretary-General's Bulletin on the *Observance by United Nations Forces of International Humanitarian Law*. Directions to that effect should be issued by the mission and incorporated into induction briefings. 40. Due care shall also be taken for ecosystems and cultural heritage sites over which the mission has stewardship (i.e., on UN occupied sites). 41. Where mandated to do so, police components shall provide operational support and/or capacity building and development assistance to host-Government counterparts in enforcing local, national, regional and international law and regulations pertaining to the protection of the environment.

[20] Refer the *Environmental Impact Assessment for UN field missions* (SOP) 2019.09.

Principle 2: efficiency in resource use and operations

	Objective	Expected standard
2.1 Conserve natural resources **2.2 Optimize sustainable energy consumption** **2.3 Reduce the generation of waste and aim for zero waste**	Reduction in energy consumption	42. Electricity and fuel use shall be measured[21] and reported annually on an absolute and per capita basis. 43. Missions shall identify, plan and budget initiatives[22] that in aggregate achieve per capita electricity consumption reductions of at least 20% by 2025 and 35% by 2030[23]. All appropriate measures to implement initiatives shall be taken and progress on implementation reported annually. 44. Specifications for vehicles shall enable the optimisation of the mission vehicle fleet, with a documented cost-benefit analysis outlining, inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact of vehicle selection[24]. In the case of electric or hybrid electric vehicles, local power generation capacities should be taken into account to ensure a reduction in fuel use / GHG emissions. The total number of light passenger vehicles an entity can hold should not exceed the maximum ceiling calculated in accordance with vehicle ratios stipulated in the *Standard Cost and Ratio Manual*. Missions should take active measures to monitor vehicle use, and to reduce and monitor idling. 45. Specification of electricity generation, sourcing and internal distribution equipment should be based on a documented cost-benefit analysis (levelized cost of energy basis) outlining, inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact. The analysis shall include assessment of renewable energy systems (in accordance with clause 50). Where specified, generators should be sized to operate at an average capacity factor of 65-85% to ensure high generating efficiency. Multiple generators co-located in a powerhouse should be synchronized to operate as an integrated power generation unit maintaining high generating efficiency as load demand fluctuates. All generators installed in a new powerhouse should be synchronized, unless it is demonstrated that it is not technically feasible to do so. Generator synchronization should also be implemented when existing powerhouses are upgraded or retrofitted. 46. Specification of accommodation and facilities (including the selection of leased premises) should be based on a documented cost-benefit analysis outlining, inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact of the materials and components[25]. The analysis should include assessment of lighting, heating, and cooling, and consideration of passive

[21] By meters, preferably digital, where practicable and cost effective to do so.

[22] See A/74/19 and refer 2018.33: *Development of Energy Infrastructure Management Plans for UN Field Missions (SOP)*.

[23] Reflecting objectives established by Secretariat senior leadership, such as in the United Nations Secretariat Climate Action Plan 2020-2030, and in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Science-based Targets Guidance for UN Organisations, UNEP, April 2021.

[24] Refer A/RES/70/286 (2016). Cost benefit analysis should consider value for money from a total cost of ownership perspective, including, inter alia, the costs in transport, in-use, and disposal, which can be particularly significant in the field context.

[25] Guidance may be found in: *Important and Desirable Environmental Actions (IDEAs) for Selection and Establishment of Resilient and Efficient UN Offices Benchmarks for Evaluation and Comparative Analysis*, UNEP, September 2021.

Objective	Expected standard
	systems, such as insulation, shading, double glazing, double roofing, ventilation, and the use of light/reflective surfaces. Tentage should only be utilised on a short-term basis (up to 6 months) and should be shaded or double-layered to minimize the amount of energy required for cooling or heating. 47. Energy consuming appliances, lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems should be sized and specified appropriately to meet the needs of the facility, and specifications based on a documented cost-benefit analysis that considers inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact. Refer Annex C.
Increase in conversion to renewable sources of energy	48. The renewable proportion of consumed electricity shall be reported annually. 49. Missions shall identify, plan and budget initiatives[26] that in aggregate achieve a renewable proportion of consumed electricity of at least 40% by 2025 and 80% by 2030[27]. All appropriate measures to implement the identified initiatives shall be taken and progress on implementation reported annually. 50. All new, upgraded or retrofitted electricity generation systems shall be based on, or include[28], renewable energy sources, unless it is demonstrated that renewable energy solutions are not viable for operational reasons, or do not provide value to the UN from a total cost of ownership perspective. Consideration should be given to host country authorities or private providers, and where they have demonstrated capacity to operate and maintain renewable energy facilities and distribution networks, these should be preferred to the construction and operation of UN infrastructure, subject to operational and security considerations.
Reduction in water consumption	51. Freshwater consumption[29] shall be reported annually on an absolute and per capita basis. 52. Missions shall identify, plan and budget initiatives that in aggregate achieve annual reductions in per capita freshwater consumption. All appropriate measures to implement initiatives shall be taken and progress on implementation reported annually.

[26] See A/74/19 and refer 2018.33: *Development of Energy Infrastructure Management Plans for UN Field Missions (SOP)*.

[27] Reflecting objectives established by Secretariat senior leadership, such as in the United Nations Secretariat Climate Action Plan 2020-2030, and in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Science-based Targets Guidance for UN Organisations, UNEP, April 2021.

[28] Low-medium penetration renewable energy solutions are considered economically feasible for most field situations and should be integrated on all upgraded or retrofitted electricity generation systems. Achieving renewable penetration in line with clause 49, will require energy storage or grid connections, with the additional technical complexity factored into the cost-benefit analysis.

[29] The term *freshwater* is used to account for unavoidable water treatment losses (due primarily to salinity) of abstracted water not consumed by end users. While water abstraction is an indicator of resource depletion, freshwater use adequately addresses differences in resource suitability between missions and is more useful for comparative and aggregate reporting purposes. It does not include renewable sources of water sourced from rain capture, or re-use of treated wastewater, which may be added to freshwater to yield a figure for total water consumption. While water consumption may be a useful indicator for establishing the costs and engineering requirements for water and wastewater treatment, as it also includes renewable sources, it is not a good indicator from a resource depletion perspective. Data on all water sources should be collected in order to inform decision-making.

Principle 2: efficiency in resource use and operations

Objective	Expected standard
	53. Where an Environmental Impact Assessment identifies that abstraction of water is likely to detrimentally impact a host community, or to place the UN's reputation at risk, water resource monitoring shall be undertaken and reported, and best efforts shall be made to ensure the sustainability of the water sources by assigning adequate priority to renewable sources and water reuse, with efficient ablution and distribution point equipment (to the standards listed in Annex C) deployed as a priority. Where onsite wastewater treatment infrastructure meets the reuse quality standards, then treated wastewater shall be reused for appropriate operational requirements. 54. Water consuming appliances should be sized and specified appropriately to meet the needs of the facility, and specifications based on a documented cost-benefit analysis that considers inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact.
Reduction in wasteful consumption and waste generation	55. General solid waste generation [30] and stockpiles of hazardous wastes shall be reported annually on an absolute and per capita basis. 56. Missions shall identify, plan and budget initiatives [31] that may feasibly achieve zero waste [32]. All appropriate measures to implement initiatives shall be taken and progress on implementation reported annually. 57. The opportunities for reuse and recycling of paper, cardboard, glass, metals and plastics shall be assessed and priority should be given to those materials that can be re-used or recycled locally, regionally or globally (in that order) in relevant procurement contracts, with due consideration of value to the UN from a total cost of ownership perspective. 58. Missions shall take all appropriate measures to implement the use of reusable bottles and water dispensers (either networked or large volume container water dispensers) where practicable. Where use of single-use plastics is unavoidable, a bottle with the largest practicable volume shall be specified. 59. Packaging should be minimised to reduce transport costs and operational waste by using appropriate clauses in the specification of goods, as described in Annex C. 60. Sourcing of consumables with an expiration date should consider rate of usage and, ordinarily, no more than a maximum of a 12-month supply should be stored. 61. Missions should undertake appropriate measures to prioritise the use of soon-to-expire consumables through rigorous stock management. If deemed unlikely that consumables can be used by the mission before the expiry date, avenues for the donation to UN agencies and their programmes prior to expiry date should be explored, where such agencies have proven capability to manage

[30] General waste refers to standard domestic and industrial waste streams. Although construction waste and waste arising from asset disposal should be appropriately managed, these are not reported as general waste as these are generally one-off or infrequent and can unduly distort waste reporting statistics.

[31] See A/74/19 and refer 2018.30: *Development of Waste Management Plans for UN Field Missions* (SOP).

[32] Reflecting the objective established in ST/SGB/2019/7 (2.3)

Principle 2: efficiency in resource use and operations

Objective	Expected standard
	timely and appropriate distribution or donation in line with UN expectations and risk management principles. 62. Disposal of expired consumables shall be in line with this Policy (see Annex B), the mission's Waste Management Plan (WMP), local laws and regulations and any other relevant procedures (for example the *Rations Guidelines*), noting that there may be specific provisions concerning disposal by contractors of items purchased for the sole use of the UN (in particular, food). 63. For specific goods and services [33] reverse logistics arrangements for waste materials should be specified and evaluated during the acquisition process. 64. Organic wastes should be composted (preferred), converted to energy (biogas), or incinerated. 65. Where the collection and disposal of wastes is undertaken by contractors, they shall provide information on competency, capability and experience relevant to the supply of waste services, and where relevant, any licences from the appropriate authority. Sub-contractual agreements with third party recyclers or third-party disposal services shall require demonstration of appropriate chain of custody procedures. Contractors shall be regularly monitored for compliance with relevant environmental laws and their contractual obligations. 66. Solid waste management equipment shall meet the performance standards contained in Annex B.

Principle 3: continuous improvement of environmental performance

	Objective	Expected standard
3.1 Integrate environmental sustainability management into the delivery of activities **3.2 Continuously expand the scope of environmental management systems** **3.3 Encourage innovation and adopt best practices**	Integrated environmental management systems	67. Missions shall implement environmental management systems in accordance with relevant UN guidance and criteria. 68. Unless justifiably defined otherwise, the scope of the environmental management system shall be in accordance with the scope and applicability of this policy.
	Continuous performance measurement, monitoring and auditing	69. Performance measurement and monitoring shall be conducted at all sites that meet the scope and applicability definition provided in this Policy. Information shall be provided on at least an annual basis and be subject to appropriate internal quality controls including endorsement by senior management. Information collected shall be sufficient to demonstrate adherence to UN environmental mandates using a collection methodology provided by DOS[34]. 70. The status of implementation of environmental management systems and of adherence to UN environmental mandates should be periodically confirmed

[33] Goods and services involving materials with significant specialised storage, handling and disposal costs, including, but not limited, to: refrigerants/air conditioning equipment, electronic equipment, batteries, tires, petroleum, oils and lubricants, body armour, personal protective equipment, weapons and ammunition, medical equipment, medical consumables, blood & blood products, pharmaceuticals (incl. vaccines) and other hazardous chemicals and materials that may cause damage to human health or the environment due to their toxicity, corrosiveness, ignitability or reactivity. Appropriate clauses are provided in Annex C.

[34] A tool has been developed to support this requirement (the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application – eAPP).

		by internal or second party assessment by an independent competent person(s). This could involve representatives from other missions, DOS, or other UN entities. 71. Where a requirement of this policy has not been met, immediate remedial or corrective action shall be implemented and reported in accordance with the *Reporting Standards* described Annex D.
	Systematic review and revision of environmental objectives and targets	72. Opportunities to improve environmental performance shall be identified, budgeted and planned, and progress reported annually. Opportunities for improvement shall be identified and reported in accordance with Annex D.
	An established framework for adopting emerging best practices	73. Policies, procedures and guidance shall be regularly updated to reflect emerging best practices. DOS shall assist missions to ensure that relevant information is communicated to the various levels and functions and establish appropriate communication processes. Best practices and lessons learned should be regularly and transparently communicated, through participation of relevant personnel in global practitioner networks.

Principle 4: stakeholder engagement at all levels

	Objective	Expected standard
4.1 Communicate the environmental policy to internal and external stakeholders **4.2 Promote environmental awareness, participation, knowledge-sharing and training** **4.3 Report internally and externally on environmental performance and efficiencies**	Increase in environmental awareness and engagement of personnel at all levels	74. All civilian and uniformed personnel and contractors working for the mission should receive information concerning this policy, including environmental issues relevant to their activities, and the environmental objectives, instructions, operating procedures, and expected standards. For this purpose, a process should be implemented so that all personnel and contractors, upon their arrival at the mission, are provided with relevant information and advice concerning their responsibility in dealing with environmental issues at the mission, preferably in a face-to-face briefing. This should include training to all personnel on existing procedures, and major updates, that support this policy. 75. Advice on environmental matters and relevant procedures and measures required to address environmental issues should be regularly made available to all personnel and contractors, particularly where changes to the management of environmental matters are made. A nominated representative, usually the environmental officer, should act as a focal point for this activity. 76. Senior leadership and key positions, such as the Force Commander, Police Commissioner, C/DMS, Chief Service Delivery, Chief Engineer, Chief Supply Chain, Chief Medical, and Chief Occupational Safety and Health, should have environmental objectives relevant to their role and as a component of individual performance appraisals. 77. The Force Commander, Police Commissioner, and C/DMS should (independently or together) undertake a site inspection with the Environmental Officer at least annually.

Principle 4: stakeholder engagement at all levels

Objective	Expected standard
Comprehensive reporting on environmental performance and resource efficiencies	78. Reporting of environmental performance, encompassing all relevant sites, facilities and infrastructure under the scope of this Policy, shall be provided by the C/DMS to the Head of Mission with relevant information on uniformed components provided to the Force Commander and Police Commissioner. 79. Environmental risks and performance shall be reported in the Budget Report under the Results Based Budgeting Framework Performance Report, using a methodology provided by DOS[35]. Such reporting, where relevant, shall also be included in the Secretary General's reports to the Security Council, in accordance with *Security Council Resolution 2436 (2018)*. 80. An environmental statement shall be prepared annually, as per Annex D, and made available to relevant oversight bodies on request.
Active sustainability networks interconnected with existing UN system networks and initiatives	81. Managers and supervisors should participate and encourage relevant personnel to engage in Environmental Steering Committees, Working Groups and other fora applicable to their role.

Principle 5: adaptation and resilience

5.1 Manage risks to the Organization from climate change and natural resource depletion

5.2 Interlink the Organization's environmental sustainability and resilience management framework

Objective	Expected standard
Effective and integrated organizational risk management	82. The mission start-up phase shall include due consideration of environmental risks through the assignment of environmental engineering expertise, preferably in the field. 83. An environmental assessment shall be completed at new sites, or prior to major upgrades and any other major construction activities (including off-site and of mission-funded projects) to ensure that the construction or clearing of sites and their ongoing use minimizes negative impacts on, or damage to, the environment, ecosystems and cultural heritage. The *Environmental Impact Assessment for UN field missions 2019.09* SOP shall be adhered to. 84. In day-to-day activities, the "STOP" principle should be applied, whereby personnel should: *Stop*, *Think* about the activity, *Observe* the environmental context, and then *Proceed*, once appropriate and proportional environmental protection measures are in place. 85. Missions should adopt existing UN best practice in the design of Energy, Water and Wastewater, and Waste infrastructure, utilising existing specifications available for technically cleared projects where available. 86. Due consideration, in the design, planning and budgeting stages, shall be given to the operation and maintenance and the end-of-life of energy, water and wastewater, and waste infrastructure, including potential handover to UN

[35] A tool has been developed to support this requirement (the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application – eAPP).

Principle 5: adaptation and resilience

Objective	Expected standard
	agencies, local authorities, or other relevant stakeholders. Wherever relevant, infrastructure shall be designed with consideration of secondary benefits and / or positive legacy to host communities. When an initiative is undertaken by the mission that is intended to have a secondary benefit to communities, relevant actors (civil affairs components, development actors, local government or others) should be consulted to ensure that the sustainability of the initiative post deployment is taken into consideration. 87. Infrastructure to be handed over shall be included in an Asset Disposal Plan and the mission shall ensure that the relevant local authority is capable of safely operating, resourcing and maintaining the facility before recommending and/or approving its transfer[36]. 88. Sites and infrastructure shall be regularly inspected in accordance with their risk profile[37]. Environmental risks shall be assessed using a methodology provided by DOS[38] and reviewed by the Risk Committee for inclusion in the Risk Register, in accordance with the *Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control Policy*. Significant or very high risks shall be subject to a Risk Mitigation Plan signed by the Head of Mission. Opportunities to reduce environmental risks shall be identified that meet the environmental objectives, with the resources required for remedial or corrective made available as an operational priority. An Environmental Close Out Assessment shall be conducted at site demobilisation to ensure sites (and assets) are cleaned, remediated and handed over in a suitable environmental condition[39].
Preparedness and effective adaptation to environmental threats	89. Analysis of environmental threats to the mission mandate (e.g., climate change and resource extraction as drivers of conflict and on impact to operations) shall be regularly undertaken and considered in operational planning and reported to the Secretary General[40].
Effective emergency response and remediation of environment-related incidents	90. A plan should be prepared, and procedures established, for responding to and handling environmental emergencies (e.g., unintended discharges to the environment, such as leaks and spills of petroleum, liquid hazardous wastes or untreated wastewater). Rehearsals of response actions to an environmental incident should be undertaken once a year. 91. Emergency situations and incidents that result in a breach of this policy shall be reported and remediation status / mitigation measures described, as per clause 80, above.

[36] Refer *Guidelines for Senior Leadership on Field Entity Closure* 2018.08.

[37] Normally, visits to sites meeting the operational control definition of this policy should be conducted annually. More frequent visits would be expected to be required for sites operating wastewater and waste treatment and/or disposal infrastructure. Remote monitoring techniques may be applicable in certain circumstances (e.g., due to security constraints).

[38] A tool has been developed to support this requirement (the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application – eAPP).

[39] Refer UN DOS *Environmental Clearance and Handover of Mission / Field Entity / Field Entity Sites* 2018.28.

[40] Refer S/PRST/2011/15.

D. RESOURCES

92. The budget for the mission shall include adequate financial resources for supporting the environmental policy and environmental objectives, including the human resources dedicated for this purpose. Alternative financing mechanisms may also be explored in accordance with UN rules and regulations.

93. Resources required for remedial or corrective actions arising from not adhering to UN environmental mandates, or that reduce significant environmental risks, shall be made available as an operational priority. Resources for environmental initiatives identified with a payback time of less than one year shall also be a priority. Where payback time is greater than one year, budget requests shall be made that clearly demonstrate the value for money from a total cost of ownership perspective and the environmental benefit of the investment in terms of achievement of the General Assembly's and Security Council's mandates on environment.

94. Needs analysis, design of solutions and specifications, and the evaluation of technical alternatives shall seek to deliver the mandates A/RES/70/286 and A/RES/70/286 to reduce the overall environmental footprint of each peacekeeping mission by implementing environmentally friendly waste management and power generation systems, with documented cost-benefit analysis of, inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact. The cost benefit analysis should consider the value to the UN from a total cost of ownership perspective, including the costs in transport, in-use, and disposal, which can be particularly significant in the field context. It is important to comply with the organization's financial regulations, rules and relevant administrative instructions while implementing these considerations.

95. Requisitioners should source items from an existing systems contract when available. Where not available, suitable specifications that deliver the objectives of this policy are provided in Annex C. If in doubt, requisitioners should contact the mission Environmental Officer / Focal Point or Procurement Officer, or Environment Section/Engineering Support Section/Logistics Division, for technical guidance. In the sourcing of strategic goods and services relevant to this Policy[41], appropriately qualified environmental and/or technical personnel shall be involved in the acquisition process, including evaluation.

96. As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen category management, the development of, and regular reassessment of, the category strategies should include the identification of areas where there is a limited supplier pool, in which case DOS should support awareness and capacity building in relation to meeting UN expectations in order to expand market participation.

[41] See Annex C. Also refer current Office of Supply Chain Management List of Strategic (and non-strategic) Goods and Services. Examples of goods and services considered strategic from an environmental perspective includes, but may not be limited, to: Vehicle Fleet, Engineering Design & Construction, Accommodation, Energy, Water and Wastewater Management, Solid Waste Management, Rations.

E. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

E.1. General requirements

97. All mission personnel, including civilian and uniformed components, are responsible for ensuring that their conduct in the mission conforms to the requirements outlined in the *Environmental Policy for the United Nations Secretariat* (ST/SGB/2019/7) and any related instructions and operating procedures of the mission.

E.2. Head of Mission

98. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) or an official acting as the Head of a United Nations Mission (Head of Mission) [42] is to report on adherence to the UN's environmental mandates, environmental performance, and actions to improve performance, to relevant oversight bodies on request. A suitable template for this purpose is provided in Annex D.

99. The Head of Mission may delegate his/her authority to the Director of Mission Support / Chief of Mission Support (C/DMS) to establish operating procedures to support implementation of this Policy.

100. The Head of Mission is to co-ordinate with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes present in the area of operations to encourage collaboration where there is mutual benefit in working as One UN to implement the UN's environmental mandates and leave a positive legacy from the mission's operational footprint. The HOM may delegate such co-ordination activities to the Deputy SRSG, Humanitarian Coordinator, Regional Coordinator or another official from the mission.

E.3. Director of Mission Support / Chief of Mission Support

101. Subject to the authority delegated to him/her by the Head of Mission, the C/DMS is responsible for instituting operating procedures and implementing other necessary measures to meet the UN's environmental mandates and to ensure that civilians, contractors and third parties are aware of their environmental obligations.

102. The C/DMS is responsible for providing a report on environmental performance, including adherence to this Policy, to the Head of Mission, in accordance with the UN Secretariat rules, regulations, policies, procedures and guidance[43].

103. The office of the C/DMS is to have adequate environmental capacity commensurate with the footprint of the mission. As a minimum, the C/DMS is to have an Environmental Officer[44] in its staffing table. The C/DMS may also direct that appropriate units and departments, or additional geographic locations, also appoint environmental focal points to work with the Environmental Officer.

E.4. Force Commander

104. The Force Commander of the mission, after consultation and in coordination with the C/DMS, is responsible for instituting instructions and operating procedures and implementing other necessary measures to meet the UN's environmental mandates and to ensure that personnel in the military component are aware of their environmental obligations.

[42] Head of Mission is understood to mean Head of Entity in accordance with ST/SGB/2019/2 entitled "Delegation of authority in the administration of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the Financial Regulations and Rules", 17 December 2018.

[43] A tool has been developed to support this requirement (the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application – eAPP).

[44] In certain exceptional circumstances this function may be performed by appropriately qualified individuals in other roles and / or through use of supplementary resources. In such cases, the mission shall document how the duties and responsibilities of the Role Description are carried out by the assigned resources. Refer clause 114.

105. The Force Commander is to direct each military headquarters and each formed contingent to designate an environmental focal point for environmental and waste management in accordance with the COE Manual (A/75/121)[45]. Furthermore, as per the *United Nations Environmental Management Handbook for Military Commanders in UN Peace Operations*, the Force Commander is to appoint an official of the military to serve as the Military Force Headquarters Environmental Advisor/Focal Point within the military component of the mission to liaise with the Environmental Officer and to deal with environmental issues within the military component[46].

E.5. Police Commissioner

106. The Head of the Police Component of the mission, after consultation and in coordination with the C/DMS, is responsible for instituting instructions and operating procedures and implementing other necessary measures to meet the UN's environmental mandates and to ensure that personnel in the police component are aware of their environmental obligations.

107. The Head of the Police Component is to direct each national contingent to designate an environmental focal point for environmental and waste management in accordance with the COE Manual (A/75/121)[47]. Furthermore, as per the *UNPOL Environmental Management Framework*, the Head of the Police Component is to appoint officials to serve as environmental focal points at mission HQ, sector and camp levels.

E.6. Environmental Officer

108. Missions that manage or maintain their own facilities and infrastructure, or have operational control of energy or water provision, or wastewater or waste treatment or disposal, shall have an Environmental Officer[48].

109. The Environmental Officer, subject to the authority delegated to him/her by the C/DMS, is responsible for monitoring, assessing, evaluating and advising on the achievement the UN's environmental objectives and adherence to the standards of this the policy. He/she will coordinate and report to the C/DMS on performance and the progress of actions pertaining to environmental matters in the mission.

110. The Environmental Officer, in consultation with the appointed officials on the environment in the military and police components, is responsible for conducting regular assessments to oversee day-to-day adherence to the UN's environmental expectations. Observed instances of non-conformities are to be made available to the C/DMS, the Force Commander and the Head of the Police Component, where relevant.

111. The Environmental Officer is to support the implementation of this policy through providing information to relevant internal and external parties on environmental matters and implementing and maintaining the systems and supporting processes for managing and reporting on environmental performance.

E.7. Waste Management Officer

112. Missions that have operational control of waste treatment or disposal, or manage hazardous materials, shall have a Waste Management Officer[49].

---

[45] Refer *COE Manual*, *Memorandum of understanding for military contingents*, Article 7 septies (7.28).

[46] The Military Force Headquarters Environmental Adviser/Focal Point Responsibilities are outlined in the *United Nations Environmental Management Handbook for Military Commanders in UN Peace Operations*. See also Fax 2018.UNHQ.FGS.FAX.38977.3 from OMA on the designation of Military environmental focal points and related ToRs. March 2018.

[47] Refer *COE Manual*, *Memorandum of understanding for formed police units*, Article 7 septies (7.28).

[48] Noting clause 114.

[49] Noting clause 114.

113. The Waste Management Officer is responsible for ensuring that environmental standards for management of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes are adhered to.

E.8. Environmental Focal Point(s)

114. In missions with low-risk energy, water, wastewater or waste facilities and infrastructure, the functions of an Environmental Officer or Waste Management Officer may be performed by appropriately qualified Environmental Focal Point(s) in other roles. In such cases, the mission shall document how the relevant duties and responsibilities described in the Environmental Officer or Waste Management Officer Role Description(s) are to be carried out by the assigned resources.

115. In large and complex operations, the mission should consider environmental focal points in appropriate units and departments, or at additional geographic locations, to supplement the Environmental Officer, Waste Management Officer, and the Force or Police Environmental Focal point(s) (as applicable).

116. The Environmental Focal Point(s) is (are) to coordinate initiatives and report on environmental issues with respect to their scope of assignment.

E.9. Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Operational Support

117. The Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Operational Support is to take measures to ensure that all functions integrate environmental considerations into their respective areas, and endeavour to secure the resources required for this purpose. This includes, inter alia, providing to missions sourcing solutions for efficient equipment and services, appropriate and relevant environmental training and capacity building, human resources support, and knowledge management and IT systems.

118. The Under-Secretary-General is to further support the implementation of this policy though soliciting Member State engagement and strategic direction, providing information to relevant external parties on significant or material environmental matters, supporting internal communications on best practices, lessons learned and progress, implementing and maintaining the systems and supporting processes for managing and reporting on environmental performance in coherence with UN system and Secretariat approaches, and enabling the provision of environmental guidance, communication and technical support resources to missions.

E.10. Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Peace Operations

119. The Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations is to take measures to ensure that all functions integrate environmental concerns into their respective areas, including due consideration of environment as a factor in peace and security, and endeavour to secure resources required for this purpose.

E.11. Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

120. The Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs is to take measures to ensure that all functions integrate environmental concerns into their respective areas, including due consideration of environment as a factor in peace and security, and endeavour to secure resources required for this purpose.

F. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

The following terms and definitions apply in this document.

Shall[50]: This term carries an expectation of compliance. Failure to conform to the requirement shall be considered a major non-conformity / materially significant and the reporting entity cannot claim to be in compliance with this Policy. The terms "prohibited" and "must" are to be understood in the same way as "shall".

Should: This term carries an expectation of compliance subject to operational constraints. Failure to conform to the requirement shall be considered a minor non-conformity / not materially significant. The entity may claim to be in compliance with this Policy, so long as all minor non-compliances are listed when reporting/stating compliance, and justifications or actions to address the minor non-compliance are provided in the report/statement.

G. REFERENCES

G.1. Normative or superior references

Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on cross-cutting issues:

- A/RES/72/219 (2018): *Endorses the action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management submitted by the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to implement his relevant recommendations within existing resources*
- A/RES/70/286 (2016): *Requests the Secretary-General to continue to review and optimize the composition of mission vehicle fleets and ensure that the vehicles are fit for purpose, and to submit a cost-benefit analysis outlining, inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact of vehicle adjustments in the context of the next overview report*
- A/RES/69/307 (2015), A/RES/70/286 (2016): *Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to reduce the overall environmental footprint of each peacekeeping mission, including by implementing environmentally friendly waste management and power generation systems, in full compliance with the relevant rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, the United Nations environmental and waste management policy and procedures*
- A/RES/70/1 (2015) *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*
- A/RES/47/37 *Protection of the Environment in times of Armed Conflict, 1993, and 49/50, United Nations Decade of International Law, 1995*
- A/CONF.151/26 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (June 1992)*
- *Declaration of the UN conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Declaration, 1972)*

Resolutions adopted by the Security Council on the following missions (most recent):

- MINUSMA: S/RES/2584 (2021)
- MONUSCO: S/RES/2556 (2020)
- UNAMID: S/RES/2559 (2020)
- UNFICYP: S/RES/2537 (2020)
- UNIOGBIS: S/RES/2512 (2020)
- UNSOS: S/RES/2245 (2015)

[50] The term "Shall" has been applied in this policy where there is: i) a direct significant or material environmental impact or harm, ii) an applicable UN rule, or regulation iii) a relevant member state request in the form of a resolution, iv) a compliance expectation established via UN policy, standard operating procedures, directives, orders or instructions. v) a UN senior leadership management commitment, vi) an established international environmental norm.

Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations:

- A/74/19 (2020): *The Special Committee notes the importance of the environment strategy for field missions including through the use of mission-wide environmental action plans as a tool for planning, budgeting and accountability and to support environmentally responsible practices in operations, including those related to mandate delivery in line with existing regulations*
- *The Special Committee reiterates the shared commitment of Member States to sound environmental practices and to employ environmentally responsible solutions for all operations and mandate delivery through, inter alia, the deployment of units trained in environmental awareness to fulfil their role in good environmental stewardship and the provision of capacity and expertise in environmental management. The Special Committee further encourages greater efforts, including through the use of renewable resources and in order to achieve more efficient use of energy and water, reduce waste production, where applicable, and improve the health, safety and security of local communities and United Nations personnel*

Security Council Resolutions and presidential statement on climate change

- S/RES/2436 (2018): *Requests the Secretary-General to include in reports to the Security Council on individual peacekeeping operations, a summary of actions taken to improve mission performance*
- S/PRST/2011/15 (2011): *The Security Council notes that in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security under its consideration, conflict analysis and contextual information on, inter alia, possible security implications of climate change is important, when such issues are drivers of conflict, represent a challenge to the implementation of Council mandates or endanger the process of consolidation of peace. In this regard, the Council requests the Secretary-General to ensure that his reporting to the Council contains such Contextual information*

Action for Peacekeeping: Declaration of Shared Commitments on UN Peacekeeping Operations:

- *We further commit to sound environmental management by implementing the United Nations Environmental Policy for UN field missions, and to support environmentally-responsible solutions to our operations and mandate delivery*

Other Normative or superior references:

- A/75/121 *Manual on Policies and Procedures concerning the Reimbursement and Control of Contingent-Owned Equipment of Troop/Police Contributors Participating in Peacekeeping Missions* (COE Manual), including the *Model memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and the Government of […] contributing resources to [United Nations peacekeeping operation]*
- *Model Status of Forces Agreement* (A/45/594)
- *Secretary-General's Bulletin on the Observance by United Nations Forces of International Humanitarian Law* (ST/SGB/1999/13, 6 August 1999)
- *Environmental policy for the United Nations Secretariat* (ST/SGB/2019/7)
- *Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control Policy*, UN, May 2011
- *Secretary General Memorandum to All Heads of Peacekeeping Missions and Special Political Missions on Our shared commitments to achieve environmental sustainability in the United Nations Secretariat's peace operations*
- *Administrative instruction, Official travel* (ST/AI/2013/3)

G.2. Related procedures, guidelines

Refer the UN Knowledge Gateway for up-to-date Policies and Guidance. Documents referenced in this Policy are as follows:

- 2017.10: *Environmental Technical Assistance Requests from UN Field Missions* (SOP)2018.30: *Development of Waste Management Plans for UN Field Missions* (SOP)
- 2018.33: *Development of Energy Infrastructure Management Plans for UN Field Missions* (SOP)
- 2019.09: *Environmental Impact Assessment for UN Field Missions* (SOP)
- 2021.16 *Water and Wastewater Guidelines for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions* (Guideline)
- 2021.19: *Waste Management Handbook for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions* (Manual)
- 2018.08: *Guidelines for Senior Leadership on Field Entity Closure*
- 2018.09: *Guidelines on D/CMS-CAO-CEO End of Mission/Field Entity Report*

- 2018.28: *Guidelines on Environmental Clearance and Handover of Mission / Field Entity / Field Entity Sites*
- 2021.02: *United Nations Environmental Management Handbook for Military Commanders in UN Peace Operations*
- 2021.04: *Food Rations for Field Missions* (Guideline)
- *Standard Cost and Ratio Manual*, DOS 2019
- *Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control Framework, Implementation at Department, Office, Commission, Mission and Tribunal level: A Guide for Managers, UN, November 2016*
- *Environment Strategy for Peace Operations, DOS* (2017-2023)
- *United Nations Secretariat Climate Action Plan 2020-2030,* DMSPC, September 2019
- *Greenhouse Gas Science-based Targets Guidance for UN Organisations*, UNEP, April 2021
- *Important and Desirable Environmental Actions (IDEAs) for Selection and Establishment of Resilient and Efficient UN Offices Benchmarks for Evaluation and Comparative Analysis*, UNEP, September 2021
- Various fuel management guidance, regularly updated, in the Fuel Community of Practice on the Knowledge Gateway (UN SharePoint)

G.3. Mission-level references

There will be a large range of mission-level policies, procedures, and guidelines. The most relevant to this policy include:

- Waste Management Plan for [Mission]
- Energy Infrastructure Management Plan for [Mission]
- Wastewater Management Plan for [Mission]
- Risk Management Plan for [Specific Significant Environmental Risks]

G.4. Other references

The legal affairs office of each peacekeeping operation and special political mission can advise on relevant host country laws and regulations. UN Declarations, Programmes of Action and Multilateral Environmental Agreements can be found here: https://www.informea.org/.

Other documents referenced in this Policy are as follows:

- *Basel Convention on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal*, Secretariat of the Basel Convention, April 2020
- *GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard*. World Resources Institute and World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 2001
- *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals* (GHS) (IV), UN, 2011
- *Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)*, Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention, September 2020

H. MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE

At the mission level, compliance with this Policy shall be monitored by the Head of Mission and shall be reported in accordance with relevant UN regulations, rules, policies and procedures. At the organizational level, compliance with this Policy will be monitored by the Environment Section, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Operational Support.

I. HISTORY

This is the second edition of this Policy, superseding the *Environmental Policy for UN Field Missions* (2009.06) and the *Waste Management Policy for UN Field Missions* (2018.14).

United Nations
Department of Operational Support
Department of Peace Operations
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

REF. NO: DOS/2022.01

Annex A

Wastewater Quality Standards for Disposal or Restricted Reuse

Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Field-based Special Political Missions

This Annex is promulgated as part of the DOS/2022.01 *Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions,* therefore no additional signatures are required. The effective date is as per the Policy.

CONTEXT

This annex provides wastewater quality operational standards for discharge to the environment (surface water, groundwater or other body of water)[1] or restricted reuse[2], as well as the expected wastewater treatment infrastructure / operational management controls for the purposes of implementing the UN's environmental mandates. This Annex does not apply to wastewater ground infiltration, and does not provide information on unrestricted reuse[3], for which the *Water and Wastewater Guidelines for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions* should be consulted. Testing procedures and quality controls shall conform to those described in the Water and Wastewater Guidelines. The operational standards have been developed for field operations by UN DOS, PKO and SPM environmental and engineering technical teams.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This annex applies to all United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKOs) and special political missions (SPMs) that meet the applicability criteria defined in Section B (Scope and Applicability) of this Policy, including the civilian and uniformed components and contracted services over which the mission has operational control. This annex carries the expectation of compliance.

OPERATIONAL STANDARD

Where wastewater is discharged to the environment or used for restricted reuse, wastewater shall be treated up to tertiary treatment level and treated effluent quality shall conform to the standards detailed in Table A1. Infrastructure / operational management controls are in Table A2.

Table A1: Wastewater quality standards for disposal[1] or restricted reuse[2]

Impact	Parameter	Operational Standard/Specification
Discharges to water	BOD5 (five-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand)	• Yearly average shall not exceed 30 ppm. • Quarterly sample shall not exceed 45 ppm. • BOD5 will be measured at least quarterly. • Monthly measurement is preferable; if needed, for practical reasons, this may be achieved by using a COD/BOD5 ratio, provided the ratio is determined specifically for each site. The ratio shall be checked quarterly and re-adjusted if necessary.
	COD (optional) (Chemical Oxygen Demand)	• Acceptable limit is site specific and shall be determined by correlation with BOD5. • Weekly monitoring is preferable, especially for large sites. • Monthly monitoring is acceptable for remote sites.
	TSS (Total Suspended Solids)	• Monthly average shall not exceed 30 ppm. • Weekly sample shall not exceed 45 ppm • TSS shall preferably be measured at least twice per month. • Monthly monitoring is acceptable for remote sites. • If needed, for practical reasons, weekly monitoring done using an NTU/TSS ratio is acceptable, provided ratio is i) determined specifically for each site, ii) checked monthly and re-adjusted if necessary.
	pH	• pH 6.0 to 9.0
	Faecal Coliforms	• Sample shall not exceed 1,000 CFU/100 ml. • Measurement frequency shall not be less than twice per month

[1]Discharge/disposal: discharge to the environment through a surface water discharge point, or groundwater recharge. It is important to note that if any of the following conditions exist, an environmental impact assessment shall be conducted to determine the most appropriate disposal option, the treatment level to be reached, and to identify any additional treated wastewater quality standards needed: i) drinking/domestic water source is < 100 m from the wastewater treatment facility site; ii) flooding risk or other natural disaster risk is present (e.g., earthquake, forest fires, land/mud slides, etc.); iii) treatment facility is located in an urban/peri-urban area; iv) rural area but local communities are located at less than 200 meters from the treatment facility; v) surface water bodies sensitive to eutrophication; vi) treatment facility located in a sensitive area (fauna/flora, cultural etc.).

[2]Restricted reuse: use for non-potable application and no direct contact with treated effluents, e.g., drip irrigation.

[3]Unrestricted reuse: use for non-potable application, with possibility of direct contact with treated effluent, e.g., toilet flushing, ablutions, car washing, dust control, spray irrigation.

Table A2: Wastewater treatment infrastructure / operational management controls[1]

Aspect	Operational Standard/Specification
Infrastructure	The infrastructure / operational management controls to reduce the risk that discharges exceed the wastewater quality standards would normally include: • All wastewater treatment infrastructure continuously fully operational and well maintained. • No uncontrolled discharge and/or overflow of wastewater from septic tanks, lift stations or from holding tanks or from sinks, showers, baths, clothes washing machines or dishwashers into the environment. • Septic tanks and wastewater infrastructure is watertight with no possibility for stormwater to mix with wastewater through open holes/pipes or structural cracks. Where there is no water network, pit latrines, showers etc., are designed/constructed to prevent the inflow or infiltration of storm or ground water, with sufficient setback from water sources to ensure no untreated wastewater discharges off-site. • Each septic tank provides a septic hydraulic retention time of 24 hours as a minimum. • Each kitchen is set up to capture and prevent fat, oil and grease from entering the sanitary sewer and septic systems (e.g., using a prefabricated or cast-in place grease interceptor, or holding tank not connected to the sanitary sewer). Grease interceptors are regularly inspected, emptied and maintained as soon as fat, oil and grease reach 25% of the depth. • Water generated in transport workshops, car wash bays, fuel farms, fuel storage tank areas, fuel dispensing areas, fuel distribution areas, used oil storage areas, or generator stands, is channelled through an oil/water separator to reduce the risk of oil pollution to ground and water sources. Oil/water separators are regularly maintained, and floating oil disposed of when exceeding 5% of wetted height.
Transfer	If part or all wastewater/sludge is transferred off site for treatment or disposal, the mission shall ensure that any UN personnel or contractors responsible for the transport to external sites are in fact bringing the waste to the designated site(s) and not to non-approved locations. In case of direct connection to an external site, the pipeline network should be inspected to check for the absence of leaks or overflow. A random inspection of the transport contractor or of the pipeline network should take place at least twice yearly, though ideally more frequently.
External (non-UN) sites	If an external wastewater treatment facility is used by a UN field mission, the following conditions would normally be expected to be met: • Facility is licensed and authorized by the host government. • Access for visiting the site is granted to mission personnel before signature of a written agreement and twice a year afterward. • Facility is secured from random access and protected from natural hazard (e.g. floods). • The treated effluent quality complies with the standards outlined in this Annex. In the absence of detailed information on the treated effluent quality, the following conditions are expected to be observed: – Site is engineered, with a configuration or design in place for wastewater treatment, including storm water management. – Site is managed and properly maintained, wastewater is treated and disposed of in a controlled manner with no overflows and absence of uncontrolled discharges.
Inspections	Inspection of UN and of external wastewater treatment facilities should take place at least twice yearly, though ideally more frequently.
Wastewater quality testing	Regular tests shall be carried out at UN treatment sites in accordance with Table A1 of this Annex. Appropriate records of these analyses should be maintained and readily available. In cases of nonconformity, corrective actions shall be implemented immediately to avoid causing any impact to the environment.

[1]These constitute minimum operational standards/specifications by which the UN's environmental mandates may normally be met. They are not sufficient in and of themselves, and appropriate engineering design and operational management processes applicable to the site context and treatment/disposal infrastructure should be implemented and regularly assessed. A risk assessment shall be conducted twice yearly using the methodology provided by DOS in the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application (e-APP).

United Nations
Department of Operational Support
Department of Peace Operations
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

REF. NO: DOS/2022.01

Annex B

Waste Disposal Standards

Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Field-based Special Political Missions

This Annex is promulgated as part of the DOS/2022.01 *Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions,* therefore no additional signatures are required. The effective date is as per the Policy.

CONTEXT

This annex provides minimum operational standards for waste disposal to the environment. Detailed guidance may be found in the *Waste Management Handbook for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions*. The operational standards have been developed for field operations by UN DOS, PKO and SPM environmental and engineering technical teams.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This annex applies to all United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKOs) and special political missions (SPMs) that meet the applicability criteria defined in Section B (Scope and Applicability) of this Policy, including the civilian and uniformed components and contracted services over which the mission has operational control. This annex carries the expectation of compliance.

OPERATIONAL STANDARD

Hazardous and biomedical waste treatment and disposal shall conform to the standards detailed in Table B1. Non- hazardous and biomedical waste treatment and disposal shall conform to the standards detailed in Table B2.

Table B1: Hazardous and biomedical waste treatment and disposal standards[1]

Impact	Parameter	Operational Standard/Specification
Emissions to air, land and water	**Various toxic, reactive, ignitable, corrosive, infectious, or radioactive materials**	No hazardous or biomedical wastes shall be emitted to air, land or water without prior treatment appropriate to the waste type. Waste collection, transport, storage and treatment facilities shall be established in a such a way as to allow the separation and inventory of hazardous waste. Such facilities shall be covered, ventilated and have ground protection. Hazardous wastes shall be subject to timely formal treatment and disposal in accordance with Annex C. Where undertaken by the UN (including uniformed components), appropriate treatments include, but are not limited to[2], the following: • Chemicals shall be either be repatriated, made non-toxic through neutralisation, alkaline hydrolysis, or other chemical treatments, or encapsulated prior to disposal. • Biomedical wastes shall be autoclaved or incinerated in a biomedical-rated incinerator. • Expired pharmaceuticals shall be repatriated, incinerated in a specific biomedical-rated incinerator, or encapsulated prior to disposal. • All contaminated soil shall be remedied to acceptable levels (host nation criteria or < 5000 ppm total petroleum hydrocarbons, or in the case of shooting ranges, removal of all lead, i.e., <1200 mg/kg, if the latter is more stringent). • Fluorescent bulbs shall be treated in a bulb crusher with vacuum filtering systems. • Radioactive materials, batteries, refrigerants, fire extinguishers, electronic wastes, and destroyed ammunition shells shall only be treated by certified formal processors. Such processors should provide information on administrative procedures including taxes, duties, chain of custody documents and all other applicable documentation; special handling or storage requirements; transport arrangements; and details on the processes used for material reuse/recycling and/or disposal / treatment.
Safety and health hazard	**Physical impact**	Landfills and incineration equipment shall be located such that they do not pose a safety and health hazard. Considerations include the risk of physical subsidence / migration (landfill), methane gas migration (landfill) or significant emissions of particulates (open burning). Permanent installations shall not be constructed without host county agreement or in accordance with the Status of Forces Agreement.
	Disposal of Food	Spoiled or rejected food, food rations or Combat Rations Packs (CRPs), shall be disposed of in accordance with the local environmental laws and regulations in cooperation with the local health authorities. In the absence of local environmental laws and/or regulations, such items should be composted/bio-digested, or incinerated. If landfilled, packaging shall be removed. Any disposal actions performed by contractors must be witnessed and verified in writing by mission representatives. Contractors shall be

required to (i) maintain records during the performance of the Contract and 12 months thereafter, of all quantities disposed of, (ii) obtain certifications as applicable, and (iii) have them available for review upon request. Contractors shall not make donations of any food rations, CRPs, bottled water or other products and equipment purchased for the sole use of the UN, and any disposal of spoiled or rejected food rations or CRPs shall be carried out in full.

[1] The definition of hazardous materials/wastes for the purposes of this policy is: Waste material that may cause damage to human health or the environment that requires precautions when storing, handling, transporting or disposing due to its toxicity, corrosiveness, ignitability or reactivity. Hazardous wastes may be in solid, liquid and gaseous forms.

[2] i.e., where it can be demonstrated to be sufficient to make the material non-toxic. Approval for such treatments may be granted by the mission environmental officer, or DOS environmental technical support personnel.

Table B2: General solid waste operational management controls[1]

Aspect	Operational Standard/Specification
Burning/ incineration of non-hazardous wastes	The infrastructure / operational management controls below would normally be expected to achieve emissions less than the following: • Particulate matter 10 mg/m^3 • CO 50 mg/m^3 • SO_2 50 mg/m^3 • NOx 200 mg/m^3 • HCl 10 mg/m^3 The infrastructure / operational management controls are as follows: • A twin chamber incinerator with equipment specifications that meet or exceed the above thresholds, with commissioning demonstrating the equipment is capable of consistently achieving a minimum combustion temperature of 850^{o}C with a secondary chamber gas retention time not less than 2 seconds. Single chamber incinerators with air induction are permissible for sites servicing less than 125 personnel (<200 kg per day).[2] • Personnel operating the equipment are deemed competent through completion of either the manufacturer's, or a UN, training course specific to the equipment, and have been supervised at least once annually by the Waste Management Officer or Environmental Officer.
Dumping/ Landfilling of non-hazardous wastes	Emissions of methane should be prevented to the extent practicable. Emissions would normally be considered acceptable if the following is demonstrated: • Lined and capped landfill with an appropriately engineered and maintained methane capture or flaring system, or • At least 90% of organic material is diverted from the landfill for composting, bio-digestion or incineration. Discharges to ground or surface waters of various soluble or suspended solids from buried wastes will be highly context dependent. While it is best practice to periodically monitor ground or surface waters for the presence of contaminants, for simplicity, these discharges are considered to be adequately prevented if the disposal site is lined and capped (permeability of < 1 x10^{-7} cm/sec) with an appropriately engineered leachate management system. Incineration ash should be placed in a lined and capped disposal site.
Location/ security	Sites would normally be expected to be clearly managed and inaccessible to the public. At sites where there are informal waste recovery activities, commensurate actions should be undertaken by the mission to manage the environmental and social risks, such as, incineration, segregation, and/or diversion of organic/food waste material, and removal of any packaging from expired/soiled food prior to landfilling.
Collection, transport and storage	Waste collection, transport and storage facilities should be established in a such a way as to allow the separation of waste streams in accordance with recycling opportunities (i.e., food/organics, metals, paper, glass, plastics, and specialised materials). Such facilities should be covered and have ground protection.

[1] These constitute minimum operational standards/specifications by which the UN's environmental mandates may normally be met. They are not sufficient in and of themselves, and appropriate engineering design and operational management processes applicable to the site context and treatment/disposal infrastructure should be implemented and regularly assessed. A risk assessment shall be completed twice yearly using the methodology provided by DOS in the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application (e-APP).

[2] A program of periodic testing of equipment made available through systems contracts will be coordinated by DOS to ensure that performance meets the specified standards under field conditions.

United Nations
Department of Operational Support
Department of Peace Operations
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

REF. NO: DOS/2022.01

Annex C

Product and Service Standards / Specifications

Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Field-based Special Political Missions

This Annex is promulgated as part of the DOS/2022.01 *Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions,* therefore no additional signatures are required. The effective date is as per the Policy.

CONTEXT

This annex provides technical standards for a range of products and services. The technical criteria seek to seek to deliver the mandates A/RES/70/286 and A/RES/70/286 to reduce the overall environmental footprint of each peacekeeping mission by implementing environmentally friendly waste management and power generation systems, with documented cost-benefit analysis of, inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact.

The specifications below are intended to provide clear minimum technical specifications for requisitioners of products and services, suitable for incorporation into Statements of Requirements. Additional guidelines and specifications for a range of products are available on the United Nations Global Marketplace https://www.ungm.org/.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This annex applies to products and services acquired by United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKOs) and special political missions (SPMs) that meet the applicability criteria defined in Section B (Scope and Applicability) of this Policy. This annex carries the expectation of compliance. It is important to comply with the organization's financial regulations, rules and relevant administrative instructions while implementing these standards.

OPERATIONAL STANDARD

The following tables provide requisitioners with specifications suitable for inclusion in technical requirements and evaluation criteria for products and services, by category:

- C1: Mandatory operational standard / specification applicable to all categories.
- C2: Optional / scored operational standard / specification applicable to all categories.
- C3: Operational standard / specification applicable to specific categories.

Table C1: Mandatory operational standard / specification (all product categories)

Elimination of materials with specialised storage, handling and disposal costs

Unless the vendor can substantiate that there are no practicable technical alternatives, or that the content does not risk environmental harm across the full life of UN ownership, the following hazardous materials are prohibited and shall not be used in any construction materials, equipment or packaging:

- Asbestos
- Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)
- Butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP)
- Cadmium or cadmium plating
- Copper chrome arsenate (CCA) treated timber
- Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)
- Di-isobutyl phthalate (DIBP)
- Hexavalent chromium (Cr6+)
- Lead (in paints)
- Mercury and silver (in medical equipment)
- Polybrominated biphenyls (PBB)
- Polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE)
- Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
- Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), listed under the Stockholm Convention[1]

Products or equipment containing hazardous materials (including those classified with an environmental hazard H400, H410, H411, H412, H413 or 420 under the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals) must be labelled and include information regarding safe handling, storage and disposal of any hazardous substances as well as Safety Data Sheets. Product information of such products should include an exploded diagram, labelling the main components and any hazardous substances in components. Information regarding hazardous substances should be provided in the form of a list of materials that identifies the material type, used quantity and location (in the product).

[1]Stockholm Convention on persistent organic pollutants (POPs). **Annex A**: Aldrin, Chlordane, Chlordecone, Decabromodiphenyl ether (commercial mixture, c-decaBDE), Dicofol, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor, Hexabromobiphenyl, Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD), Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, Hexachlorobenzene (HCB), Hexachlorobutadiene, Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Lindane, Mirex, Pentachlorobenzene, Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters, Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), Polychlorinated naphthalenes, Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds, Short-chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCPs), Technical endosulfan and its related isomers, Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether, Toxaphene. **Annex B**: DDT, Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride. **Annex C**: Hexachlorobenzene (HCB), Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBD), Pentachlorobenzene, Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), Polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDD), Polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDF), Polychlorinated naphthalenes.

Table C2: Optional / scored operational standard / specification (all product categories)

Improved packaging design

Vendors are to document how improved packaging design, and innovative material selection, can reduce transport costs and operational waste. While ensuring a damaged-free delivery and integrity of the shipped good(s) packaging materials should:

Maximize transport efficiency by optimizing packaging components (e.g., removing unnecessary secondary packaging when not required), reducing package volume and volume of air shipped to the extent possible.

Consider the cost of disposal of packaging materials, by maximizing the use of renewable or readily returnable/reusable or recyclable source materials in packaging components and/or optimizing the recyclability of the source materials.

Avoid, unless the vendor has substantiated that there are no practicable technical alternatives, the following packaging materials:

- Chlorinated polyethylene (CPE)
- Chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC)
- Chlorosulfonated polyethylene (CSPE)
- Fluorinated ethylene propylene (FEP)
- Polychloroprene
- Polystyrene
- Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)

Improved product design

Vendors are to document how improved product design, and innovative material selection, increases value across the full life of UN ownership and reduces operational waste. Product information should include an exploded diagram, labelling the main recyclable components. Details on the recycling of end-of-life products, the locations of such facilities, and any other relevant information pursuant to such a scheme should be provided.

Table C3: Operational standard / specification by product/service category

Vehicle Fleet **Rations** **Engineering Design & Construction** **Accommodation** **Energy** **Water and Wastewater Management** **Solid Waste Management**	Needs analysis, design of solutions and specifications, and the evaluation of technical alternatives shall seek to deliver the mandates A/RES/70/286 and A/RES/70/286 to reduce the overall environmental footprint of each peacekeeping mission by implementing environmentally friendly waste management and power generation systems, with documented cost-benefit analysis of, inter alia, the type, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact. The cost benefit analysis should consider the value to the UN from a total cost of ownership perspective, including the costs in transport, in-use, and disposal. Appropriately qualified environmental and/or technical personnel shall be involved in the acquisition process, including evaluation.
Hazardous wastes: **Refrigerants** **Batteries** **Electronics** **Solar PV** **Tires** **POL Infrastructure and Services** **Certain Staff Security & Safety Equipment (protective vests, helmets, ammunition, firearms and scanning equipment)** **Medical & Dental Equipment & Supplies** **Pharmaceuticals** **Other Specialty Hazardous materials**	Where appropriate, vendors are to provide information on available recycling / reprocessing, disposal / treatment facilities, or takeback services. Where vendors offer end-of-life services, information and costs should be provided, comprising: administrative procedures including taxes, duties, chain of custody documents and all other applicable documentation; special handling or storage requirements; transport arrangements; and details on the processes used for material reuse/recycling and/or disposal/treatment.
Air Transportation Services **Freight Forwarding & Third-Party Logistics**	Vendors shall supply a calendar year report on GHG emissions arising from air transportation freight forwarding, and third-party logistics services.
Fuel	Vendors shall supply fuel with the lowest available sulphur content in the mission's operational area. Vendors must include fuel quality certificates, and where Diesel sulphur content exceeds 50 ppm, or gasoline sulphur content exceeds 10 ppm the vendor must substantiate the absence of any practicable alternatives. Vendors shall make available fuel quality certificates to the UN when requested.
Petroleum, Oil and Lubricant Infrastructure and Services	Underground storage systems shall not be used unless an unavoidable operational requirement has been demonstrated. In such cases, storage systems shall be suitably engineered and have pollution protection equipment and fuel loss (leakage) monitoring system (i.e., leak detection system). Petroleum, oils and lubricant storage facilities, distribution facilities and fuel transfer area infrastructure shall have appropriate secondary containment with an impermeable floor and berms/side walls. The berm would normally comprise a side wall capable of containing 110% of the tank rated capacity of the largest tank or 25% of the capacity of all the tanks within the containment area, whichever is greater, with a drain into a contained and enclosed system requiring positive action for operation. Guidance on aboveground fuel storage tank design and technical requirements can be found in the *Fuel Management Guideline*/Fuel Community of Practice. Emergency spill kits and safety data sheets (SDS) shall be readily available at all relevant locations, such as storage facilities, distribution facilities and fuel transfer areas.
Energy Generation	A cost-benefit analysis shall be conducted during the acquisition process so that the specification of power generation systems (generators, renewables, power storage and hybrid systems) considers, inter alia, the purpose, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost and environmental impact.
Energy Consumption (lighting)	Indoor lighting is to have a minimum efficacy of 110 lumen/watt maintaining a minimum Colour Rendering Index of 80. Procurement of less efficient lighting (e.g.,

	for replacement of fluorescent bulbs) is only permissible where there is a lack of technical practicable alternatives (i.e., constrained by the light fixture type) and a lighting study or cost-benefit analysis of lighting upgrades has demonstrated a payback period of more than one year.
HVAC Systems	Air conditioning units shall use refrigerants with zero ozone depleting potential (ODP) and a maximum of 700 global warming potential (GWP), or better, unless no practicable alternative is demonstrated. Air conditioning units shall have a minimum Coefficient of Performance (COP) and a minimum Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) as follows (size category in BTU/hr: COP, EER): 9,000BTU/hr: COP4.69 or EER 4.50; 12,000:4.40,4.20; 18,000:3.81,3.65; 24,000:3.81,3.40; 30,000:3.81,3.30; 36,000:3.81,3.30; > 48,000:3.66,3.20.
Energy services	Information shall be provided on competency, capability and experience relevant to the supply of services, and where relevant, any licences from the appropriate authority.
Water and Wastewater spares and consumables	Equipment shall meet the following specifications: Faucet (Basin Taps & Mixers): Maximum flow rate ≤1.50 litre/min at 45 psi/ 3 bar pressure, timing faucet Faucet- Sink Taps & Mixers (Kitchen): Maximum flow rate of the product is ≤5 litres/min at 45 psi/3 bar pressure Shower Taps, Mixers or Showerheads, Handled (telephonic) Showers: Maximum flow rate of the product is ≤5 litres/min at 45 psi/3 bar pressure, timing faucet Dual Flush Flushing Cisterns- Full flush: ≤4.5 litres per flush Dual Flush Flushing Cisterns- Half flush: ≤2.5 litres per flush Urinals: ≤1.9 litres per flush, timing faucet Aerators/ Flow Regulators: ≤5 litres/min at 45 psi/ 3 bar pressure for kitchen sink taps and mixers and for handled (telephonic) showers, ≤1.5 litre/min at 45 psi/ 3 bar pressure for basin taps and mixers, hand bidet washers
Water and Wastewater services **Waste management services**	Information shall be provided on competency, capability and experience relevant to the supply of services, and where relevant, any licences from the appropriate authority. Treatment and disposal of hazardous materials shall be through formalised means to industry best-practice standards. Sub-contractual agreements with third party treatment or third-party disposal services shall require demonstration of appropriate chain of custody procedures.
Construction Materials	Vendors shall demonstrate that wood and aggregates arise from legal and formally managed sources (i.e., owners or managers of the resource hold legal use and are in compliance with local and national legislation, including the convention on international trade in endangered species (CITES), where applicable).
O&M General (e.g., Janitorial/ Cleaning/ Landscaping/ Gardening/ Pest control)	Pesticides and herbicides Vendors shall be provided a list of recommended pesticides and a link to international prohibited pesticides found in the section on pesticides and herbicides in the *Waste Management Handbook*. Vendors shall restrict use to the recommended list of pesticides unless a technical requirement for an alternative is demonstrated to the Environmental Officer and approved. In cases of limited local-market availability, the mission should consider provision of UN-sourced pesticides and herbicides to service contractors. Pesticides and herbicides shall be considered hazardous materials and the applicable requirements of this policy applied in their transport, storage, handling, and disposal. Appropriate precautions shall be made in their application to prevent impacts to wildlife, particularly beneficial insects, birds and fish, by carefully following the manufacturer's instructions. Cleaning products Cleaning products that contain the following chemicals shall not be supplied or used unless a lack of practicable technical alternatives is substantiated for the usage: Alkyl phenol ethoxylates (APEOs) and other alkyl phenol derivatives; Atranol; Chloroatranol; Diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA); Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) and its salts; Formaldehyde and its

	releasers with the exception of impurities of formaldehyde in surfactants based on polyalkoxy chemistry up to a concentration of 0,010 % weight by weight in the ingoing substance; Glutaraldehyde; Hydroxyisohexyl 3-cyclohexene carboxaldehyde (HICC); Microplastics; Nanosilver; Nitromusks and polycyclic musks; Phosphates; Perfluorinated alkylates; Quaternary ammonium salts not readily biodegradable; Reactive chlorine compounds; Rhodamine B; Triclosan; 3-iodo-2-propynyl butylcarbamate; Aromatic hydrocarbons; Halogenated hydrocarbons. Appropriate precautions shall be made in their application to prevent impacts to the environment, particularly in discharging to waterways, by carefully following the manufacturer's instructions.
Furniture (Accommodation and Office)	The content of formaldehyde in no-skin-contact textiles should not exceed 300 ppm; in skin contact textiles formaldehyde should not exceed 75 ppm. If goods are surface treated with products containing volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the quantity of the organic solvent applied should be less than 60 g per m2 surface. Vendors shall demonstrate that wood products should arise from legal and formally managed sources (i.e., owners or managers of the resource hold legal use and are in compliance with local and national legislation, including the convention on international trade in endangered species (CITES), where applicable).
Interior Equipment and Appliances	A cost-benefit analysis shall be conducted during the acquisition process so that the specification of high energy or water using appliances (e.g., washing machines, driers, dishwashers, boilers) considers, inter alia, the purpose, quality, efficiency, maintenance cost, and environmental impact. Requisitioners procuring equipment should contact the mission Environmental Officer / Focal Point, or Environment Section/Engineering Support Section/ Logistics Division for technical guidance.
Bottled water	Where use of single-use plastics is unavoidable, vendors should provide options for the supply of bottles of the largest practicable volume.
Cafeteria Operations **Event catering** **PX store operations**	Vendors should provide innovative solutions to the use of single use plastic, in particular, plastic bottles, cutlery and packaging. Vendors should provide innovative solutions for re-usable or compostable materials and for minimising food wastage. Refrigeration units are to be free of R11, R12, R22, R410A and R134A refrigerants, unless the lack of practicable technical alternatives for the equipment is substantiated. Vendors should document how improved cold storage and energy supply enhancement can reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. Vendors should document how the disposal of food waste to landfill will be avoided managed in accordance with this policy.
Paper & Printing supplies **Printing services and print media**	Paper shall be made from recovered paper fibres (preferred) or virgin fibres stemming from legal and formally managed sources. Paper shall be at least Elementary Chlorine Free and preferably Totally Chlorine Free. Inks shall not contain substances that are an environmental hazard (H phrases H400, H410, H411, H412, H413 or 420 under the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals), unless the lack of practicable technical alternatives is substantiated.

United Nations
Department of Operational Support
Department of Peace Operations
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

REF. NO: DOS/2022.01

Annex D

Environmental Reporting Standards

Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Field-based Special Political Missions

This Annex is promulgated as part of the DOS/2022.01 Environmental Policy for Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions, therefore no additional signatures are required. The effective date is as per the Policy.

CONTEXT

This annex provides the requirements when preparing an environmental statement. It is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance of efficient operations and adherence to the UN's environmental mandates to relevant oversight bodies on request.

DOS has provided missions with a tool to generate such as statement, together with the reporting of environmental risks and performance (the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application – eAPP).

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This annex applies to all United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKOs) and special political missions (SPMs) that meet the applicability criteria defined in Section B (Scope and Applicability) of this Policy. Reporting is to encompass the civilian and uniformed components of missions, including contracted services over which the mission has operational control. This annex carries the expectation of compliance.

REPORTING STANDARD

Where an environmental statement is requested by relevant oversight bodies, or where a mission is requested to report on its adherence to UN environmental mandates or achievement of its environmental objectives, it must include one of the following statements:

Not achieved (where a "shall" expectation of this Policy has not been met):

> *[Mission] did not achieve its objective to adhere to the UN's environmental mandates, due to the following significant or material environmental issues:*
>
> > *[List of instances where a "shall" expectation of this Policy has not been met]*
>
> *The following mitigation actions are being implemented:*
>
> > *[List of mitigation measures and completion dates]*

Partially achieved (where all "shall" expectations of this policy, but not all "should" expectations, have been met):

> *[Mission] adhered to UN's environmental mandates and partially achieved its environmental objectives. The following are opportunities for improvement:*
>
> > *[List of opportunities for improvement, where a "should" expectation of this Policy has not been met, and completion dates if applicable]*

Achieved (where all "shall" and "should" expectations of this Policy have been met):

> *[Mission] fully achieved its environmental objectives and adhered to the UN's environmental mandates.*

Template / Example Annual Environmental Statement

A worked example of reporting in accordance with this Annex is provided on the following page[1].

[1]A tool has been developed to support this requirement (the Environmental Action Planning and Performance application – eAPP).

United Nations Mission X Annual Environmental Statement

The United Nations Mission X (UNMX) is committed to the principle of "do no harm" to the environment and to seek to achieve maximum efficiency in its use of natural resources and to operate at minimum risk to people, societies and ecosystems, contributing to a positive impact on these wherever possible.

UNMX hereby provides a statement of achievement of the UN's environmental mandates and objectives. It is designed to provide a reasonable, but not absolute, level of assurance.

*UNMX **did not achieve** the UN's environmental mandates, and reports the following significant or material environmental issues:*

- *An exceedance of wastewater quality standards for discharge to the environment occurred at Alpha camp which was caused by an overflow of untreated wastewater to a nearby water body.*

The following mitigation actions are being implemented:

- *Upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant at Alpha camp to prevent further discharges will be completed by June 2031.*

*UNMX also reports the following environmental **opportunities for improvement**:*

- *An exceedance of air quality standards for the disposal of waste occurred at Bravo camp, caused by open burning of non-hazardous wastes due to an incinerator not being operable. Repair of the incinerator at Bravo camp will be completed by June 2031.*
- *100 m^3 of waste was disposed to a non-engineered landfill at Zeta site. Waste from Zeta camp will be transferred to Bravo and dumpsite remediated by June 2031.*
- *Appropriate containment to protect against spills was not deployed at two out of 20 facilities. Corrective actions are not scheduled, and feasibility is to be assessed over future budgetary cycles.*