United Nations



Distr.: General 4 January 2024

English only



United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

164th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme Nairobi, 25 January 2024 Conference Room 2 10:00 – 13:00 (GMT+3) Hybrid meeting

Report of the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

- Since the 163rd meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, held on 31 October 2023, six meetings of the subcommittee of the Committee, as well as the 10th meeting of the annual subcommittee of the CPR have taken place. Detailed meeting agendas, background documentation, and meeting summaries are available on the respective meeting webpages, with links provided below.
- 2. At the <u>subcommittee meeting held on 7 November 2023</u>, Member States considered a briefing on the UNEP Working Group on Nitrogen, a briefing on the implementation of UNEA resolution 5/12 on Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals Management and a presentation on the preparations for the 10th annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee. Several questions were raised by Member States, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
- 3. At the <u>10th annual subcommittee meeting held from 20 to 24 November 2023</u>, Member States considered the state of implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2022-2023 of UNEP, preparations for the UNEA-6, the funding base of UNEP, and futures perspectives on environmental multilateralism. The outcome of the meeting is reflected in the <u>Chair's meeting summary</u>. Key issues for follow up were considered at the subcommittee meeting held on 4 December, resulting in a draft decision (see paragraphs 4 and 5).

- 4. At the <u>subcommittee meeting held on 4 December 2023</u>, Member States considered a briefing on the Second Session of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on a Science Policy Panel, a briefing on the Global Resources Outlook 2024 report, a presentation on the preparations for the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, a briefing on the UN Secretary General's initiative on Harnessing Critical Energy Transition Minerals for Sustainable Development in Least Developed and Land-Locked Developing Countries Just Transitions in Low Carbon Technologies, a briefing on the Agreement on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, and draft recommendations from the 10th annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. Several questions were raised by Member States, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
- 5. With regard to the agenda item on draft recommendations from the 10th annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the subcommittee held on 4 December recommended to submit the following draft decision for consideration and possible adoption at the 164th meeting of the CPR scheduled for 25 January 2024:

The Committee of Permanent Representatives,

- i. *Endorses* the Chair's summary of the 10th annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, held in Nairobi from 20 to 24 November 2023, and *requests* the Secretariat to take into account the comments made by Member States, including when preparing for future CPR and subcommittee meetings as well as the annual subcommittee meetings;
- ii. *Requests* the Secretariat to provide the responses in an information document to the questions and comments by Member States during the 10th annual subcommittee meeting that were not fully addressed by the Secretariat in the course of the session, following notification by Member States of such outstanding questions and comments;
- iii. *Requests* the Secretariat to brief Member States on any intended significant changes to UNEP's organizational structure before the changes are made;
- iv. *Taking note* of the presentation on UNEPs action to strengthen protection against sexual and any other type of exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in the workplace, *encourages* the Executive Director to further develop indicators and systems, building on UN system-wide tools and mechanisms, to effectively ensure and monitor that all personnel, implementing partners and beneficiaries are adequately protected against sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment and to ensure that victims and survivors are put at the center of UNEP's approach;
- v. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare, in consultation with the bureau, a strategic scheduling plan of subcommittee and OECPR meetings to allow for effective,

inclusive, and participatory consultations and negotiations on draft UNEA resolutions and decisions, to avoid the scheduling of more than two parallel meetings during the OECPR and UNEA, and to make the plan available to Member States as early as possible and before the end of 2023;

- vi. *Encourages* the Presidency of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the CPR Chair to guide the appointed co-facilitators to organize, as appropriate, early consultations with Major Groups and Stakeholders, to collect views and positions on draft resolutions for possible consideration by Member States, and *encourages* proponents of resolutions to engage with the Major Groups and Stakeholders Facilitating Committee, with the support of the secretariat;
- vii. *Reminds* all Member States to proactively revisit their financial support to UNEP *and encourages* contributions at their full share according to their Voluntary Indicative Scale of Contributions (VISC) to ensure that UNEP can be strengthened and can successfully implement its Programme of Work;
- viii. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue exploring alternative sources of funding, and analyze and address the barriers of engaging with new funding sources.
- 6. At the subcommittee meetings held on <u>11 January</u>, <u>16 January</u>, <u>18 January</u>, and <u>23 January</u> <u>2024</u>, proponents of draft resolutions and decisions introduced their drafts and the Secretariat presented the technical notes on the drafts, followed by an exchange of view with interested delegations, as part of the consultation process in preparation for the adoption of the political outcomes of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.