

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Monday, 5 December 2022
9:00 – 11:00 (GMT +3)
Conference Room 9
Hybrid meeting

Chair's Summary

Agenda 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. The agenda was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Preparation for the 160th meeting of the CPR.

3. The Bureau was invited to consider the preparations for the 160th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) scheduled for 8 December 2022, based on a draft annotated agenda.
4. The Secretariat briefed on the preparation for the 160th CPR meeting. The Acting Deputy Executive Director informed Bureau members that the Executive Director would attend this meeting virtually as she will be in Montreal attending the COP15 meeting of the Convention of Biological Diversity.
5. Bureau Members welcomed the status of preparations for the 160th CPR meeting.

Agenda item 3: Implementation of paragraph 41(j) of the Chair's Summary of the 9th annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

6. The Secretariat presented a proposal on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraph 41 (j) of the Chair's Summary of the 9th annual subcommittee meeting for consideration and further guidance by the Bureau.
7. The proposals prepared by the Secretariat were generally welcomed. Two Bureau Members informed the meeting that they had yet to undertake consultations with their regional groups.
8. One Bureau Member provided comments on behalf of a regional group as follows:
 - a) Expressed some concerns with regard to the proposal to include a standing agenda item the state of preparations for the next UNEA session, while not having a corresponding standing agenda item on to address the Committee's mandate to provide oversight and review of the UNEP Programme of Work and adopted UNEA resolutions.
 - b) Questioned whether it is appropriate to address issues relating to UNEP audits and evaluations under the standing agenda item "Any other business".
 - c) Flagged that some of the deadlines for meeting documentation may need further

review.

- d) Requested further clarity from the Legal Advisor on the decision making powers of the CPR and the role of the chair in that context.
9. Another Bureau Member asked for clarification on how a Member State could propose additional agenda items to the CPR agenda.
10. The Secretariat provided the following comments:
- a) Clarified that the standard procedure for introducing an agenda item by Member States is by approaching the Secretariat or the chair of the CPR directly.
 - b) Clarified that the intention behind the proposed standing agenda was not to diminish the Committee's important role on review and oversight, but that this would be partly covered in under the items "Report of the Executive Director" and "Report of the subcommittee". In light of the comments made, the Secretariat also committed to review the titles of the draft standing agenda.
 - c) Clarified also that the reason for including audits and evaluations under the AOB item instead of creating a self-standing item was that such matters may not be relevant to address at every quarterly CPR meeting.
 - d) Suggested that the Legal Advisor may provide further clarity on the decision-making powers of the CPR at the upcoming meeting.

Agenda item 4: Other matters.

11. The Chair provided an update on the nominations of the co-chairs of the inter-governmental regional consultations on Minerals and Metals, whereby the Secretariat had received two nominations by the deadline of 14th November; one from the global North and one from the global south. He further informed the Bureau of his intention to write to the UNEA-6 President with copies to both the UNEA bureau and the CPR bureau and recommend nominating the two sole nominees.

Agenda item 5: Closing of the meeting.

12. The meeting closed at 10:10 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 , 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. Ms. Katarina Leligdonova, Ambassador of Slovakia to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, Vice Chair of the CPR.

H.E. Ms. Selma Malika Haddadi, Ambassador of Algeria to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, Vice Chair of the CPR, as was represented by Mr. Billel Hassani, Deputy Permanent Representative of Algeria to Kenya.

Absent: Mr. Ahmed AlOtaibi, Third Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom 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 Program Secretariat was Represented by:

Ms. Sonja Leighton- Kone, The Acting Deputy Executive Director

Mr. Rafael Peralta, Chief of Staff.

Mr. Ulf Björnholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies.