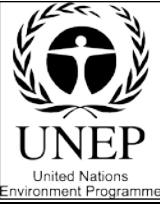


	Description: Purchase of Furniture for UNEP/DTIE Paris Office
Picture or Logo	
Purchasing Authority	United Nations Environmental Programme/The Division of Technology, Industry, and Economics (UNEP DTIE).
Contract Title	UNON/Aug/2007/019: Purchase of Furniture for UNEP DTIE Paris Office
Sustainability Criteria	<p>Two purchasing criteria were adopted:</p> <p>1) Social criteria- all purchases are to comply with the conventions of the International Labour Organisation specifically, freedom of association, freedom of negotiation, ban on hard labour, equal treatment and non-discrimination, and elimination of the child labour. Moreover, the products purchased must correspond to the European eco-label standards or equivalent. Any firm providing service must abide by the 8 fundamental rules set by the International Labour Organisation. The supplier must also provide an affidavit confirming the environmental origins of its products as well as its subcontractors.</p> <p>2) Ecological criteria- referring to the European regulations currently in use and the European ecolabels for furniture and materials used in construction of the products including surface treatments. The use of substances or preparations containing links to halogenated organic compounds, are prohibited such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • azidine, • polyazidines, • phthalates, • lead, • tin, • cadmium, • chromium VI, • mercury <p>The glues used to assemble furniture can not contain more than 10% of the organic compounds. The emission of formaldehyde from finished furniture can not exceed 0.05 ppm after 28 days. Any substance or preparation with the following risk can not be used during the manufacture of furniture (see definition below)*: R40, R45, R46, R49, R50, R51, R52, R53, R60, R61, R62, R63, R68 (Directive 67/548 / EEC).</p> <p>All exempt materials individually should constitute no more than 3% of the finished product and all exempt materials should not constitute in total more than 10% of the finished product. All products that do not meet these criteria must follow more specific stringent rules, for those that do they are to meet the following less stringent general criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum life expectancy of the product must be guaranteed 5 years • spare parts must be available at least 5 years after purchase • all maintenance must be done with products that do not contain organic solvents <p>Packaging - Shall be taken by the supplier to be recycled, if not applicable, UNEP will provide for the separation and collection of all packaging materials for recycling. The packaging must contain at least 80% recycled material. And 70% of the wood furniture must come from forests and other sources managed in a sustainable manner.</p>

Cost Implications	We are unable to provide cost differences due to the age of the old furniture and a lack of records regarding their original cost for comparison purposes. The total cost for the new furniture was 138,672 Euros or 180,273 US dollars as of an exchange rate of approximately 1-Euro to 1.3 US Dollars in April 2007. It is important to note that 237,658 US dollars was authorized for the purchase but the final cost was far less.
Challenges & Solutions	The biggest barrier was in locating local companies that met our criteria. The firms that met our needs were located outside of France making transportation and delivery a larger issue than we had anticipated.
Benefits for the Organization	Consistency with UNEP mandate and work on SP and SCP Reduced staff exposure to chemicals (e.g. VOC and glues).
Lessons Learned	<u>What worked out well:</u> The greatest lesson was teamwork. We had to involve a great deal of people over multiple departments in order to coordinate the numerous steps in the project. Market was ready and we had good offers from most of the bidders a majority of which has signed Global Compact.
Contact Person	"UNEP DTIE chief of administration".