



# **Committee of Permanent Representatives**

## **Orientation for New Members on GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES**

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# GOVERNING COUNCIL VS Environment Assembly

|                     | Governing Council   | UN ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY  |
|---------------------|---|--|
| <b>Membership</b>   | 58 elected members  | 193 UN member States   |
| <b>Bureau</b>       | 5 members   | 10 members   |
| <b>Meets</b>        | Annually (ordinary and special sessions)                                | Biennially in even years, preceded by OECPR serving as a UNEA prepcom          |
| <b>Organization</b> | 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 (GMGSF) |  |
| <b>Outcome</b>      | Decisions and other outcome documents as decided by Members             | Resolutions, decisions and other outcome documents as decided by member States |

# UN Environment Assembly Bureau Members – 10 MEMBERS

| Office          | Name and Designation   | Country      | Regional Group                    |
|-----------------|--|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| President       | H.E Mr. Ola Elvestuen<br>Minister of Climate and Environment                                   | Norway       | Western European & other States   |
| Vice Presidents | H.E. Dr. Mohammed Bin Dainah<br>Chief Executive, Supreme Council for Environment               | Bahrain      | Asia Pacific                      |
|                 | H.E. Mr. Goran Trivan<br>Minister of Environment of the Republic                               | Serbia       | Eastern European States           |
|                 | H.E. Ms. Brune Poirson<br>Secretary of State, Ecological & Inclusive Transition                | France       | Western European & Other States   |
|                 | Mr. Ado Lohmus<br>Permanent Representative of Environment                                      | Estonia      | Eastern European States           |
|                 | H.E. Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez Echandi<br>Minister of Environment and Energy of the Republic | Costa Rica   | Latin American & Caribbean States |
|                 | Ms. Laskmi Dhewanthi<br>Senior Advisor to Minister of Environ & Forestry                       | Indonesia    | Asia-Pacific States               |
|                 | H.E. Mr. Bassiere Batio Nestor<br>Minister of Green Economy and Climate Change of              | Burkina Faso | Africa Group                      |
|                 | Mr. Winston Lackin<br>Ambassador in charge of Environment and<br>Presidential Advisor          | Suriname     | Latin American & Caribbean States |
| Rapporteur      | Hon. Ms. Barbara Creecy<br>Minister of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries                       | South Africa | Africa Group                      |

# UN Environment Governance Structure

Governed by Mandates in Resolutions and Rules of Procedure

## United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

The world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment, established at Rio + 20 in 2012, with a universal membership

UNEA-1: 23-27 June 2014

UNEA-2: 23-27 May 2016

UNEA-3: 4-6 December 2017

UNEA-4: 11-15 March 2019

UNEA-5: 22-26 February 2021

## Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

- Subsidiary inter-sessional body of the Environment Assembly
- Responsible for review and follow-up of the UNEP Programme of Work and UNEA decisions and resolutions
- Composed of 120 member States representatives accredited to UNEP (90 in Nairobi)
- Meets formally 4 times per year – usually full-day meetings
- Meets informally as a subcommittee about once per month to address specific issues

## Open-Ended CPR Meetings

- Meets back-to-back with UNEA for 5 days
- Acts as a “PREPCOM” for UNEA
- Pre-negotiates UNEA resolutions
- Next meeting 15-19 February 2021

## Annual Subcommittee Meetings

- Meets annually for 5 days, usually in October
- Reviews and oversees the current PoW
- Provides Guidance on Future PoWs
- Representatives from Capitals attend



# Functions of the UNEA

## 👉 **Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 5 (Feb 2013)**

- (a) Sets the global environmental agenda;
- (b) Provides overarching policy guidance and defines policy responses to emerging environmental challenges;
- (c) Undertakes policy review, dialogue & exchange of experiences;
- (d) Sets the strategic guidance on the future direction of UN Environment Programme;
- (e) Organizes a multi-stakeholder dialogue sessions;
- (f) Fosters partnerships for achieving environmental goals through resources mobilization.

# Committee of Permanent Representatives

## History:

- ❑ Established May 1985 by GC decision 13/2 in response to the need for a more formal process of consultation among Governments and between the Executive Director and Governments and took into account increasing number of Governments accredited to Nairobi.
- ❑ The decision “invite[d] Governments that have not accredited a permanent mission to the Programme to designate a focal point for information & documentation pertaining to meetings of Committee.”
- ❑ In April 1997, at its 19<sup>th</sup> session, the Governing Council strengthened the Committee as its subsidiary organ.
- ❑ Holds four regular meetings a year. Extraordinary meetings may be convened by Chairperson, after consultation with Bureau members or at the request of at least five members.
- ❑ May establish sub-committees, working groups and task forces as deemed appropriate (GC decision 19/32).

## **Previously:** Derived Mandate from Governing Council decision 19/32

- ❑ Reviews, monitors and assesses the implementation of decisions of the Council on administrative, budgetary & programme matters within policy and budgetary framework provided by the Governing Council;
- ❑ Reviews the DRAFT Programme of Work & Budget during its preparation by the secretariat;
- ❑ Reviews reports requested of the Secretariat by the Governing Council on the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of functions and work of the Secretariat & to make recommendations thereon to the Governing Council;
- ❑ Prepares draft decisions for consideration by the Governing Council based on inputs from the secretariat and on the results of the functions specified above.

## Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 9 (Feb 2013)

- Contribute to the preparation of the agenda of its governing body;
- Provide advice to its governing body on policy matters;
- Prepare decisions for adoption by its governing body and oversee their implementation;
- Convene thematic and/or programmatic debates;
- Promote effective ways and means to facilitate participation of the non-resident members of the Committee, particularly from developing countries
- Perform any other functions delegated to it by its governing body.



# MEMBERSHIP

- ❑ Representatives all Member States of the United Nations, Specialized Agencies and the European Union, accredited to the UN Environment, based in Nairobi or outside” (GC decision 19/32 Para8).
  - Accredited Members: **116** Member States
  - Non-Member States: Holy See + State of Palestine
  - The European Union
- ❑ **Observers:** League of Arab States + Sovereign Military Order of Malta

- ❑ **84** accredited missions in Nairobi.
- ❑ **34** accredited missions outside Nairobi



# OPEN-ENDED MEETING OF THE CPR



## Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 10 (Feb 2013)

“Decides to convene an open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, while ensuring support to developing countries’ representatives, to enable the participation of capital-based delegates as well as stakeholders for a period of five days in an **even-year** to contribute to preparation of the agenda of its governing body, and to provide advice to its governing body on policy matters.”

- ❑ **1<sup>st</sup> OECPR: 24- 28 March, 2014.**
- ❑ **2<sup>nd</sup> OECPR: 15-19 February, 2016.**
- ❑ **3<sup>rd</sup> OECPR: 29 Nov -1 Dec, 2017.**
- ❑ **4<sup>th</sup> OECPR: 4-8 March, 2019.**
- ❑ **5<sup>th</sup> OECPR: 15-19 February, 2021.**

## THE CPR ANNUAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

### Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 11 (Feb 2013)

“Decides to establish a sub-committee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives that will meet annually for a period of **5 days** to review, with the support of the Secretariat, the **Medium Term Strategy** and **Programme of Work & Budget**, in a manner coherent with the budgetary biennial cycle of the United Nations, to be endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the governing body’s approval, and to oversee their implementation and accountability by the Secretariat.”



# THE CPR BUREAU – FIVE (5) MEMBERS FOR A 2-YEAR TERM

## Chair

**H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra**

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil

## Vice-Chairs

**H.E. Mr. Sunil Da Silva**

High Commissioner & Permanent Representative, Sri Lanka

**H.E. Mr. Frans Makken**

Ambassador & Permanent Representative, Kingdom of the Netherlands

**H.E. Mr. Dragan Zupanjevac**

Amb Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary Perm Rep,  
Chair, Eastern European Group – EEG yet to choose bureau member.

## Rapporteur

**H.E. Mrs. Francisca Ashietey-Odunton**

High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Ghana

# STRUCTURE OF THE GOVERNANCE AFFAIRS OFFICE

Finance & Administration

**Governance Affairs Office**  
**Secretariat of Governing Bodies**  
Director & Secretary of Governing Bodies:  
**Jorge Laguna Celis**  
  
Deputy Director & Deputy Secretary  
**Ulf Bjornholm**

**Governing Bodies Unit**  
Head: Ulf Björnholm

**Civil Society Unit**  
Head: Alexander Juras

**Partnership Unit**  
Head: Kamar Yousuf

Contact <[unep.sgb@un.org](mailto:unep.sgb@un.org)>

## Documentation Timelines

- ❑ **6-week rule for UNEA** (Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure):
- ❑ **4-week rule for CPR subcommittee meetings** (GC decision 27/13)
- ❑ **CPR Portal: <http://web.unep.org/about/cpr/>**

## Emerging Trends

- ❑ Expectations for **higher quality** results | Greater efficiency;
- ❑ Increased volume of **Information** | Context of UN Reforms;
- ❑ Increased **Engagement** of representatives & Governing Bodies;
- ❑ Greater Reliance on **Technology** - Paper-Smart & Virtual Meetings;
- ❑ Greater **Visibility** of UN Environment & Governing Bodies;
- ❑ **Inclusivity**: Demand for innovative ways to ensure greater inclusion of representatives outside Nairobi & non-English Speaking;
- ❑ Meaningful **participation** of actors beyond Member States - **Major Groups & stakeholders; Scientists; Private Sector; NGO's.**

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

