

Process map for the drafting and completion of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA

A. Introduction

1. This document complements the Project Management Framework¹ (PMF) for the revision of the SEEA by mapping out the process for drafting and completing Volume 1 of the revised SEEA. It includes the detailed activities, decisions and milestones leading to the completion of Volume 1 starting from the appointment of the editor and the editorial board. Process maps for the drafting and completion of Volumes 2 and 3 will be prepared in due course.

B. Main players

2. It is useful to recall that the main players in the preparation of the final draft of Volume 1 are: (a) the London Group on Environmental Accounting; (b) the editor; (c) the editorial board; and (d) the UNCEEA and its Bureau. The role and responsibilities of each group are summarized below for ease of reference:

(a) London Group on Environmental Accounting

3. The London Group on Environmental Accounting is responsible for solving the majority of the issues in the issue list for the revised SEEA. The London Group will prepare outcome papers that represent the position (or positions in case agreement could not be reached) of the Group. Draft outcome papers are posted on a password-protected website for 15 days (see Annex III for a detailed description on the website). London Group members are expected to review the draft outcome paper to ensure that they reflect the decision of the Group. Outcome papers are then prepared for global consultation.

4. Given the expertise of the London Group on Environmental Accounting, it is expected that the group will play an active role in reviewing and commenting on the set of consolidated recommendations and the draft chapters prepared by the editor, as part of the process of the global consultation.

(b) Editor

5. The editor drafts recommendations on the issues in the issue list. The editor drafts the chapters of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA taking into consideration the recommendations on the issues and ensures overall consistency of the complete draft of Volume 1 as well as coherence to the extent possible with other international statistical standards. The editor is assisted in his/her tasks by the editorial board and the secretariat of the UNCEEA under delegated authority from the Bureau of the UNCEEA.

¹ Project Management Framework Revision of the SEEA (Background document to the United Nations Statistical Commission). Available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc10/BG-RevSEEA.pdf>

(c) Editorial board

6. The editorial board² and its chair³ are appointed by the Bureau of the UNCEEA and reports on regular basis on progress made to the Bureau. It supports the editor of the revised SEEA by reviewing the outcome papers being prepared on the issues in the issue list; reviewing the comments received through the global consultations; taking decisions on the final outcome papers outlining the recommendations on the list of issues; reviewing draft chapters before they are submitted for global consultation; ensuring internal consistency of the revised SEEA in particular with regard to addressing the issues in the issue list; ensuring that the comments received through the global consultation are taken into account; striving for consensus on controversial issues and advising the Bureau on issues that cannot be solved.

7. Members of the editorial board may contribute to the revision process in various capacities including as members of the London Group on Environmental Accounting and country representatives. The editorial board may consult experts on specific issues as needed depending on the issues being discussed. It will play a key role in carrying out the Project in a transparent way and ensuring that it is a world-wide undertaking.

(d) UNCEEA and its Bureau

8. The Bureau manages under delegated authority from the UNCEEA the revision process of the UNCEEA. The Bureau delegates decisions on methodological issues related to the revision of the SEEA to the editorial board which will strive for consensus. The Bureau takes decision on methodological issues in case of lack of consensus.

9. The UNCEEA approves the consolidated set of recommendations on the issues in the issue list and the draft chapters of Volume 1 and recommends their onward submission to the UN Statistical Commission for their adoption.

C. Process map

10. The process map outlining in detail the steps leading to the preparation of the draft of Volume 1 is presented in Annex I to this paper. The process can be broken down in the following two phases: (a) resolution of all the issue in the issue list and preparation of consolidated list of issues; (b) drafting of chapters of Volume 1 and completion of the final draft of Volume 1.

(a) Resolution of all the issues in the issue list and preparation of consolidated list of issues (May – December 2010)

11. This phase of the Project is expected to be completed in December 2010. The first element is completion by the London Group of all draft issues and outcomes papers on the 21

² The Bureau of the UNCEEA appointed in June 2010 as members of the editorial board the following experts: Michael Vardon (Australia), Joe St. Lawrence (Canada), Mark de Haan (Netherlands) Torstein Bye (Norway), Julie Hass (Eurostat), Kimberly Zieschang and Manik Shrestha (IMF), Paul Schreyer (OECD), Alessandra Alfieri (UNSD), Carl Obst (SEEA Editor).

³ The Bureau of the UNCEEA appointed Carl Obst, SEEA Editor, as Chair of the editorial board.

issues identified to the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) in February 2010. The London Group is expected to reach a position on all issues in the issue list. The work is likely to be completed progressively but a London Group position on all issues must be reached by end September 2010.

12. For each specific issue the London Group should finalise an outcome paper, including the opportunity for comment (with a 15 day deadline) by London Group members. This paper should then be submitted to the editor and editorial board for review in terms of consistency of presentation with other outcome papers and quality of argument. Any comments from this exercise will be discussed with the chair of the London Group before a final outcome paper is released for international consultation.

13. Depending on the issue under discussion, the international consultation process will be either 30 or 45 days in length. The editor, in conjunction with the editorial board, will prepare a consolidated position on each issue based on the consultation process and will prepare a set of recommendations for submission to UNCEEA and subsequently the UNSC.

(b) Drafting of chapters of Volume 1 and completion of the final draft of Volume 1 (May 2010 – December 2011)

14. The editor will draft chapters on Volume 1 of the revised SEEA. A summary timetable of the drafting of the revised SEEA is included in Annex II and a more detailed timetable on the preparation of the draft Vol.1 of the revised SEEA will be further developed and refined by the editor as the work on the draft chapters progresses.

15. It should be noted that the drafting of the chapters should proceed in parallel with the resolution of the issues in the issue list and formulation of consolidated recommendations.

16. Draft chapters are progressively submitted for global consultations as they become available and after review of the editorial board.

17. It is expected that the complete draft of Volume 1 should be available by July 2011 to allow for a global consultation on the complete Volume 1, the finalization of the draft for approval by the UNCEEA and onward submission to the UNSC for adoption as international statistical standard.


18. Milestones marking significant progress toward completing Volume 1 of the revised SEEA consist of:

- December 2010 – Completion of the global consultation on issues in the issue list of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA
- February 2011 – Submission of consolidated recommendations for Volume 1 of the revised SEEA to the 42nd session of the UNSC for adoption
- April 2011 – Completion of global consultation on the draft chapters for Volume 1 of the revised SEEA
- July 2011 – Finalization of first complete draft of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA for global consultation

- February 2012 –Submission of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA to the 43rd Session of the UNSC for adoption

The stages of the project in between milestones are summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Stages and milestones leading to the completion of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA

Key Dates	Process for the preparation of consolidated recommendations on issues in the issue list for Volume1	Process for the drafting chapters and complete Volume 1 of the revised SEEA
May 2010	Preparation of outcome papers regarding Vol. 1 of the revised SEEA	Drafting of Chapters by the editor and progressive global consultation
Dec. 2010	Completion of global consultation of outcome papers regarding Vol. 1 of the revised SEEA	
Jan. 2010	Revision and consolidation of outcomes for Vol.1 of the revised SEEA, into a single paper for discussion by the UNSC	
Feb 2010	Submission of the consolidated recommendations for Vol.1 of the revised SEEA to the 42 nd session of the UNSC for adoption	
April 2011		Completion of global consultation of the draft chapters of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA, as they become available
July 2011		Revision and consolidation of chapters in Vol. 1 of the revised SEEA
		Global consultation of complete Vol.1 of the revised SEEA
Dec 2011		Revision and finalisation of Vol. 1 of the revised SEEA
Feb 2012		Submission of complete draft of the revised SEEA to the 43 rd session of the UNSC for adoption

Note: Shaded areas represent milestones.

D. Consultation

19. As identified in the process map, the consultation process is an important component of the project on the revision of the SEEA. Two types of consultations are envisaged: one within the London Group on Environmental Accounting to ensure that the outcome papers prepared reflect the position (or positions) of the Group and the other is the global consultation on the outcome papers, the consolidated recommendations, the draft chapters and the complete Volume 1.

20. A website entitled “Towards the revision of the SEEA” has been established by the Secretariat to ensure transparency of the drafting and approval process.

21. The website includes a password protected website to be used for the consultation within the London Group and a public website that will include the agreed documents on the project

management of the revision of the SEEA, the documents submitted for public consultation and the documents for which an agreement has been reached.

22. The structure of the website takes the website on the update of the SNA as a model but it has been adapted to reflect the specificities of the project on the revision of the SEEA.

23. A description of the website “Towards the revision of the SEEA” is included in Annex III.

E. Drafting of Volume 2 and Volume 3

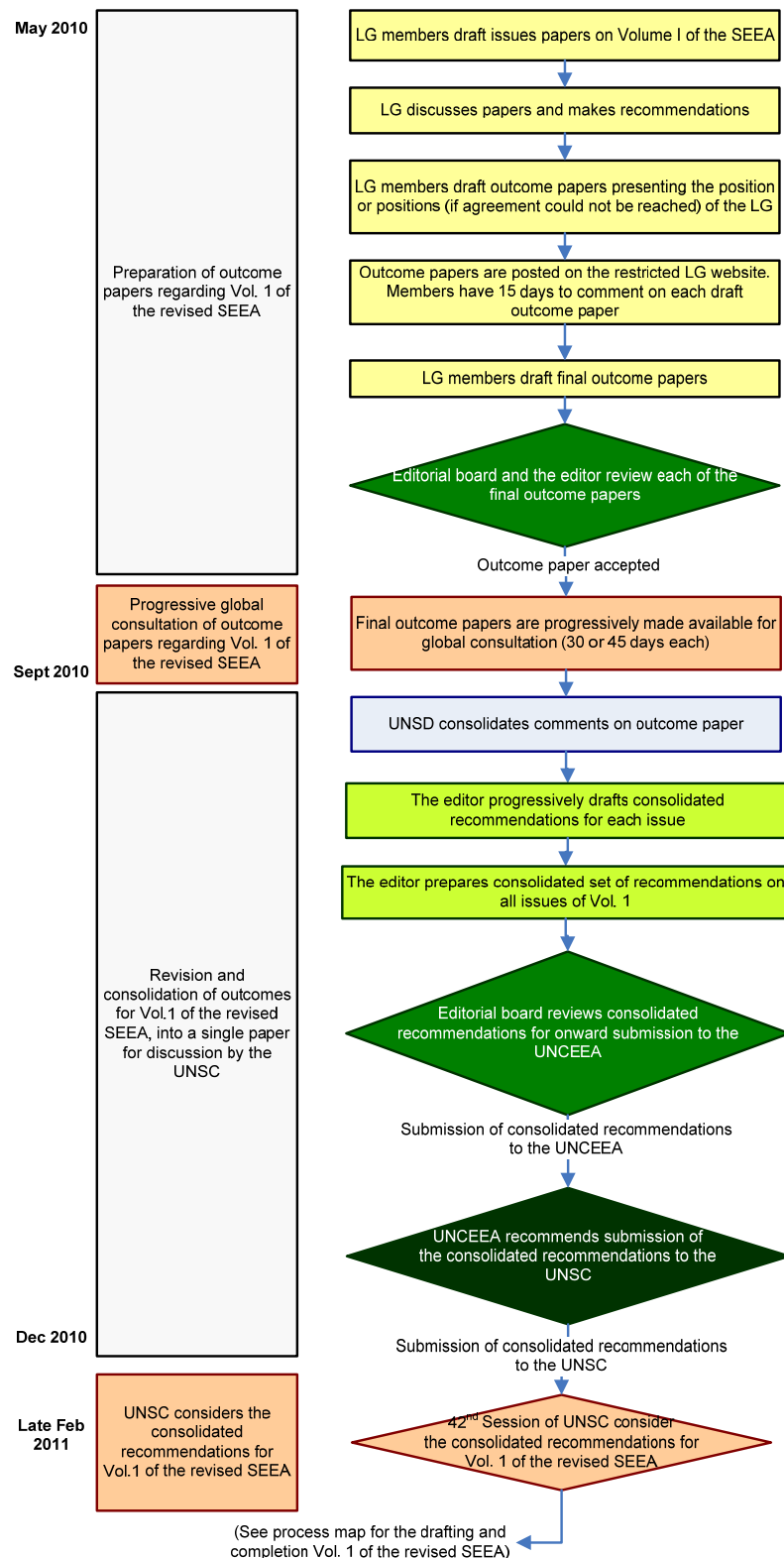
24. A process map for the drafting of Volumes 2 and 3 will be developed in due course.

25. Because of the tight time schedule for the drafting of Volume 1, Volume 3 including the applications of Volume 1, will be drafted in the format of separate papers addressing the policy themes to be addressed by the SEEA. Examples of papers being prepared as input to Volume 3 include:

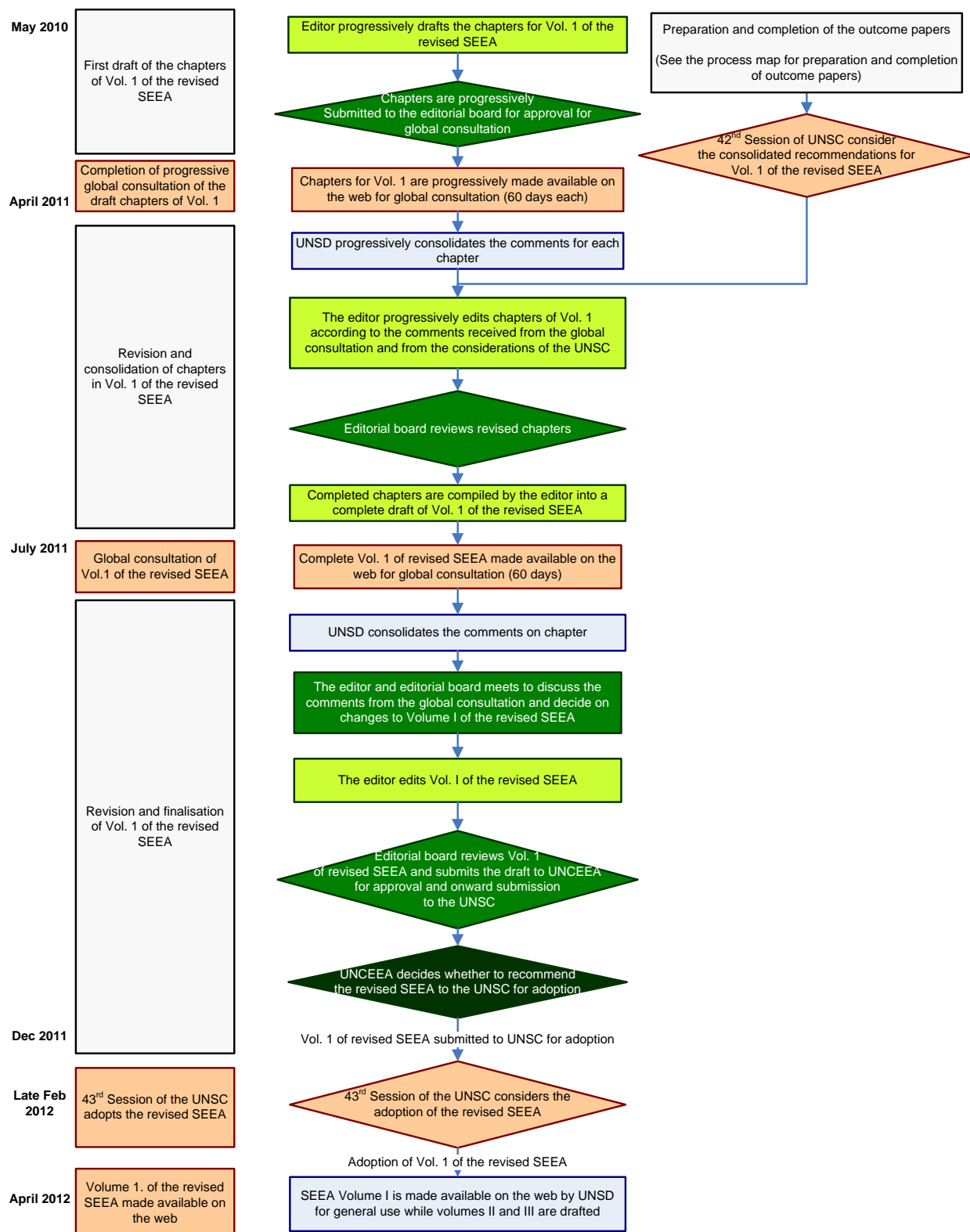
- Contribution of the SEEA to climate change analyses,
- Contribution of the SEEA to sustainable consumption and production
- The SEEA and integrated natural resource management – the example of water.

Annex I: Process map leading to the completion of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA

Part I – Process map for the finalization of consolidated recommendations



Part II – Process map leading to the completion of Volume 1 of the revised SEEA



Annex II Timetable from the Project Management Framework

Table 1: Timetable for the revision of the SEEA

	2007	2008-2009	Mid 2010	End 2010	March 2011	Mid 2011	End 2011	March 2012	Mid 2012	End 2012	March 2013
Establishment of the scope and governance of the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion on the list of issues in the city groups and the UNCEEA meetings Recommendations on selected issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed TORs, including deliverables and timeline, of the technical expert groups (2008) Selection and start appointment of the Editor (2009) 	<i>Agreed list of issues for Volume 2 and Volume 3</i>								
Recommendations by all technical expert groups		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Management Framework is submitted to UNSC for approval (2009) Formulation of position on the issues in the issue list by the various groups (Volume 1) 	Outcome papers prepared by the various groups are submitted to the Editorial Board as soon as they are ready and further circulated for global consultation (Vol.1 and part of Vol. 3 related to Vol.1)	<i>Outcome of the discussion of city groups and other technical expert groups are submitted to the Editorial Board (Vol.2 and part of Vol.3) for global consultation</i>							
Consolidated recommendations of the UNCEEA				Consolidated recommendations are submitted to UNSC by the UNCEEA for approval (Vol.1 and part of Vol. 3)	UNSC approves the recommendations on issues for Vol. 1	<i>Consolidated recommendations are submitted to the (Vol.2)</i>	<i>Consolidated recommendations are submitted to UNSC by the UNCEEA for approval (Vol.2)</i>	<i>UNSC approves the recommendations on issues for Vol. 2</i>			
First draft revised SEEA				Draft chapters progressively submitted to the Editorial Board and subsequently for global consultation as they become available		Complete draft sent to countries for comments on consistency and readability (Vol.1 and part of Vol.3)	UNCEEA approves Vol. 1 and part of Vol. 3		Complete draft sent to countries for comments on consistency and readability (Vol.2 and part of Vol.3)	UNCEEA approves Vol. 2 and part of Vol.3	
Final draft revised SEEA								UNSC adoption of Vol. 1			UNSC endorsement of Vol. 2 and Vol.3

Timeline for Vol. 2 and part of Vol. 3

Timeline for Vol. 1 and part of Vol. 3

UNSC adoption of Vol. 1

UNSC endorsement of Vol. 2 and Vol.3

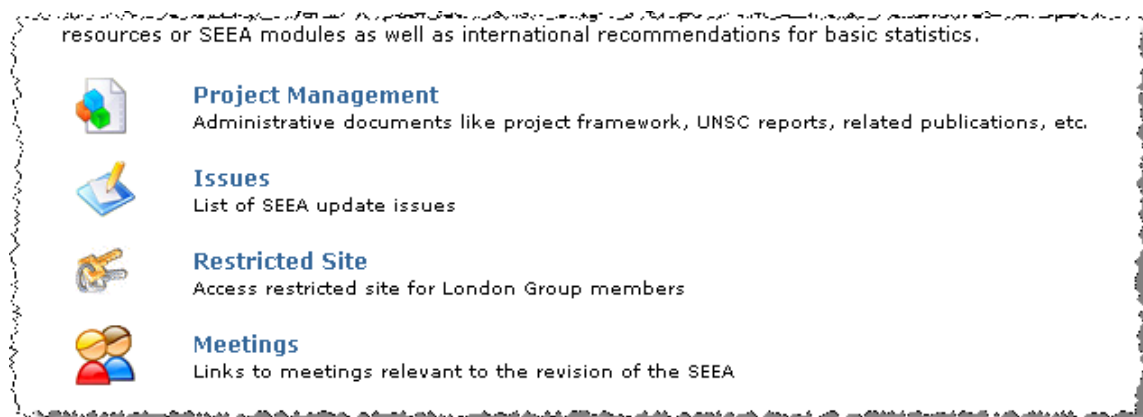
Annex III: 'Towards the revised SEEA' website

Introduction

1. The 'Towards the revised SEEA' website was created to support the revision of the SEEA 2003 and to enhance the transparency and participation of the global statistical community in the revision process. The website provides all information related to the revision process visible to all users and can be accessed via the following URL: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/seearev/>
2. The following document gives an overview of the content of the publicly visible 'Towards the revised SEEA' website and provides more detail on the 'Restricted site', which is limited to London Group members only.
3. Wherever possible, screen shots of the actual web page or relevant parts of it have been provided to enhance and visualize the information provided.

Content of the website

4. The content of the website is currently divided into the following four parts: 'Project Management', 'Issues', 'Restricted Site' and 'Meetings'. Each of these links opens another site containing specific information. While the 'Project Management' site, the 'Issues' site and the 'Meetings' site are open to all visitors the 'Restricted Site' is accessible only to London Group members.



'Project Management' site

5. The 'Project Management' site shows all documents related to the management of the revision process, such as administrative documents, Statistical Commission reports, etc. and provides links to other websites related to the revision.

'Issues' site

6. The 'Issues' site shows the list of all issues identified for the revision. More information, like an issue description, available issue and outcome papers and the status of the global consultation on each issue can be found by selecting the appropriate links as indicated on the site.

'Meetings' site

7. The 'Meetings' site shows links to meetings relevant to the revision process, like London Group meetings, Oslo Group meetings, UNCEEA meetings. More information, like an issue description, available issue and outcome papers and the status of the global consultation on each issue can be found by selecting the appropriate links as indicated on the site.

'Restricted site'

8. This site is limited to members of the London Group and should be used to obtain internal information regarding the list of update issues and additionally to provide comments on draft outcome papers.

9. All information below relates exclusively to the access, content and navigation of the 'Restricted site'.