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United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

167th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme
Nairobi, 12 September 2024
Conference Room 2
10:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)
Hybrid meeting

Draft report of the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

- 1. Since the 166th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, held on 13 June 2024, three meetings of the subcommittee of the Committee 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 subcommittee meeting held on 27 June 2024:
 - a. Member States heard a briefing on the 2023 Annual Report on UNEP's Private Sector Engagement and a briefing on two of UNEP's thematic programmes, namely "Adaptation and Resilience" and "Decarbonization" thematic programmes.
 - b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
 - c. The outcome of the meeting is reflected in the Chair's meeting summary.
- 3. At the 11th annual subcommittee meeting held from 8 to 12 July 2024:
 - a. Member States considered the state of implementation UNEP's 2022-2023 programme of work and budget, UNEP's biennial evaluation synthesis report 2022-2023, the contribution of the regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities to UNEP's medium-term strategy and programme of work, the coordination within the United Nations system on the environment through the Environment Management Group, UNEP's funding outlook, opportunities and challenges, the roadmap for the development of UNEP's next medium-term strategy for the period 2026 to 2029 and programme of work for the period 2026-2027, and the theme for UNEA-7.

- b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses. The outcome of the meeting is reflected in the Chair's meeting summary.
- c. Some members of the subcommittee proposed draft recommendations for further consideration and possible adoption by the CPR at its 167th quarterly meeting, as follows:
 - 1. Requests the Secretariat to identify challenges and explore opportunities to enhance sustainable finance for climate adaptation, for biodiversity action and the implementation of the KM-GBF and for pollution action.
 - 2. Requests that the Secretariat strive to avoid duplication with other science policy processes such as IPCC and IPBES, IRP, the future panel whose establishment was called for in UNEA 5/8 and the subsidiary body of relevant MEAs, when developing the GEO-7.
 - 3. Welcomes the proposed changes to strengthen delivery of the MTS through its programmes on Pollution and Health, Towards Zero Waste and Circularity in Sectors and requests the Secretariat to increase efforts on circularity, sustainable patterns of consumption and production and health with full respect of the mandates of UNEP and WHO.
 - 4. Recommends that the new POW and MTS reaffirms and highlights the work of UNEP's Foundational Subprogrammes (Science-Policy and Environmental Governance), ensuring that concrete results and defined actions are implemented and also recommends that the Secretariat allocates sufficient budget and reinvigorates the efforts to mobilize resources for the foundational subprogrammes.
 - 5. Reiterates UNEA decision 6/7 that the new MTS is prepared through open, transparent and inclusive consultation with Member States and fully taking into account the views of Member States.
 - 6. Requests the Secretariat to consistently include in all future iterations of the Programme Performance Report an overview of challenges, opportunities and lessons learned for all sub-programmes, management and financial matters. Lessons learnt should be strategic and analytic and relate to both context and partners, as well as to programmatic and institutional lessons as relevant for UNEP to improve its operations and performance.
 - 7. Requests the Secretariat to present at a future CPR Subcommittee meeting changes it will make in the implementation of the programme of work and budget for the period 2024-2025 following the lessons learned and the inputs provided at the 11th ASC meeting.
 - 8. Recommends the Secretariat to better integrate and link information on policy work, results, available financial resources and expenditures in future Program Performance Reports.
 - 9. Recommends that the Secretariat briefs the CPR Subcommittee on geographical distribution and on an updated Gender Strategy, as well as on the implementation of the evaluation recommendations regarding gender.
 - 10. Requests the Secretariat to accelerate action and increase ambition in restoring degraded lands, building drought resilience and promoting sustainable land management practices.
 - 11. Requests the Secretariat to follow up on the decision of the CPR to include evaluations and audits, as a standing item on the agenda of the quarterly meetings of the CPR and to present in preparation for the CPR quarterly meetings, the relevant audit and evaluations reports, including related management responses, to a CPR subcommittee meeting for review and possible recommendations.
 - 12. Requests the Secretariat to prioritize the implementation of all outstanding recommendations contained in audits, investigations and evaluation reports.

- 13. Requests the Secretariat to develop concrete steps to improve on the Executive Direction and Management performance related indicators and present them during a future subcommittee meeting of the CPR.
- 14. Reiterates the decision of the CPR at its 164th meeting (164/1, paragraph 4) on prevention on sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.
- 15. Strongly encourages UNEP to strengthen the 'likelihood of impact', 'achievement of project outcomes' and 'sustainability' dimensions of projects.
- 16. *Encourages* UNEP to strengthen institutional learning through strong feedback loops between evaluations and the development of new policies and project designs.
- 17. Invites the EMG Secretariat to work with the EMG members to consider the topic of land degradation and desertification for a possible Common Approach. Further invites the EMG to consider the topic of climate change within existing Common Approaches or alternatively consider the development of a UN Common Approach to Climate.
- 18. *Recommends* that the UN Common Approaches be integrated within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks at country level.
- 19. Requests the Secretariat, in the context of the UNDS Reform, to ensure optimal use of the EMG and the comparative advantages of other UN entities for mainstreaming environmental approaches throughout the UN system.
- 20. *Highlights* the importance of regular briefings on the work of the EMG in the future CPR subcommittee meetings.
- 21. Requests the Secretariat to revise the roadmap to better reflect involvement of Member States in the development of the draft MTS, including through subcommittee meetings and other type of meetings.
- 22. Requests the Secretariat to fully reflect the implementation of the outcomes of UNEA in the draft MTS.
- 23. Requests the Secretariat to focus the draft MTS on the full range of environmental challenges, including desertification and land degradation.
- 24. Welcomes the results of the lessons learned from new evaluations and audits and requests the Secretariat to include an explicit focus on poverty eradication, inequality and leaving no one behind in the draft MTS.
- 25. Requests the Secretariat to indicate clearly and early in the process how lessons learned from the implementation of current MTS and PoW will be taken into account on the development of the MTS 2026-2029 and further iterations of PoW.
- 26. Recommends that the Secretariat highlights in the roadmap the regional consultations on the MTS and PoW.
- 27. Recommends that the Secretariat underlines the importance of the contributions of the regional Forums to the work of UNEP, specifically to the development of the MTS and its PoW, in line with resolution 6/3.
- 28. *Recommends* that the Secretariat puts more emphasis on the private sector in its resource mobilization strategy.
- 29. Recommends that the Secretariat schedules more meetings at the level of the subcommittee, including informal meetings that should serve the purpose of forging a consensus on a robust and efficient roadmap.
- d. The annual subcommittee of the CPR recommended that the draft recommendation on lessons learned from UNEA-6 contained in the non-paper as set out in Annex II to the <u>Chair's meeting</u> summary be considered by the CPR at its 167th meeting for possible adoption.
- 4. At the subcommittee meeting held on 10 September 2024:
 - a. [To be completed]