

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday, 10 November 2022
14:00 – 17:00 (GMT+3)
Conference Room 2, United Nations Office at Nairobi
Hybrid meeting

Draft Chair's Summary

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.

1. H.E. Mr. Erasmo Roberto Martínez, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Mexico to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, opened and chaired the meeting.
2. The agenda was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Update on the preparations for the 1st INC on plastic pollution.

3. The Secretariat provided a [presentation](#) on the [preparations for the first session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee \(INC-1\)](#) to prepare an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, followed by an exchange of views with Member States and Stakeholders.
4. Delegations that took the floor provided the following comments:
 - a. Appreciated the work of the Secretariat in support of the preparations for the first meeting of the INC.
 - b. Expressed support for the INC process, noting the importance of resolving the procedural aspects expeditiously in order to start the substantive work as soon as possible to reach an agreement by the end of 2024.
 - c. Encouraged constructive engagement and stressed the importance of electing a Bureau at the first meeting of the INC with all regional groups represented and adopting the Rules of Procedure of the INC as recommended by the OEWG.
 - d. Called for broad participation and engagement of all relevant stakeholders, highlighting the importance of an inclusive, open and transparent process.
 - e. Suggested that further consideration should be given to the need to bring the negotiations to Nairobi.
 - f. Called for the Secretariat of the convention to be based in the Nairobi HQ.
 - g. Asked the Secretariat for additional information on the funding available to support delegates from developing countries, on the plans for future meetings of the INC and the modalities for possible inter-sessional work of the Committee.
5. The Secretariat thanked delegations for their feedback and guidance and provided the following responses:
 - a. Noted that Member States may wish to review document UNEP/PP/INC.1/INF/4 regarding hosting future INC meetings and to consider the matter at INC-1.
 - b. Confirmed that for INC-1, available funds are only sufficient for the Secretariat to fund 1 delegate from each country from developing countries and economies in transition. Possible funding of two delegates per country to participate at future INC meetings will depend on the availability of additional funds.

- c. Clarified that the working documents available in English only are marked labelled as "advance version" and that they will become final once they are made available in all 6 United Nations languages.
- d. Noted, regarding legal modalities for INC-1, that the rules of procedure of UNEA will apply, *mutatis mutantis*, to the INC until the Committee decides to adopt its own rules.
- e. Informed that a report on the sessions of the multi-stakeholder forum, taking place on 26 November 2022, will be provided to the INC meeting in the form of an information document.
- f. Stated, concerning the accreditation of NGOs to UNEP for participation in INC-1, that an information document with a list of all registered non-governmental organizations will be issued prior to the meeting.
- g. Informed that the INC is expected to decide on future inter-sessional work at each of its meetings.

Agenda item 3: Update on outcomes of recent GEO-7 meetings and next steps.

- 6. The Secretariat provided a [presentation](#) on the [outcomes of the recent meetings of the seventh Global Environment Outlook \(GEO-7\)](#) and the next steps forward, providing an opportunity for UNEP and delegations to reflect upon its successes and lessons learned for the future.
- 7. Delegations that took the floor welcomed the presentation and provided the following comments:
 - a. Thanked the Secretariat for well-organised and successful open-ended ad hoc intergovernmental meetings for the procedures and scoping of GEO-7.
 - b. Re-affirmed their support for the solutions-oriented GEO-7 and reiterated the importance of a solid GEO process.
 - c. Sought clarification on the GEO funding situation and on the different funding scenarios and asked how Member States may contribute.
 - d. Requested the Secretariat to provide a briefing on the findings in the UNEP 2022 Adaptation Gap Report.
- 8. The Secretariat thanked delegations for their feedback and guidance and provided the following clarifications:
 - a. Noted the high level of interest and participation in the process, as evidenced at the two inaugural meetings of the GEO-7.
 - b. Explained that the Secretariat is working on revised budget estimates to be included in the final scoping document for approval by the GEO experts, with the total budget for GEO-7 estimated at about 11 million US dollars, of which about 6.2 million US dollars are secured through core funds and an additional 4.1 million US dollars would be mobilised from extrabudgetary sources.
 - c. Recalled that while GEO is a flagship report of UNEP based on a detailed UNEA mandate outlined in the relevant resolution to consult periodically with the CPR on key elements, other UNEP reports are subject to regionally balanced scientific peer review processes. The Secretariat also clarified that it stands ready to provide briefings to the CPR on the findings of other UNEP reports, upon request by Member States through the CPR Chair and Bureau.

Agenda item 4: 2022 Annual Report to the Committee of Permanent Representatives on UNEP's Private Sector Engagement.

- 9. The Secretariat provided a [presentation](#) on the [2022 Annual Report to the Committee of Permanent Representatives on UNEP's Private Sector Engagement](#) followed by an exchange of views with Member States and Stakeholders.
- 10. Delegations that took the floor welcomed the presentation and provided the following comments:
 - a. Sought additional information on how monitoring and reporting is done in this area.
 - b. Highlighted the importance of private sector and multistakeholder engagement to

strengthen the implementation of UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work.

- c. Requested the Secretariat to provide additional analytical briefings to the CPR on the implementation of the 2019 UNEP Strategy for Private Sector Engagement, which is under review to ensure alignment it with the UNEP Mid Term Strategy 2022-2025, including with regard to 1) geographical distribution, 2) financial relationship with private sector stakeholders, 3) preferred areas of expanded partnerships with the private sector and potential challenges, and 4) criteria and due diligence elements to initiate and maintain private sector partnerships.

11. The Secretariat thanked delegations for their feedback and guidance and provided the following clarifications:

- a. Noted that a new monitoring and reporting mechanism is applied for private sector partnerships, which also indicates the contribution to the implementation of UNEP's Programme of Work as well as to relevant SDGs, and that UNEP policies and procedures on how UNEP engages with the private sector are fully applied.
- b. Agreed to make the next report more analytical in relation to the Mid Term Strategy by applying using the newly introduced Client Relation Management Database, and to include additional information on geographical distribution of private sector partnerships.
- c. Noted the request for additional Secretariat briefings to the CPR on the implementation and review of the UNEP Strategy for Private Sector Engagement.

Agenda item 5: Other matters.

12. No other matters were raised.

Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting.

13. The meeting closed at 16:45.