

Committee of Permanent Representatives  
Subcommittee Meeting  
Nairobi, 27 June 2024  
9:00-12:00 (GMT+3)  
Hybrid meeting  
Conference Room 3 (in person)  
and Microsoft Teams (online)

### **Draft 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 and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway to United Nations Environment Programme, opened the meeting.
2. The [agenda](#) was adopted.

#### **Agenda item 2: Briefing on the 2023 Annual Report on UNEP's Private Sector Engagement.**

3. The Secretariat presented a briefing on the [2023 Annual Report on UNEP's Private Sector Engagement](#), covering the reporting period September 2022-August 2023 and highlighting UNEP's monitoring of private sector partnerships.
4. Delegations<sup>1</sup> that took the floor welcomed the presentation and provided the following comments in summary:
  - a. Appreciated that robust due diligence measures were clearly highlighted in the report.
  - b. Welcomed the shift from a bilateral approach to multi-stakeholder partnerships and sectoral industry engagements.
  - c. Noted that i) the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC) process and ii) the search for nature finance solutions within the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are key opportunities for UNEP to forge structured partnerships between the private and public sectors for a more circular economy.
  - d. Sought clarity on UNEP's value proposition to the private sector, requesting further information on:
    - i. UNEP's outreach and incentives for businesses in green transitions.
    - ii. UNEP's work to develop incentives for businesses and sectors that have not yet shown willingness to change their practices.
    - iii. UNEP's efforts to promote a balanced focus on the three environmental planetary crises in private sector engagement, particularly in balancing between climate and pollution crises.
  - e. Enquired which lessons learned from the implementation of the current UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) could be included in the next MTS for the period 2026-2029 with respect to UNEP's private sector engagement.

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<sup>1</sup> Norway, European Union, United States of America, Nigeria.

- f. Requested additional details on UNEP’s corporate engagement with foundations and philanthropy with a view to diversifying its funding sources.
  - g. Noted positive partnerships addressing climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss and encouraged UNEP to also partner on other challenges like desertification and flooding.
  - h. Commended the incubation program Restoration Factory launched by UNEP, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and [Bridge for Billions](#), along with the support of Partnerships For Forests (P4F), which aims at building capacity for ecological entrepreneurs (ecopreneurs) and requested further details regarding the procedure for becoming an ecopreneur.
5. In response, the Secretariat thanked delegations for their comments and provided the following clarifications:
- a. Highlighted UNEP's strength in bringing up science-based policy and decisions, making it a strong partner for the private sector and emphasized UNEP's technical expertise, in that regard.
  - b. Noted UNEP's role in convening dialogue between policymakers, businesses, and scientists.
  - c. Committed to bringing more clarity regarding UNEP’s value proposition to the private sector in future reports on the private sector engagement strategy and during the development of the next MTS.
  - d. Commented that the focus of UNEP’s private sector engagement was mainly on climate within the business community due to the better understanding and advanced maturity of the business community in that area while recognizing the importance of addressing nature and pollution, acknowledging emerging changes in these areas.
  - e. Highlighted the World Economic Forum’s [Global Risk Report 2024](#), noting the recognition of environmental risks by industry leaders, and its insights into business priorities.
  - f. Welcomed the opportunity to share and receive feedback on the philanthropic strategy which is currently being developed.
  - g. Highlighted the interlinkages between climate, biodiversity, and food, aiming to help businesses understand these connections.
  - h. Mentioned the [One Plastics Initiative](#) which targets a systemic approach regarding challenges related to plastics, in collaboration with the private sector.
  - i. Offered to provide more information on the ecopreneurs registration process after the meeting.

### **Agenda item 3: Review of UNEP Thematic Programmes.**

6. The Secretariat provided a review of the following two UNEP thematic programmes: “[Adaptation and Resilience](#)” and “[Decarbonization](#)”.
7. Delegations<sup>2</sup> that took the floor welcomed the presentation and provided the following comments in summary:
  - a. Requested the Secretariat to elaborate on lessons learned and how UNEP has deepened its relationship with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the

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<sup>2</sup> United States of America.

International Energy Agency (IEA) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

- b. Requested the Secretariat to provide information on UNEP's planned engagement at the World Urban Forum (WUF) as UNEP has mentioned that WUF will be used to promote a multi-level governance approach on decarbonization.
8. In response, the Secretariat thanked delegations for their comments and provided the following clarifications:
- a. Acknowledged that UNEP is discussing integrating IRENA into the net zero nature positive programme to assess capacities for increasing renewables and evaluating trade-offs with sustainable land use and biodiversity corridors, while UNEP, IEA, and IRENA work on tracking pledges to triple renewables and double energy efficiency by identifying necessary indicators for global tracking.
  - b. Highlighted that UNEP collaborates more closely with the UNFCCC, for instance on the Nationally Determined Contributions 3.0 regional forums.
  - c. Noted that UNEP is planning several engagements at WUF 12 to be held in November 2024 in Cairo, Egypt, including a meeting under the sub-national track of the [Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction \(GlobalABC\)](#), as well as a side-event on sub-national governments' action on sustainable buildings and construction. Further noted that UNEP also is invited to a plenary round table on climate.

**Agenda item 4: Other matters.**

9. No other matters were raised.

**Agenda item 5: Closing of the meeting.**

10. The meeting closed at 11:00 (GMT+3).