

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Subcommittee Meeting
Nairobi, 5 October 2023
10:00 – 13:00 (GMT+3)
Hybrid meeting
Conference Room 2 (in person)
and Microsoft Teams (online)

Chair's Summary

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

1. H. E. Mr. Gunnar Andreas Holm, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), Ambassador of Norway to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Environment Programme, opened the meeting.
2. The [agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Briefing on the United for Efficiency Country Saving Assessments – Energy-Efficient and Climate Friendly Appliances and Equipment.

3. The Secretariat provided a [briefing on the United for Efficiency Country Saving Assessments – Energy-Efficient and Climate Friendly Appliances and Equipment](#).
4. Delegations that took the floor¹ welcomed the presentation and provided the following comments in summary:
 - a. Requested clarification on the methodology, including assessment development, sources of data, data availability, and country selection criteria.
 - b. Requested further clarification on the relation between the assessments and other UNEP ongoing projects and initiatives, in particular the [Global Cooling Pledge](#) and [Buildings Breakthrough](#).
 - c. Requested further collaboration with Member States on the selection criteria to support developing countries and emerging economies.
 - d. Requested further clarification on the role of UNEA in these assessments, their funding base and national partners.
 - e. Recommended a wider scope of global assessment, including a forecast, as well as further engagement with national stakeholders.
5. The Secretariat in response thanked delegations for their comments and provided the following clarifications:

¹ Indonesia, Netherlands (The Kingdom of the), China, Kenya.

- a) The data is collected from multiple sources, including country questionnaires, national and regional organizations, individual projects and manufacturers, and the process is always updated according to changing circumstances.
- b) An integrated policy approach was developed based on the experience from stakeholders and projects, and its effectiveness in providing a sustainable market transformation has been demonstrated through its practical application.
- c) United for Efficiency is complementary to the [Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction \(GlobalABC\)](#) on the energy efficiency of new building construction and retrofits.
- d) UNEP convenes and leads the execution of the United for Efficiency partnership, which receives the main funding from the Global Environment Facility, with additional and increasing funding from philanthropic and other sources, aimed at expansion of assessments toward more countries.
- e) The United for Efficiency Secretariat would be pleased to undertake bilateral discussions to provide further clarifications and explore opportunities for support.

Agenda item 3: Briefing on the consultation process for Nature-based solutions.

6. The Secretariat provided a [briefing on the consultation process for Nature-based solutions \(NbS\)](#).
7. The delegation of Costa Rica, in their capacity as Co-Chair of the global consultations on NbS, provided an update on the final round of intergovernmental consultations, held in-person at the United Nations Office in Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya, from 9 to 13 October 2023, and comprising both regional and global consultations.
8. Delegations that took the floor² welcomed the presentation and provided the following comments in summary:
 - a) Noted the significant interest expressed by delegations with regard to the upcoming Consultations in Nairobi and the development of a Co-Chairs summary and recommendations, which will support the implementation of NbS.
 - b) Noted the importance of further building a solid evidence base for NbS and recommended the development of an open platform for compiling and sharing examples of best practices.
 - c) Expressed concern about possible efforts to re-write UNEA resolution 5/5 and advised against bringing the outcome of the consultation process to UNEA-6.
 - d) Highlighted the importance of considering critical aspects of financing, indigenous knowledge, and diverging opinions regarding climate mitigation in the upcoming NbS consultations.
 - e) Noted the potential relevance of the outcomes of the upcoming NbS consultations to other multi-lateral processes, including the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
 - f) Highlighted the need for inclusivity in the consultation process and recognized that some

² Nigeria, European Union, Brazil, Argentina, Denmark, United States, Kenya, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Chile.

countries may have small delegations.

9. The Secretariat in response thanked delegations for their comments and provided the following clarifications:
 - a) Acknowledged the need for adequate financial resources for the implementation of NbS.
 - b) While NbS can contribute to climate mitigation, it should be additional to decarbonization interventions.
 - c) Additional updates to the CPR on the consultation process will be provided, upon request.
 - d) The NbS Secretariat will continue to engage closely with the CBD Secretariat.
 - e) The upcoming in-person NbS consultations are structured so that all participants can attend all panels and sessions, except for the regional sessions which will be running in parallel.

Agenda item 4: Briefing on the preparations for INC-3 on plastic pollution.

10. The Secretariat provided a [briefing on the preparations for the INC-3 on plastic pollution](#).
11. Delegations that took the floor³ welcomed the presentation and provided the following comments in summary:
 - a) Appreciated the efforts of the Chair of the INC and the Secretariat to develop a [zero-draft text of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment](#), and commended the timely publishing of the document towards the goal of finalizing an agreement by the end of 2024.
 - b) Supported the proposal to divide the INC agenda into contact groups, suggesting that their outputs should be further considered by intersessional expert groups towards INC-4, with focus on financial mechanisms, capacity building, technical assistance, and cooperation on science, technology, and innovation, further noting that this will be crucial for a successful execution of the future instrument.
 - c) Requested additional information on the preparatory meeting mandated by INC-2 and on the hosting of side events at INC-3.
 - d) Suggested to limit the number and length of parallel activities at INC-3 in order to avoid overburdening delegations.
 - e) Referred to a recent report published by the Nordic countries titled "[Towards Ending Plastic Pollution by 2040](#)" that concludes that global rules are needed to end plastic pollution by 2040.
 - f) The delegation of the United States of America announced an additional voluntary contribution of 1.5 million US dollars to the INC.
12. The Secretariat in response thanked delegations for their comments and provided the following clarifications:
 - a) The Chair of the INC intends to request co-facilitators to provide an oral summary of the meeting to the Committee at its third session, which will be reflected in the INC-3 report.
 - b) Upon advice from the Bureau of the INC, there will be no viewer mode for contact groups

³ United States, Brazil, Norway, Argentina, Finland, Kenya, Indonesia, Switzerland, Costa Rica, Portugal.

provided at INC-3, and all plenaries will be streamed on UN TV.

- c) The 12 thematic side-events from INC-2 will be maintained throughout INC-3, and a Secretariat notification on the same will be circulated shortly.

Agenda item 5: Implementation of paragraph 41(j) of the Chair’s Summary of the 9th Annual Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

13. The Secretariat presented the draft guidance in the background document for the 163rd meeting of the Committee, titled “[Implementation of paragraph 41\(j\) of the Chair’s Summary of the 9th Annual Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.](#)”
14. Delegations that took the floor⁴ suggested that the draft guidance should be revised to provide more clarity on the role of the CPR subcommittees, how the subcommittee agendas are determined, how to ensure that the implementation of UNEA resolutions are covered in the proposed standing agenda, and how to best capture possible recommendations and decisions in the summary and minutes of the CPR quarterly meetings.
15. The Secretariat, in response, thanked delegations for their comments and proposed to reach out to the delegations concerned with a view to develop a revised version of the draft guidance, for final consideration at the 163rd meeting of the CPR, to be held on 31 October 2023.

Agenda item 6: Other matters.

16. One delegation requested a preview of the seventh Global Environment Outlook (GEO-7) for CPR members.
17. One delegation reflected on the success of the [5th session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management \(ICCM 5\)](#), which resulted in the adoption of a global framework on chemicals titled ‘[A Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste](#)’, and encouraged other Member States to consider financial contributions to implement the new framework.
18. The Secretariat provided a brief update on preparations for the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6).

Agenda item 7: Closing of the meeting.

19. The meeting closed at 13:00 (GMT+3).

⁴ Argentina, Brazil, Portugal, Netherlands (The Kingdom of the).