

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Thursday, 1 September 2022
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (GMT+3)
Hybrid Meeting, Conference Room 9

DRAFT SUMMARY

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

1. H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Finland to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, opened the meeting.
2. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP, provided opening remarks, in which she expressed apologies for the delay in the availability of the draft annotated agenda for the 9th Annual Subcommittee meeting and proposed an extension of the deadline for comments from Bureau Members, if needed.
3. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted. Background documents are available on the [meeting portal](#).

Item 2: Preparations for the 159th meeting of Committee of Permanent Representatives

4. The Bureau was invited to consider the preparations for the 159th meeting of the CPR scheduled for 29 September 2022, based on a [draft annotated agenda](#).
5. The Secretariat presented the draft agenda which includes substantive items on the report from the Executive Director and updates on the implementation of UNEA resolutions 5/2 on sustainable nitrogen management, 5/3 on the future of the Global Environment Outlook (GEO), and 5/5 on nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development. The Secretariat also reminded the Bureau that updates on UNEA resolutions 5/8 on a Science-Policy Panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals, waste, and to prevent pollution, and 5/14 entitled “End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument”, were provided at the Subcommittee meeting on 7 July 2022, and that a briefing on resolution 5/12 on environmental aspects of minerals and metals management will be provided at the Subcommittee meeting scheduled for 13 October.
6. The Secretariat reminded the Bureau that the deadline for submission of nominations of co-chairs to lead intergovernmental consultations emanating from UNEA resolutions 5/2 and 5/14 is 15 September. The Secretariat also brought to the attention of the Bureau the letters from the Executive Director dated 30 August on resolution 5/2 and 31 August on resolution 5/5, in particular, the revised process for the appointment of the co-chairs, which is to be coordinated by the Chair of the CPR, under the leadership of the President of the sixth session of UNEA.

7. The Secretariat provided a short briefing on the GEO-7 process, including its three main bodies, namely the Open-ended Meeting of Experts, the Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (IMAG), and Multidisciplinary Expert Scientific Advisory Group (MESAG).
8. The Secretariat confirmed that the 160th CPR meeting will be held on 8 December as planned and therefore proposed to remove agenda item 7 “Organization of work” from the proposed agenda of the 159th CPR meeting.
9. The Bureau generally welcomed the planned briefings on the UNEA resolutions 5/2, 5/3, and 5/5 and reiterated the importance of regular briefings to the CPR on the implementation of resolutions 5/8 and 5/14 in particular. One Bureau Member also requested a briefing on the integration of the previous sub-programme on disasters and conflict. Two Bureau Members emphasized the need for equal treatment of all resolutions.
10. The Secretariat highlighted that a full account of the state of implementation for the UNEA-5 resolutions is foreseen to take place at the meeting of the Annual Subcommittee of the CPR, to be held from 24 to 28 October 2022, and that ample information is also made available at the [UNEA resolution online portal](#).
11. The Bureau agreed with the draft agenda for the 159th CPR meeting, as amended with the deletion of agenda item 7.

Item 3: Preparations for the 9th Annual Subcommittee meeting.

12. The Bureau was invited to consider the preparations, organization of work and expected outcome for the 9th Annual Subcommittee meeting, to be held from 24 to 28 October 2022, based on a [draft provisional agenda](#).
13. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to review the annotation to the draft agenda to make it more informative, underlining the need to focus the meeting on reviewing the implementation of the UNEP Mid-Term Strategy and Programme of Work based on a programme performance review, and of the UNEA resolutions, as well as on a discussion about the theme for UNEA-6. One Bureau Member suggested a presentation on the key findings of the recent evaluations and audits. It was suggested that presentations may be thematically structured along the three pillars of UNEP’s work – climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and that oral presentations be kept concise and supplemented with comprehensive written documentation.
14. The Secretariat clarified that the implementation of the new Programme of Work had only just begun, and that for this reason it would not be possible to present a full Programme Performance Review in writing. Instead, the Secretariat will provide concrete examples of how the Programme of Work is being implemented at regional level. The Secretariat further advised against structuring presentations into the three pillars, as some UNEP activities and resolutions are cross-cutting and may not fit within the three strategic themes.
15. The Bureau was in general agreement about the draft provisional and annotated agenda but agreed to allow for some additional time for review due to the late availability of the documents prior to the Bureau Meeting. Possible additional comments on the draft agenda should be sent by Bureau Members to the Chair and the Secretariat by 9 September at the latest.

Item 4: Organization of work.

16. The Bureau was invited to consider the organization of work of the CPR, based on the [Roadmap](#) for UNEP Governing Bodies.
17. The Secretariat notified the Bureau of the postponement of the Secretariat Orientation Session for new CPR Members from 8 to 26 September.
18. The Secretariat informed of a tentative Bureau meeting scheduled for 19 October, to discuss preparations for the 9th Annual Subcommittee Meeting.
19. The Chair reminded of the Joint Bureaux Retreat on 30 and 31 January 2023, which aims to start preparations for UNEA-6 and take decision on its theme.

Item 5: Other matters.

20. One Bureau Member encouraged the Secretariat to organize a briefing on the Management and Resources policies focusing on the results achieved, since the update of several policies on Travel Management, Fraud and SEAH.

Item 6: Closing of the meeting.

21. The meeting closed at 11:30 a.m.

Annex: List of Participants

The Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau Members:

H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Finland to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP
H.E. Mrs. Selma Malika Haddadi, Ambassador of Algeria to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, Vice Chair of the CPR.
H.E. Mr. Erasmo Roberto Martínez, Ambassador of Mexico to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, Vice Chair of the CPR.
H.E. Mrs. Katarina Leligdonova, Ambassador of Slovakia to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
Mr. Ahmed AlOtaibi, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to UNEP, Rapporteur of the CPR.

A representative of the President of the UN Environment Assembly participated in an ex officio capacity:

Ms. Siham Mourabit, Deputy Head of Mission and Deputy Permanent Representative of Morocco to UNEP.

The UN Environment Programme Secretariat was represented by:

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director.
Ms. Sonja Leighton-Kone, Acting Deputy Executive Director.
Mr. Rafael Peralta, Chief of Staff.
Ms. Radhika Ochalik, Secretary of Governing Bodies.
Mr. Ulf Björnholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies.
Mr. Pierre Henri Boileau, Head of the Global Environment Outlook.
Mr. Bruno Pozzi, Deputy Director of the Ecosystems Division.
Mr. Ebrahim Gora, Deputy Director of the Policy and Programme Division.