



AMBASSADOR OF THE
FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL

Nairobi, 09 September 2019

Dear colleagues,

Let me start by welcoming you all back to Nairobi after the holiday period, and to especially welcome new colleagues to the Committee of the Permanent Representatives. We will have an interesting and busy Autumn period ahead of us, and I am sure to count on your contribution to our important collective task to oversee, review and provide guidance on follow-up and implementation of the UNEP Programme of Work and of the UN Environment Assembly resolutions and decisions.

One of the important tasks we have ahead of us is to provide guidance and seek consensus on the selection of a theme for the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly.

As you may recall, H.E. Mr. Ola Elvestuen, President of the UN Environment Assembly and Minister of Climate and Environment of Norway, conveyed a letter to all Committee Members dated 8 July 2019, whereby he shared the results from the first meeting of the UNEA Bureau, which took place in Trondheim, Norway. Importantly, the UNEA President also shared a “thought starter” prepared by the Secretariat on the theme, which outlines three possible thematic areas that received general support by the members of the Bureau. The President encouraged all member States through their regional groups to widely consult on the three thematic areas, with a view to achieve broad consensus on the theme by December 2019, as mandated by Decision UNEP/EA.4/2 “Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly”.

Following this initiative, and in full consultation with H.E. Elin B. Rognlie, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway as well as with fellow members of Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, we hereby propose the following schedule of consultations in the CPR on the theme for UNEA-5:



- **12 September 2019** – CPR subcommittee meeting: Presentation and first exchange of views on the three proposed thematic areas and on the consultation process, under the joint leadership of the UNEA Presidency and the Chair of the CPR
 - **1 October 2019** – UNEA Bureau meeting: Update to the UNEA Bureau on the inputs received from Member States so far, where the Chair of the CPR will participate in an ex-officio capacity.
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- **7 – 11 October 2019** – 6th Annual Subcommittee meeting: The UNEA Presidency and the Chair of the CPR will engage in informal consultations with the regional groups in the margins of the meeting.
- **31 October 2019** – CPR subcommittee meeting: The Committee will be invited to engage in an in-depth discussion on the selection of the theme with members of the CPR.
- **November 2019** – The UNEA Presidency and the Chair of the CPR will engage in informal consultations with regional groups and additional Subcommittee meetings may be organized, as necessary.
- **3 December 2019** – Joint meeting of the UNEA and CPR Bureaux: Decision on the theme.

To facilitate our work, and in close cooperation with the President of UNEA, I encourage all member States through their regional groups to consult widely on the three thematic areas, with the view to agreeing on a theme for UNEA-5 that is politically appealing, relevant and focused, and that can pave the way for concrete and action-oriented outcomes. Proposals and views from Major Groups and other Stakeholders on this matter are of course also welcome.

I look forward to productive, transparent and inclusive consultations with you all.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando Estellita Lins de Salvo Coimbra
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Brazil to UNEP
Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

To:
Members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
Major Groups and Stakeholders

ANNEX: "Thought-starter": Finding the right theme for the 2021 UN Environment Assembly