

Open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR)

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UNEA and OECPR Basics

- * Responds to the call made at Rio+20 to strengthen and upgrade UNEP as the “leading global environmental authority”
- * Highest political forum for global environmental issues
- * First session on 23-28 June 2014 at UNEP HQ in Nairobi
- * OECPR being held as the PrepCom to the UNEA
- * OECPR to advance negotiation of decisions for adoption by UNEA
- * UNEA HLS themes: “SDGs and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, including Sustainable Consumption and Production”; Ministerial dialogue on “Illegal Trade in Wildlife and Timber”
- * Registration: 97 countries (34 without missions in NBO); 278 participants (147 from outside NBO)

OECPR mandate (paragraph 9, Decision 27/2)

- (a) Contributing to the preparation of the agenda of its governing body;
- (b) Providing advice to its governing body on policy matters;
- (c) Preparing decisions for adoption by its governing body and overseeing their implementation;
- (d) Convening thematic and/or programmatic debates
- (e) Promoting effective ways and means to facilitate participation of the non-resident members of the Committee, particularly from developing countries
- (f) Performing any other functions delegated to it by its governing body;

(g) Mandate given by 19/32

Governing Council vs UNEA

	GC	UNEA
Membership	58 elected members; expanded to universal membership for the 2013 session	193 UN Member States
Bureau	5 members	10 members
Meets	Annually (regular and special sessions)	Biannually in even years, preceded by OECPR serving as UNEA PrepCom
Organization	5 days, including the Global Ministerial Environment Forum	5 days, including a two-day high-level segment at the end of session
	Both preceded by the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum	
Outcome	Budget and programme of work, Decisions	Budget and programme of work, decisions, TBD by Member States

UNEP Governance Structure

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

- Universal membership
- Meets biannually starting in June 2014
- Concludes with a 2-day high-level segment

Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

- Subsidiary organ of GC in 1997 mandated given by 19/32
- Subsidiary inter-session body of the UNEP's governing body to perform functions of the GC decision 27/2

Other Meetings

Regular quarterly meetings, extra ordinary meetings, thematic debates and briefings

Open-ended Meeting

Meets in even years for five days

Subcommittee Meeting

Meets annually for five days

UNEA Functions (GC 27/2)

- (a) Setting the global environmental agenda;
- (b) Providing overarching policy guidance and defining policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges;
- (c) Undertaking policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences;
- (d) Setting the strategic guidance on the future direction of the United Nations Environment Programme;
- (e) Organizing a multi-stakeholder dialogue.

UNEA in 2014

- * First UNEA session to set the tone for subsequent sessions
- * Issue a powerful message to the world on behalf of all Ministers of Environment
- * Inform the discussions in UN HQ in New York on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and SDGs development – to ensure the integration of environmental dimension and integrated approach
- * Highlight the environmental costs of illegal trade in wildlife and timber, an issue that is witnessing increasing global attention and action
- * Discuss issues of critical environmental significance (i.e. green economy and rule of law) with diverse actors

Expected outcomes of UNEA-1

Decisions:

- * on budget and programme of work for 2016-2017 (revision for 2014-2015)
- * on preparation of UN system wide strategy on environment (strategy ready by 2016)
- * on starting the process of midterm review of the Montevideo Programme IV (review ready by June 2015)
- * on preparation of Global Gender and Environment Outlook 2016
- * on preparation of international water quality guidelines for ecosystem services by 2016, omnibus chemicals decision
- * outcomes of HLS on the Post-2015 Development Agenda /SDGs and on illegal trade in wildlife

THANK YOU.

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