



Orientation for New Members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives Overview of the work of UN Environment Governing Bodies

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Overview

1. The Governance Structure of UN Environment
2. The UN Environment Assembly
3. The Committee of Permanent Representatives
4. The Secretariat of the Governing Bodies
5. Conclusion



UN Environment Governance Structure

An overview

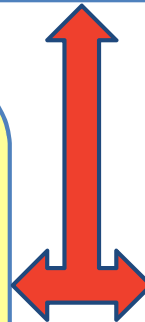
The United Nations Environment Assembly

- ✓ Highest decision-making body
- ✓ Meets every second year
 - 1st session: 23-27 June 2014
 - 2nd session: 23-27 May 2016
 - 3rd session: 4-6 December 2017
 - **4th session: 11-15 March 2018**
- ✓ Concludes with a two-day high-level segment



The Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

- ✓ Subsidiary inter-sessional body of the Environment Assembly
- ✓ Meets 4 times/year to provide oversight of implementation and guidance to Secretariat
- ✓ Composed of representatives of member States accredited to UN Environment
- ✓ Subcommittee meetings and briefings with specific issues



The Open-Ended CPR

- Meets every second year for 5 days to prepare for the Assembly
- The 4th meeting will be held on 4-8 March, 2019

The Annual Subcommittee

- Meets for 5 days annually to support implementation of the PoW
- The 4th meeting will be held on 22-26 October, 2018

Functions of the UN Environment Assembly

👉 **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 address emerging environmental challenges;
- (c) Undertakes **policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences**;
- (d) Provides strategic guidance to the **UN Environment Programme**;
- (e) Organizes a **multi-stakeholder dialogue**;
- (f) Fosters **partnerships** for achieving environmental goals and resource mobilization



UN Environment Assembly Bureau Members – 10 MEMBERS

Office	Name and Designation	Country	Regional group
President	H.E Mr. Siim Valmar Kiisler	Estonia	Western European and other States
Vice Presidents	H.E. Ms. Edna Molewa Minister of Environmental Affairs	Republic of South Africa	African Group
	H. E. Mr. Jacques Denis Tsanga Minister of Waters and Forests, and the Environment	The Republic of Gabon	African Group
	H.E. Dr. Naser Moghaddasi Deputy Head of Department of Environment and Chief of International Affairs	The Islamic Republic of Iran	Asia-Pacific States
	H.E. Mr. Molwyn Joseph Minister of Health and the Environment	Antigua and Barbuda	Latin American and Caribbean States
	H.E. Mr. Kimmo Tiilikainen Minister of the Environment, Energy and Housing of Finland	Finland	Western European and other States
	H.E. Mr. Fernando Estellita Lins de Salvo Coimbra Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil	Republic of Brazil	Latin American and Caribbean States
	H.E. Mr. Felix Wertli Head of Section, Global Affairs, Federal Office of the Environment	Switzerland	Western European and other States
	H.E. Mr. Vladislav Smrž Deputy Minister of the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic	Eastern European States
Rapporteur	H.E. Raza Bashir Tarar High Commissioner and Permanent Representative	Islamic Republic of Pakistan	Asia-Pacific States

COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES

- ❑ Established in May 1985 to allow for a more **formal process** of consultation between Governments and the Executive Director
- ❑ Governments without Permanent Missions in Nairobi were invited to designate **national focal points**
- ❑ The role of the Committee was **strengthened** in 1997 through a decision by the Governing Council
- ❑ The Committee normally meet **4 times per year**
- ❑ The Committee may establish **subcommittees, working groups and task forces**



FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES

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

- (a) Contribute to the **preparation of the agenda** of its governing body;
- (b) Provide **advice** to its governing body on policy matters;
- (c) Prepare **decisions** for adoption by its governing body and oversee their implementation;
- (d) Convene thematic and/or programmatic **debates**;
- (e) Promote effective ways and means to **facilitate participation of the non-resident members** of the Committee
- (f) Perform **any other functions delegated** to it by its governing body body.



OPEN-ENDED MEETING OF 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.”*

- ❑ **1st OECPR: 24- 28 March 2014**
- ❑ **2nd OECPR: 15-19 February 2016**
- ❑ **3rd OECPR: 29 Nov-1 Dec 2017**



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 and budget, [...] 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.”



CPR BUREAU – 5 MEMBERS FOR A 2-YEAR TERM

Chair

Ghana: H.E. Mrs. Francisca Ashietey-Odunton, High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Ghana

Vice-Chairs

Republic of Korea: H.E. Mr. Kwon Young-dae, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea

Colombia: H.E. Ms. Elizabeth Ines Taylor Jay, Ambassador - Designate and Permanent Representative of Colombia

United States: H.E. Ms. Lori Dando, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United States

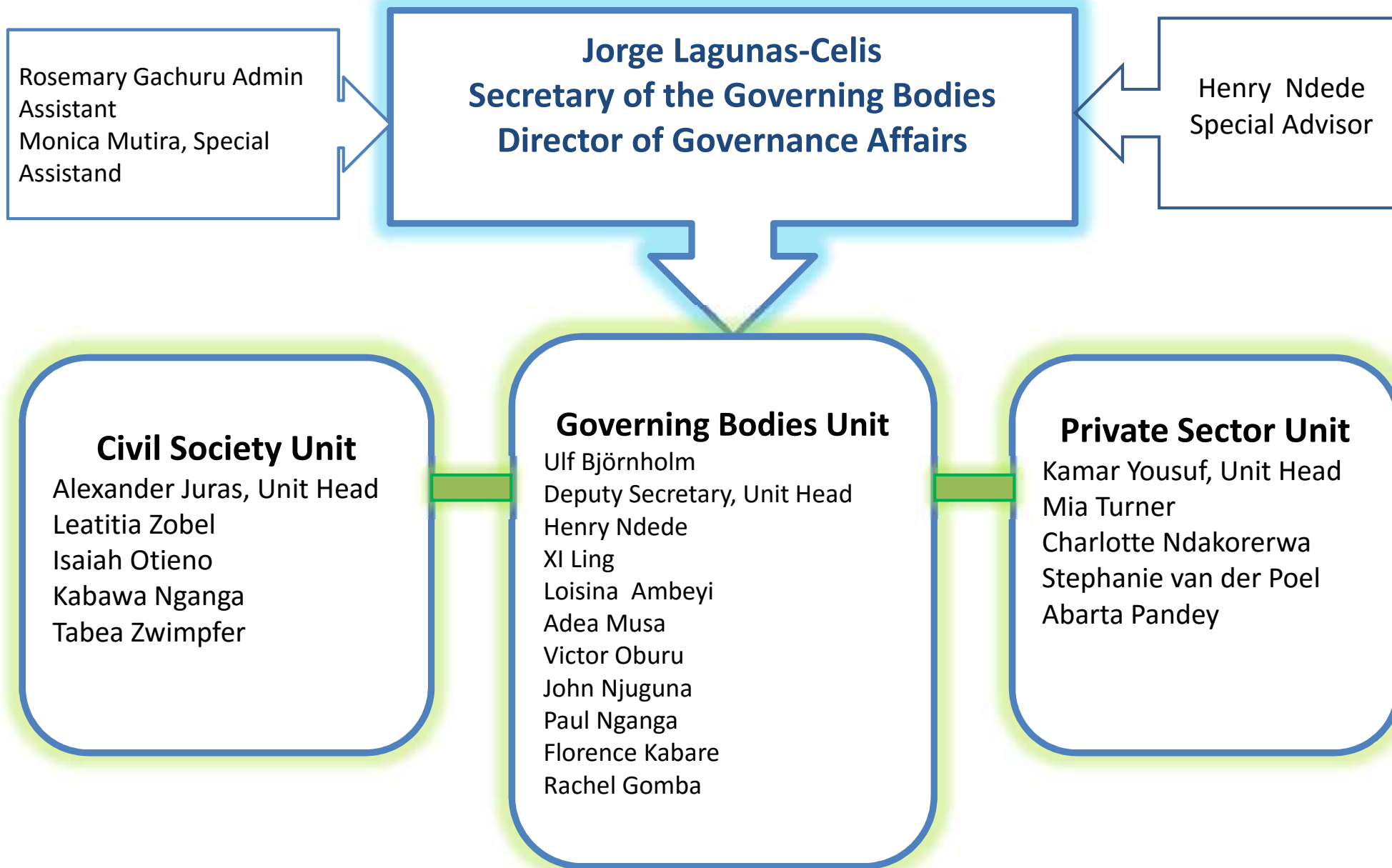
Rapporteur

Poland: H.E. Mr. Marek Rohr-Garztecki, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland



THE SECRETARIAT OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

- The Governance Affairs Office -



Contact: <unep-sgb@un.org>

Some trends, challenges and opportunities

- **Internet governance** – to promote transparency, visibility, participation and effectiveness through advanced ITCs
- **Interactive governance** – ensuring a two way dialogue
- **Participatory governance** – countries without missions in Nairobi; major groups and stakeholders, academia; private sector
- **UN-aligned governance** – how will the UN Reform influence governance practices (e.g. Program of Work)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Documentation

❑ **6-week rule for UNEA** (Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure):

The Executive Director shall be responsible for all the necessary arrangements for meetings of the UNEA and of its subsidiary organs, including the preparation and distribution of documents at least 42 days in advance of the sessions of the UNEA and its subsidiary organs, if any.

❑ **4-week rule for meetings with the Committee of Permanent Representatives** (GC decision 27/13)

...requests the Executive Director to ensure that the secretariat provides documentation and information related to the programme of work, budget and medium term strategy to the meeting of the CPR at least 4 weeks in advance of the meeting in question.

❑ **All documents available on the CPR Portal:**

<https://www.unenvironment.org/cpr>



Some Elements of the UN Environment Assembly

- (a) Plenary
- (b) High Level Segment
- (c) Committee of the Whole: Drafting Groups
- (d) Multi-stakeholder dialogue;
- (e) Side Events
- (f) Pre-session Events like the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum
- (g) Hospitality Events
- (h) Regional Consultations
- (i) Media events



COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- ❑ Consists of, “the representatives all States Members of the UN and members of its specialized agencies, and the European Community, accredited to the UN Environment, whether based in Nairobi or outside” (Governing Council decision 19/32, paragraph 8).
- ❑ Currently the CPR members consist of the following:
 - Accredited Members: 116 accredited members
 - Non-Member States: Holy See, State of Palestine
 - European Union
- ❑ The League of Arab States and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta participate as observers.
- ❑ 84 accredited missions based in Nairobi;
34 outside of Nairobi



GOVERNING COUNCIL VS Environment Assembly

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