

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

1. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Raza Bashir Tarar, High Commissioner of Pakistan and Permanent Representative to UN Environment. The meeting thereafter adopted the agenda.

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of suggested themes for the third session of the UN Environment Assembly

Following the joint decision of the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives made on 27-28 of October 2016, the Committee of Permanent Representatives initiated a consultation process on the theme of the 2017 Environment Assembly.¹

2. On the 17th of November, the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives met to share views on the proposed themes for the 2017 UN Environment Assembly that were distributed on 4th November 2016. The following points summarize the outcome of the meeting:
 - a. There was broad support for building consensus on one theme for the 2017 Environment Assembly by the 5th of December, 2016, thus facilitating the decision to be made by the Bureau of the Assembly.
 - b. Theme 1 (Pollution free planet: delivering a deal to detoxify the world) and theme 2 (Planet 2.0: how to prepare the planet for 3 degrees and 9 billion people) were considered more viable by most Member States, notwithstanding that all proposed themes were highly relevant;
3. There was also support for focusing and adjusting the headings of themes 1 and 2 and several Member States made proposals to this end. These proposals are captured in the revised note by the Secretariat attached herewith.
4. All Member States and stakeholders were encouraged to express their views and preferences on the proposed themes, through:
 - (a) Submitting opinions to the Secretariat to the email address (unep.sgb@unep.org), if possible, by the 23rd of November 2016;
 - (b) Participating in person or virtually through the interactive platform enabled by the

¹ Held in Nairobi during the 2017 Environment Assembly Preparatory Retreat,

Secretariat, in the next round of consultations to be held in Nairobi on the 24th of November 2016 from 09:30 to 12:30hrs (East Africa Time) in the context of a subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

5. The Secretariat will make available in the portal of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (web.unep.org/about/cpr) all contributions received and will ensure that this summary is disseminated to national focal points through the support of UN Environment Programme's regional and sub-regional offices.
6. Those Member States and Stakeholders speaking in support of theme one highlighted that
 - a. The theme provides for a smooth transition from UNEA-2 to UNEA-3, providing an opportunity to build upon from UNEA 2
 - b. It is best placed to strengthen UNEA's profile and discuss global issues such as marine litter and air pollution.
 - c. It is tangible, has global relevance and can be easily communicated to the public.
7. Those Member States speaking in support of theme two highlighted the following:
 - a. That the theme would be more appealing to a wide number of parties due to it being broader than theme 1 and could therefore attract more representatives from different ministries.
 - b. It touches on a sweeping global issues in different aspects such as ecosystems, agriculture and water resources which are all linked to vulnerable populations.