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**United Nations
Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment
Programme****United Nations Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment Programme
Fifth session**Nairobi (hybrid), 22–26 February 2021
and 28 February–2 March 2022***Report from the Committee of Permanent Representatives****Note by the secretariat**

Since the closure of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the Committee of Permanent Representatives have convened eight regular meetings. At all of the meetings except the meeting directly preceding the fifth United Nations Environment Assembly, the Committee has considered a written report of the Executive Director and engaged in an exchange of views with the Executive Director at the meeting.

At its 146th meeting on 20 June 2019, the Committee elected new officers to the bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, considered follow-up action from the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and considered a roadmap for strengthened foundational controls and principles for management and administration¹.

At its 147th meeting on 11 October 2019, the Committee considered and adopted a draft Chair's summary of the 6th meeting of the annual subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives².

At its 148th meeting on 10 December 2019, the Committee considered the status and future of funding of the United Nations Environment Programme, an analysis of lessons learned for the Mid-Term Strategy, findings from the Emission Gap Report 2019, and the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration and selected decisions and resolutions from the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEP/EA.4/HLS.1, United Nations EP/EA.4/2, UNEP/EA.4/Res.22 and UNEP/EA.4/Res.23)³.

At its 149th meeting on 18 February 2020, the Committee considered an update on the commemoration of the creation of UNEP, follow up of United Nations General Assembly resolution 73/333, and interagency collaboration in the context of the Environment Management Group⁴.

* In accordance with the decisions taken by the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its meeting held on 8 October 2020 and by the bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives at their joint meeting held on 1 December 2020, the fifth session of the Environment Assembly was adjourned on 23 February 2021 and is expected to resume as an in-person meeting in February 2022.

¹ For more information, visit the meeting portal: <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/146th-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

² For more information, visit the meeting portal: <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/147th-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

³ For more information, visit the meeting portal: <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/148th-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

⁴ For more information, visit the meeting portal: <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/149th-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

At its 150th meeting on 30 April 2020, the Committee considered the implementation of paragraph 8 of Decision UNEP/EA.4/2 and preparations for the fifth session of the Environment Assembly.⁵

At its 151st meeting on 14 September 2020, the Committee undertook a consultation on the preparation of a new UNEP Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work and Budget, and heard progress updates on the consultation process under the UN General Assembly 73/333, on the work of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics and on the implementation of the Pollution Action Plan adopted at the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.⁶

At its 152nd meeting on 19 November 2020, the Committee continued its consultation on the preparation of a new Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work and Budget, considered the structure and possible outcomes of the fifth session of United Nations Environment Assembly, and adopted a draft Chair's summary of the 7th meeting of the annual subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.⁷

At its 153rd meeting on 26 January 2021, the Committee considered the status of preparations for the fifth meeting of the Open-Ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, including with regard to draft resolutions, and of the 50th anniversary commemoration of the United Nations Environment Programme.⁸

At its 154th meeting on 20 May 2021, the Committee considered the cycle of the term of office of the bureau of the committee of permanent representatives, assessed lessons learned from the online session of the fifth session of the UN environment assembly, and adopted the report from the chair of the committee of permanent representatives on the main activities and outcomes of the subcommittee meetings after its 153rd meeting.⁹

At its 155th meeting on 28 September 2021, the Committee consulted on the preparations for the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP@50), and the preparation for the 8th annual subcommittee meeting.

At its 156th meeting on 30 November 2021, the Committee adopted the Chair's summary of the 8th meeting of the annual subcommittee of the committee of permanent representatives, continued its consultation for the preparations for the resumed session of UNEA-5, including stock-taking on the consultations of draft resolutions for the resumed session of UNEA5, and the preparations for the special session on the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP@50).

The Committee has also convened three meetings of the annual subcommittee; at the 6th, 7th and 8th meeting of the annual subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives held in October 2019, 2020 and 2021, whereby the Committee, *inter alia*, considered UNEP Programme performance reviews, the Process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives as mandated in decision UNEP/EA.4/2, the preparation of a Medium-Term Strategy for the period 2022-25⁹ and the preparation for the resumed fifth environment assembly and the special session to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

⁵ For more information, visit the meeting portal: <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/150th-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

⁶ For more information, visit the meeting portal: <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/151st-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

⁷ For more information, visit the meeting portal: <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/152nd-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

⁸ For more information, visit the meeting portal <https://www.unep.org/events/cpr-meetings/153rd-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

⁹ For more information, visit the following meeting portals:

- <https://www.unep.org/events/annual-subcommittee-cpr/6th-annual-subcommittee-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>
- <https://www.unep.org/events/annual-subcommittee-cpr/7th-annual-subcommittee-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>
- <https://www.unep.org/events/annual-subcommittee-cpr/8th-annual-subcommittee-meeting-committee-permanent-representatives>

At the **online fifth Open-Ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives**, which took place online 15-18 February 2021, the Committee took note of the working document of the Executive Director to the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and agreed to recommend three following three draft decisions for adoption by the Assembly:

- UNEP/EA.5/UNEP/EA5/L.2 - Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions
- UNEP/EA.5/UNEP/EA5/L.3 - Medium-term strategy for 2022–2025 and programme of work and budget for the biennium 2022–2023, and
- UNEP/EA.5/UNEP/EA5/L.4 - Adjournment and resumption of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

The Committee also heard a briefing from the President of the Assembly regarding the consultations a proposal for a possible consensual message from the online session of the fifth session of the Environment Assembly. The Committee took note with appreciation of the intention to put forward the proposed message for final consideration and possible endorsement by the Assembly. The proceedings and outcomes of the meeting are summarized in a Chair’s Summary, available on the meeting [portaUNEP/EA5/L](#).

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At the **resumed fifth Open-Ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives**, which took place in a hybrid format on 21-25 February 2022.

On 21 February, the Committee took note of the following additional working documents:

- UNEP/EA.5/2: Executive Director’s report to the 5th session of the UN Environment Assembly: Nature at the heart of sustainable development.
- UNEP/EA.5/26: Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/2 on the application of the principle of equitable geographical distribution within the recruitment strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme.
- UNEP/EA.5/27: Options for the Future of the Global Environment Outlook – Final report of the Future of Global Environment Steering Committee to the resumed session of the fifth UN Environment Assembly.

On 21 February, the Committee also agreed to proceed with an informal process under the leadership of H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah, Rapporteur of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Pakistan, and Mr. Ado Lohmus, Vice President of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Permanent Representative of Estonia, with the view to reach consensus on a draft ministerial declaration for the special session on UNEP@50 to be considered at the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment.

On 23 February, the Committee decided on 23 February to recommend that the resumed fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly defers consideration of the UN Environment Assembly’s contributions to the forthcoming meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the theme “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, to be held in New York from 5 to 15 July 2022, to a future meeting of the subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to consider and finalize the contribution to the high-level political forum on sustainable development..

On 25 February, the Committee considered and endorsed a draft ministerial declaration, as circulated by the secretariat on behalf of the President of the fifth United Nations Environment Assembly to all delegations on 24 February 2022, without prejudice to the right of Member States to put forward further adjustments and improvements before adoption by UNEA, for adoption at the closing plenary of the Assembly.

On 25 February, the Committee also considered 17 draft resolutions and one draft decision, and agreed to recommend the following three draft resolutions for adoption by the Assembly:

- UNEP/EA5/L.10 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ANIMAL WELFARE – ENVIRONMENT – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT NEXUS
- UNEP/EA5/L.12 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON SUSTAINABLE NITROGEN MANAGEMENT
- UNEP/EA5/L.20 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK

The Committee recommended that UNEA should consider the following draft resolutions and decisions with a view to their possible adoption:

- UNEP/EA5/L.8 - DRAFT RESOLUTION SUSTAINABLE LAKE MANAGEMENT
- UNEP/EA5/L.9 - DRAFT RESOLUTION - NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- UNEP/EA5/L.11 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH
- UNEP/EA5/L.13 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS AND WASTE
- UNEP/EA5/L.14 - DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR A SCIENCE-POLICY PANEL TO SUPPORT ACTION ON CHEMICALS, WASTE AND POLLUTION
- UNEP/EA5/L.15 - DRAFT RESOLUTION - SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE
- UNEP/EA5/L.16 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON GREEN APPROACHES FOR A SUSTAINABLE POST-COVID-19 RECOVERY
- UNEP/EA5/L.17 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON ENHANCING CIRCULAR ECONOMY
- UNEP/EA5/L.18 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON MINERAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE
- UNEP/EA5/L.19 - DRAFT RESOLUTION - COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE SECRETARIAT OF UNEP
- UNEP/EA5/L.21 - PROVISIONAL AGENDA, DATE AND VENUE OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY
- UNEP/EA5/L.22 - DRAFT RESOLUTION - FRAMEWORK FOR ADDRESSING PLASTIC PRODUCT POLLUTION INCLUDING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCT POLLUTION
- UNEP/EA5/L.23 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON [MARINE] PLASTIC POLLUTION (Co-facilitator Text)

Finally, the Committee decided to recommend that no further action should be taken on the following draft resolutions:

- UNEP/EA5/L.6 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AN INTERNATIONALLY LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON PLASTIC POLLUTION
- UNEP/EA5/L. 7- DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON MARINE PLASTIC POLLUTION

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