

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Wednesday 25 November 2020
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Virtual

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.

1. H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil, chaired the meeting, in which the following participated:

The Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau members:

H.E. Mr. Marek Rohr-Garztecki, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland, Vice Chair, Eastern European Group;

H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah, High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Pakistan, Vice Chair, Asia-Pacific Group

H.E. Mr. Maarten Brouwer, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of The Netherlands, Vice Chair, Western European and Other States Group

The Bureau of the UN Environment Assembly was represented in ex officio by:

H.E. Ms. Eline Rognlie, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway

The UN Environment Programme Secretariat was represented by:

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director;
Ms. Joyce Msuya, Deputy Executive Director
Mr. Rafael Peralta, Chief of Staff a.i.;
Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis, Secretary of Governing Bodies;
Mr. Ulf Bjornholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies;
Mr. Stadler Trengrove, Principal Legal Officer.

2. The meeting adopted the agenda.

2. Preparation for upcoming meeting of the CPR Subcommittee.

3. The Secretariat informed the meeting of their efforts to share with the CPR Bureau for their consideration, elements for the three draft decisions on administrative and budgetary matters which are expected to be adopted during the virtual session of UNEA-5: (i) draft decision on the Programme of Work and Budget for 2022–2023 and Medium-term Strategy for 2022-2025; (ii) draft decision on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions and (iii) draft decision on date and format for the resumed session of UNEA-5 and for the resumed 5th OECPR, prior to sharing the draft decisions with the greater CPR membership as requested.

4. The Secretariat informed the meeting, that the note on the preparations of the 50th anniversary of the creation of UNEP (UNEP@50) was currently in the final stages of drafting and would be shared by Friday 27 November 2020 at the latest.
5. The Bureau indicated that the elements of the decision on dates and format of the resumed session of UNEA could address: 1) adjournment of UNEA-5, 2) date and format of the resumed UNEA5 session, 3) date and format of the OECPR, 4) noting reports and deferring consideration to resumed session, 5) intersessional work towards the resumed session of UNEA and urged the Secretariat to share the elements for the three draft decisions as soon as possible to allow for minimum time for review by Bureau members and thereafter circulate the draft decisions for general discussion at the CPR by Friday 27 November 2020 at the latest.
6. The Bureau further agreed to plan consideration of the decisions at the 153rd meeting of the CPR to ensure smooth discussions at the OECPR

3. Preparation for the upcoming joint meeting of the UNEA and CPR Bureaux.

7. The Secretariat briefed the meeting on their progress with regards to preparing for the joint meeting of the Bureaux, highlighting that a main outcome of the joint meeting would be the approval of the structure of the virtual session of UNEA-5.
8. The Secretariat informed the meeting that they would be circulating a revised the draft structure of the virtual session of UNEA-5, taking into account comments and inputs provided by Member States at both the 7th Annual Subcommittee and the 152nd meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. A revised structure is shared with the UNEA Presidency for their feedback and is expected to be shared in the coming days.
9. The Bureau expressed trust that a well-balanced proposal on the structure will be presented, keeping in mind the comments made at the CPR, UNEAs authoritative voice on the environment and Nairobi as the only UNHQ on the continent.
10. With regards to the President's proposal for a consensual message from the virtual session of UNEA-5, the Presidency was encouraged to continue consulting with member States in a transparent and inclusive manner, keeping in mind the UNEA membership is broader than the CPR.

4. Other matters.

11. H.E. Mr. Brouwer, Vice Chair informed the meeting on behalf of The Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland, of the upcoming briefing to the CPR by the Members of the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) on their 2019 UNEP Assessment currently scheduled to take place on 10 December 2020 and the request to the secretariat to combine the briefing with briefings on other following topics: 1) Experiences and costs of virtual platforms, 2) Private Sector Engagement Plan 3) Coastal and Marine Strategy 4) an update on the Sustainable Food Summit.

5. Closing of the Meeting.

12. The meeting closed at 10:00 a.m.