

Committee of Permanent Representatives  
Subcommittee Meeting  
Nairobi, 23 March 2023  
14:00 – 17:00 (GMT+3)  
Hybrid meeting  
Conference room 1 & Microsoft Teams

### **Chair's Summary**

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

1. H.E. Mrs. Katarina Žuffa Leligdonová, Vice Chair, Ambassador of Slovakia to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP opened the meeting.
2. The delegation of Malawi took the floor to deliver a statement on the serious adverse impacts of the Tropical Cyclone Freddie in their country, as well as in Mozambique and Malawi, and thanked for the relief support from the international community.
3. The [agenda](#) was adopted.

#### **Agenda item 2: Briefing on the preparation of the 7<sup>th</sup> Global Environment Outlook report**

4. The Secretariat provided a [briefing](#) on the preparation of the [7<sup>th</sup> Global Environment Outlook \(GEO-7\)](#), followed by an exchange of views with Member States and Stakeholders.
5. Delegations that took the floor<sup>1</sup> provided the following comments:
  - a. Expressed solidarity with Malawi, Madagascar and Mozambique regarding the adverse impacts of Tropical Cyclone Freddie.
  - b. Welcomed the progress made towards GEO-7, noting the usefulness of these briefings to the CPR.
  - c. Took note of the call for nominations of authors and the need to ensure gender and geographical balance, and welcomed guidance from the Secretariat regarding expert requirements for such nominations.
  - d. Welcomed the inclusion of indigenous and local knowledge in the process.
  - e. Requested clarification on the status of the nomination procedure for the Multidisciplinary Expert's Scientific Advisory Group (MESAG), as well as on when the list of the 116 experts selected as GEO-7 authors will be shared.
  - f. The Secretariat thanked delegations for their comments and guidance, invited further nominations of authors and regional experts especially in the fields of indigenous and ocean expertise, clarified that the names and nationalities of the authors will be shared with Member States as soon as possible, and highlighted that nominations for MESAG opened in early November and closed on 15 December 2022 and that the group has reached its full membership.

#### **Agenda item 3: Briefing on the International Methane Emissions Observatory**

6. The Secretariat provided a [briefing](#) on the [International Methane Emissions Observatory \(IMEO\)](#), followed by an exchange of views with Member States and Stakeholders.
7. Delegations that took the floor<sup>2</sup> provided the following comments:
  - a. Welcomed UNEP's work to develop the IMEO, as well as the Methane Alert Response System (MARS) and the Climate and the support to the Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), to provide

---

<sup>1</sup> Colombia, Kenya, European Union, France

<sup>2</sup> Norway, European Union, Kenya, Canada, France, Finland, Children and Youth

- accurate and updated information on methane emissions.
- b. Highlighted the adverse impacts of methane emissions (especially for some regions such as the Arctic) and recalled that rapid action to reduce methane emissions remains one of the most important measures to limit global warming in the short and medium term.
  - c. Underscored the need for consistent quality assurance and control methods, as variances occur between satellite measurements and emission quantification models.
  - d. Noted the importance of reducing methane emissions while maintaining sustainable livelihoods for families dependent on the agricultural sector and welcomed the initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization to develop a tier two inventory for livestock that will assist on measuring, reporting, and verification of methane emissions from the agriculture sector.
  - e. Highlighted the need for UNEP to assess the accountability of private sector stakeholders for methane emissions, further noting that innovative approaches, such as youth engagement through capacity building, can be considered as a means to reduce methane emissions.
  - f. Requested clarification on whether UNEP will extend the implementation of the MARS to the agriculture and waste sectors and whether the system will identify intentional emissions in addition to accidental leakages.
8. The Secretariat thanked delegations for their engagement and provided the following comments:
- a. Clarified that UNEP will report on all methane emissions events that pass the threshold of detection, including both preventable and accidental emissions.
  - b. Confirmed the challenge of addressing methane emissions from the agriculture sector, and that UNEP is focusing on the oil and gas sector because solutions in this sector are significantly cost-effective.
  - c. Acknowledged the importance of accountability and responsibility, and the need to ensure that action to reduce methane emissions is evidence-based.
  - d. Noted that as detection technologies advance, the MARS system will detect methane emissions both in the oil and gas sector and in other sectors, including agriculture and waste.

**Agenda item 4: Briefing on the UNEP report “Bracing for Superbugs: Strengthening environmental action in the ‘One Health response to antimicrobial resistance’”.**

9. The Secretariat provided a [briefing](#) on the UNEP report [“Bracing for Superbugs: Strengthening environmental action in the ‘One Health response to antimicrobial resistance’”](#), followed by an exchange of views with Member States and Stakeholders.
10. Delegations that took the floor<sup>3</sup> provided the following comments:
- a. Welcomed the publication of the report on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), which integrates the One Health approach through the quadripartite partnership among UNEP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and the World Health Organization.
  - b. Expressed strong concerns with the AMR situation, recommending that UNEP develops solutions to address the issue, raises public awareness among the general public, and promotes capacity building among targeted audiences, such as providers of human and animal healthcare, and the youth.
  - c. Recommended an increase in international cooperation to address poverty, health and sanitary systems in developing countries to effectively address the driving factors of AMR.
  - d. Recommended to consider using the term ‘anthropogenic antimicrobial pollution’ instead of ‘antimicrobial resistance’ to increase accuracy in analyses of the topic.
  - e. Recommended the Secretariat provide recommendations on how to establish an effective governance system to address the topic of AMR through cooperation and multilateralism.
11. The Secretariat thanked delegations for their comments and guidance and provided the following comments:

---

<sup>3</sup> United States, Kenya, European Union, France, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Children and Youth

- a. Highlighted the interest in developing National Action Plans on AMR, which enact policies and regulatory frameworks to reduce pollution emanating from the pharmaceutical sector, the health sector, municipalities, and from the overuse of harmful pesticides.
- b. Underscored the need to reduce risks of AMR through voluntary interventions, and that actions are required throughout the supply chain.
- c. Highlighted that UNEP is working with several sectors within the Chemicals and Waste Beyond 2020 process, including the pharmaceuticals sector, with a view to agree on concrete targets and objectives in this area.
- d. Highlighted that UNEP is further developing an AMR program aimed to expand its work with industry actors and strengthen surveillance to identify AMR hotspots, and underscored the need for additional resources to support this work.

**Agenda item 5: Other matters**

12. One delegation welcomes the new online attendance registration system for delegates, and requested clarification on whether it will be expanded, as well as advance notice about the implementation of such novelties.
13. Another delegation requested clarification on whether UNEP will hold any activities during the upcoming International Day of Zero waste to be held on 30 March 2023.
14. The Secretariat took note of the comments regarding the online registration system and committed to share relevant information about the observance of the International Day of Zero Waste on 30 March 2023 with all delegations within short.

**Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting.**

15. The meeting closed at 17:00 (GMT+3).