

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Tuesday, 24 October 2023
10:00 – 12:00 (GMT +3)
Executive Office Boardroom
Hybrid meeting

Chair's Summary

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

1. His Excellency Firas Khouri, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, opened and chaired the meeting.
2. The [agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Preparations for the resumed 162nd meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the 163rd meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR).

3. The secretariat presented the preparations for the resumed 162nd meeting of the CPR and the 163rd meeting, followed by an exchange of views with the Bureau members.
4. One Bureau member informed that regarding the implementation of paragraph 41j of the Chair's summary of the 9th annual subcommittee of the CPR, a separate process started after the 5 October subcommittee meeting among the Deputy Permanent Representatives to contribute substantial proposals for the next CPR quarterly meeting. The idea is to liaise informally with the secretariat beforehand to ensure this topic can be settled at the resumed 162nd CPR meeting. Regarding the Executive Director's report, the Bureau member recommended keeping the presentations as focused as possible and presenting challenges and opportunities.
5. One Bureau member enquired about the difference between the CPR quarterly meetings and the CPR subcommittee meetings and asked for clarification on the distinguished tasks of the two bodies.
6. The secretariat informed that, following the 5 October subcommittee meeting, the secretariat had a meeting with concerned delegations, where the role of the CPR quarterly meetings and the CPR subcommittee meetings was discussed, including how best to capture the recommendations and conclusions from the CPR subcommittee meetings to be endorsed at the CPR quarterly meetings as well as the decisions of the CPR quarterly meeting. The secretariat informed that further to the consultations a revised document has been made available and expressed hope that the document can be endorsed at the resumed 162nd meeting.
7. The secretariat also explained that the CPR subcommittee meetings are informal

meetings and are mostly for briefings by the secretariat on the implementation of the Programme of Work and UNEA resolutions, as well as on important developments of MEAs and other relevant environmental-related intergovernmental processes. Meanwhile, the quarterly meetings of the CPR, which take place every three months, are formal meetings held with interpretation and one of the key item to be discussed is the report of the ED.

Agenda item 3: Update on the preparations for the tenth annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

8. The secretariat provided an update on the preparations for the tenth annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, scheduled to take place from 20 to 24 November 2023, followed by an exchange of views.
9. One Bureau member requested the expected item agenda for discussion at the CPR Bureau meetings scheduled for Wednesday, 22 November and Friday, 24 November and welcomed the allocation of time and room for the meetings of the regional groups. The Bureau member suggested having a brief explanation under each item agenda of the provisional agenda to clarify what is expected or requested from Member States and asked the Secretariat to present the “5 lines of defence” and an update on the gender strategy.
10. The secretariat informed that the CPR Bureau meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 22 November, will take stock of progress made and see if the structure needs to be revised for the rest of the week in case there is a need for more time for the consideration of any agenda item. The CPR Bureau meeting scheduled for 24 November will review the draft Chair summary, circulated on Thursday, 23 November, in the afternoon. The draft summary will be considered at the plenary on Friday, 24 November, in the afternoon for endorsement.
11. The Executive Director, in response, explained that the secretariat has “3 lines of defence”, which will be presented at the tenth annual subcommittee meeting of the CPR.
12. The Secretariat took note of the comment made regarding the annotated agenda and committed to revising the document.
13. The Chair emphasized the need to ensure that all documents are made available well in advance of the meeting.

Agenda item 4: Organization of work.

14. The Bureau was invited to consider the organization of work of the CPR based on the [roadmap](#) for the UN Environment Programme Governing Bodies.
15. The Bureau requested the secretariat to provide information regarding the roadmap that will extend into 2024.
16. The secretariat clarified that the roadmap for 2024 is already accessible and further

explained that two additional CPR subcommittee meetings per week will be scheduled from mid-January until the start of the sixth meeting of the open-ended CPR in mid-February 2024. These CPR subcommittee meetings will serve as informal consultations on draft resolutions and draft decisions of UNEA-6. A revised roadmap will be considered at the next CPR Bureau meeting.

17. Regarding the division of labour within the CPR Bureau, the CPR Chair informed that he would chair the CPR subcommittee meetings scheduled for 7 and 30 November. The Vice-Chair from Norway volunteered to chair the CPR subcommittee meeting on 14 December. Regarding the 10th annual subcommittee meeting, the Bureau asked the secretariat to provide a document indicating the sessions to be chaired by the CPR Chair and the open sessions for Bureau members to express their availability to chair them.

Agenda item 5: Other matters.

18. One Bureau member, referring to the options paper on the alignment of the UNEA cycles, requested when to expect the revised version of this document, including the elaboration of various options related to the topic.
19. The secretariat informed that the revised options paper on UNEA cycles will be available early next week for discussion at the 10th annual subcommittee meeting of the CPR. The revised version took into consideration the comments provided at the 18 July CPR subcommittee meeting to reflect better the alignment with the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review.
20. One Bureau member requested an update on possible draft resolutions for UNEA-6.
21. The Executive Director informed the Bureau that some ideas are emerging from the regional ministerial fora. She added that her report to UNEA-6, circulated on 10 October, highlighted some ideas and inspiration that Member States may wish to consider.

Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting.

22. The meeting closed at 11:30 (GMT+3).

Annex: List of Participants

The Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau Members:

H. E. Mr. Firas Khouri, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP.

H. E. Mr. Wael Nasreldin Attiya, Vice Chair of the Committee, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and Permanent Representative to UNEP,

H. E. Ms. Nicol Adamcová, Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ambassador of Czechia to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP.

H. E. Mr. Gunnar Andreas Holm, Vice Chair of the Committee, Ambassador of Norway to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP.

Mr. Jovan Bernard Reid, Deputy Head of Mission of the Permanent Mission of Barbados.

Representatives of the President of the UN Environment Assembly participating in an ex-officio capacity:

Mr. Abderrazzak Laassel, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Morocco to UNEP.

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

The UN Environment Program Secretariat was represented by:

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director.

Mr. Nicholas Bertrand, Chief of Staff.

Ms. Radhika Ochalik, Secretary of Governing Bodies.

Mr. Stadler Trengove, Principal Legal Adviser