Committee of Permanent Representatives
Orientation for New Members on
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

Jorge Laguna-Celis, Director, Governance Affairs Office
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UN Environment Programme Governance Structure

**United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)**
The leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda; established at Rio + 20 in 2012
Universal membership; Chaired by the UNEA President
- UNEA-1: 23-27 June 2014
- UNEA-3: 4-6 December 2017
- UNEA-4: 11-15 March 2019
- **UNEA-5: 22-26 February 2021 and 28 February – 2 March 2022**

**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, and for preparing for the OECPR and UNEA
- Composed of about 120-130 member States representatives accredited to UNEP (around 80-90 represented in Nairobi)
- Meets formally 4 times per year – usually full day meetings
- Meets informally in subcommittees 1-2 times per month to address specific issues

**Open-Ended CPR Meetings**
- Meets biannually for 5 days, either back-to-back with UNEA or 2-3 months ahead
- Chaired by the CPR Chair
- 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; chaired by the CPR Chair
- Review and oversight of the current PoW
- Guidance on future PoW
- Representatives from Capitals invited

**UNEA Bureau**
- 10 members from 5 regions; leads the preparation of UNEA
- Chaired by UNEA President
- Meets 4-6 times per year, sometimes jointly with CPR Bureau

**CPR Bureau**
- 5 Members from 5 regions; leads the preparation of CPR meetings
- Current Chair from the Western European and Others region
- Meets monthly, sometimes jointly with UNEA Bureau
United Nations Environment Assembly
- UNEA

Key mandates and functions
Governing Council decision 27/2, 2013

- Sets the global environmental agenda;
- Provides overarching policy guidance and defines policy responses to emerging environmental challenges;
- Undertakes policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences;
- Sets the strategic guidance on the future direction of UN Environment Programme;
- Organizes a multi-stakeholder dialogue sessions;
- Fosters partnerships for achieving environmental goals through resources mobilization.
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<th>Governing Council</th>
<th>UN ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Membership</strong></td>
<td>58 elected members</td>
<td>193 UN member States</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bureau</strong></td>
<td>5 members</td>
<td>10 members</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Meets</strong></td>
<td>Annually (ordinary and special sessions)</td>
<td>Meets every second year, preceded by the OECPR serving as a “Prepcom”</td>
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<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>5 days, including the Global Ministerial Environment Forum</td>
<td>5 days, including a two-day high-level segment at the end of session</td>
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<td>Both preceded by the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF)</td>
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<td><strong>Outcome</strong></td>
<td>Decisions and other outcome documents as decided by Members</td>
<td>Resolutions, decisions and other outcome documents as decided by member States</td>
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## UN Environment Assembly Bureau

Ten members, representing all UN regions; elected by UNEA at the end of its session for a 2-year term

The Bureau assists the President in the general conduct of business of the Assembly

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name and Designation</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Regional Group</th>
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</table>
| President       | H.E. Mr. Sveinung Rotevatn  
Minister of Climate and Environment                                                   | Norway       | Western European & other States       |
| Vice Presidents | H.E. Dr. Mohammed Bin Dainah  
Chief Executive, Supreme Council for Environment                                      | Bahrain      | Asia Pacific                          |
|                 | H.E. Mrs. Irena Vujovic  
Minister of Environment of the Republic                                                | Serbia       | Eastern European States               |
|                 | H.E. Ms. Bérangère Abba  
Secretary of State, Ecological & Inclusive Transition                                 | France       | Western European & Other States       |
|                 | Mr. Ado Lohmus  
Permanent Representative of Environment                                                | Estonia      | Eastern European States               |
|                 | H.E. Ms. Andrea Meza Murillo  
Minister of Environment and Energy of the Republic                                     | Costa Rica   | Latin American & Caribbean States     |
|                 | Ms. Laskmi Dhewanthi  
Senior Advisor to Minister of Environment & Forestry                                  | Indonesia    | Asia-Pacific States                   |
|                 | H.E. Mr. Simeon Sawadogo  
Minister of Green Economy and Climate Change                                            | Burkina Faso | Africa Group                          |
|                 | H.E. Mr. Reggy Nelson  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary                                            | Suriname     | Latin American & Caribbean States     |
| Rapporteur      | Hon. Ms. Barbara Creecy  
Minister of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries                                          | South Africa | Africa Group                          |
Committee of Permanent Representatives

Overview

**Established in May 1985** by GC decision 13/2 to create a formal process of consultation among Governments and with the Executive Director on UNEP matters, taking into account the increasing number of Governments represented in Nairobi;

**Consist of representatives of all UN States Members accredited to UNEP**, whether based in Nairobi or outside;

**Meets under the leadership of an elected Chairperson and a 5-member Bureau**

**Meets at regular meetings four times per year**, with full interpretation;

**Extraordinary CPR meetings** may be convened after consultation with the CPR Bureau or at the request of at least five members;

**CPR also meets in the format of informal sub-committees**, held in English only.
Committee of Permanent Representatives

Governing Council decision 19/32, 1997

• **Reviews, monitors and assesses the implementation** of decisions of the UNEP’s governing body on administrative, budgetary and programme matters;

• **Reviews the draft UNEP Programme of Work** and Budget during its preparation by the secretariat;

• **Reviews reports** requested of the Secretariat by Member States on the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of functions and work of the Secretariat and makes recommendations;

• **Prepares draft decisions** for consideration by the UNEP governing body based on inputs from the secretariat and on the results of the above functions.
Committee of Permanent Representatives
Strengthened mandate, Governing Council decision 27/2, 2013

“Decides that an open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives will be the inter-sessional subsidiary body of the governing body of UNEA and perform the following functions:

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, particularly from developing countries; and

f) Perform any other functions delegated to it by its governing body.”
Committee of Permanent Representatives

Membership

Representatives of 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 Para 8).

- Accredited Members: 122 Member States
- Non-Member States: Holy See + State of Palestine
- The European Union

Observers: League of Arab States + Sovereign Military Order of Malta

86 accredited missions in Nairobi.
36 accredited missions outside Nairobi
Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR)

Governing Council decision 27/2, 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.”

- 4th OECPR: 4-8 March, 2019.
Annual Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
Governing Council decision 27/2, 2013

- Meets annually (usually in October) for a period of 5 days;
- Reviews, with the support of the secretariat, the Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work and budget, in a manner coherent with the budgetary cycle of the United Nations, to be endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the governing body’s approval;
- Oversees their implementation and accountability by the Secretariat;
- Conducts its meetings in English only
- During even years, considers matters relevant for the preparation of upcoming UNEA sessions.
The CPR bureau
Five members, representing all UN regions
Elected by the CPR for a 2-year term
The Bureau assists the Chair in the general conduct of business

Composition of the 2021-23 CPR Bureau
Chair: H.E. Luisa Fragoso
Ambassador of Portugal to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative

Vice Chairs
H.E. Mrs. Selma Malika Haddadi
Ambassador of Algeria to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative
H.E. Mr. Erasmo Roberto Martínez
Ambassador of Mexico to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative

Mr. Ado Lohmus
Permanent Representative of Estonia

Rapporteur: H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah
Ambassador of Pakistan to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative
Structure of the UNEP 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 Björnholm

Governing Bodies Unit
Head: Ulf Björnholm

Civil Society Unit
Head: Alexander Juras

Contact: unep-sgb@un.org
Thank you

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