

MEXICO Intervention

Process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives

10 September 2020

Chaired by: Co-facilitators **Mr. Marcus Davies** of Canada and **Mr. Mapopa Kaunda** of Malawi

Item 2. Implementation of paragraph 9-13 of Decision UNEP/EA.4/2 entitled “Provisional agenda, date and venue of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly”.

Thank you, Chair. I am now taking the floor to talk in my national capacity. Mexico aligns itself with the points already mentioned by GRULAC. As you have all witnessed, from the inception of this Decision during UNEA-4, we have been a strong advocate for the better use of the inter-sessional period in order to have a more democratic, transparent, and inclusive process leading to UNEA-5 and beyond. This quest is meant to strengthen not only UNEP and its Member States, but also the way in which “Building Back Better” will make more sense to the future of the environment.

During this process, the co-facilitators have asked us to convey our practical proposals to improve the process at hand. Throughout our participation and the documents visible through the devoted site, Mexico has been clear in stating that a better use of the inter-sessional period provides an opportunity to improve efficiency regarding resolution management and reduces the pressure that arises during the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives. Therefore, we respectfully propose the following practical solutions that will answer the question: What happens in the process between the Annual Subcommittee Meeting and the OECPR?

- Without prejudice to a Member State proposing resolutions or decisions earlier, and without prejudice of the relevant role of the CPR in the organization of work for the consideration of draft resolutions, make better use of the inter-sessional period by devoting half a day of the Annual Subcommittee in the year preceding a UNEA Meeting whereby Member States would identify areas suitable for the tabling of draft resolutions and decisions and indicate their intention to submit a resolution on an area of concern so that other Member States with similar concerns may form a resolutions “cluster” collaborate in the preparation of draft resolutions for an early, inclusive and transparent process of discussion, co-sponsorship of resolutions, consolidation of ideas for similar proposals and minimal duplication of work for similar subject matter.
- Following the expression of intent by a Member State or Member States to table a resolution at UNEA, clusters of like-minded member states shall be organized by the CPR to work collaboratively with the support of the Secretariat to prepare a concept paper as required and a draft resolution with input from MEA’s on relevant existing resolutions and decisions, collaboration consultations with subject matter experts from Member States and engagement, as appropriate, of Civil Society. Draft resolutions presented unilaterally by a Member State or a Group of States before and after the Annual Subcommittee Meeting shall be incorporated in a cluster organized by the CPR to be presented and discussed together with other thematically related draft resolutions;

- Include as agenda item on all meetings of the CPR between the Annual Subcommittee in the period preceding a UNEA Meeting and the OECPR discussion, with support of the Secretariat and MEAs, whereby Member States in the resolution clusters as identified at the Annual Subcommittee shall advise the CPR on the status of their draft resolutions preparations and/or decisions and solicit input for an inclusive and transparent process.
- Joint meetings of the UNEA and CPR Bureau held after the Annual Subcommittee in the period preceding a UNEA Meeting, to include as an agenda item discussion on progress regarding draft resolutions and decisions and resolution clusters as identified at the Annual Subcommittee and the CPR;
- Joint meetings of the UNEA and CPR Bureau in advance of UNEA to process, for approval by the CPR, nomination and selection of facilitators for working groups and contact groups

These possible recommendations are either new or involve reworking paragraphs that are already there in version VI, namely paragraphs 4, 16 specifically 16 (a)

There are other issues regarding the guidelines on the respective roles of the UNEA and CPR Bureaux and their decision-making processes. We would be willing to discuss them with the aim of consolidating trust through the achievement of fairness and transparency.

Mr. Chair,

Mexico appreciates your thorough consideration to the changes suggested by our delegation and their inclusion in your final document. Only with these changes, my delegation will be able to consider the resulting document as one of “Converging elements of consensus”.

Thank you.

Final Version

10SEP20, 13:00