



Committee of Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations Environment Programme
168th meeting
Nairobi, 17 December 2024

Draft decision 168/1: draft recommendations of the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its eleventh annual subcommittee meeting

The Committee of Permanent Representatives,

Recalling the draft recommendations proposed by delegations at the eleventh annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme, held in Nairobi from 8 to 12 July 2024,

Recalling also decision 167/1 of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, adopted at its 167th meeting, on 12 September 2024,

Noting the discussions of the subcommittee at its meetings on 29 October 2024 and 5 November 2024,

(a) **Review of thematic programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme in its programme of work¹**

1. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the Committee on the identification of challenges and opportunities associated with enhancement of the provision and mobilization of resources for climate adaptation, pollution, biodiversity loss and the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

2. *Also requests* the secretariat, when developing the seventh Global Environment Outlook, to strive, in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 5/3 of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, to avoid duplication of work with existing assessments and other science-policy processes, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the International Resource Panel, the future science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, whose establishment was called for in Environment Assembly resolution 5/8, and subsidiary bodies of relevant multilateral environmental agreements;

3. *Welcomes* the changes proposed in the programme performance report of the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 2022–2023 to further strengthen delivery of the medium-term strategy of the Programme for the period 2022–2025 through the thematic programmes “Pollution and Health”, “Towards Zero Waste” and “Circularity in Sectors”, and requests the secretariat to implement those changes with full respect for the mandate of the Programme;

¹ Highlights of the discussions at the eleventh annual subcommittee meeting are set out in the final chair’s summary of the meeting (UNEP/CPR/ASC/11/9/Rev.2).

4. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to present, during the development of the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027 and the medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2029, a vision for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the evaluation synthesis report for the biennium 2022–2023 on the foundational subprogrammes on science-policy and environmental governance and on giving consideration to the provision of capacity-building to developing countries, for discussion by the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

5. *Reiterates* the request of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in its decision 6/7, that the draft medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2027 be 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 include in future programme performance reports an overview of challenges, opportunities and lessons learned for all subprogrammes and management and financial matters. Lessons learned should be strategic and analytic and relate to both context and partners, as well as to programmatic and institutional lessons relevant to the improvement by the United Nations Environment Programme of its operations and performance;

7. *Recommends* that the secretariat improve the integration and linking of information on policy work, results, available financial resources and expenditure in future programme performance reports;

8. *Also recommends* that the secretariat continue to brief the subcommittee on the geographical distribution of United Nations Environment Programme staff and include in reports of the Executive Director to the Committee explicit information on changes in the ratios of representation for at least the three previous years;

9. *Requests* the secretariat to brief the subcommittee on the development of an updated gender strategy, as well as on the implementation of the recommendations regarding gender contained in the evaluation synthesis report for the biennium 2022–2023;

10. *Also requests* the secretariat to brief the Committee on progress in the implementation of United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 6/7 and 6/14, including options for consideration by the Committee on the integration of the resolutions into the medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2029 and the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027;

(b) Management and administration of the United Nations Environment Programme

11. *Further requests* the secretariat to follow up on the decision of the Committee to include evaluations and audits as a standing item on the agenda of the quarterly meetings of the Committee and to present, in preparation for those meetings, the relevant audit and evaluation reports, including related management responses, to the subcommittee 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. *Also requests* the secretariat to develop concrete steps to improve performance-related indicators in regard to the executive direction and management subprogrammes of the United Nations Environment Programme and present them to the subcommittee at a future meeting;

14. *Reiterates* the encouragement expressed by the Committee in paragraph 4 of decision 164/1;

(c) United Nations Environment Programme evaluation reports

15. *Takes note* of the evaluation synthesis report for the biennium 2022–2023 and strongly recommends that the United Nations Environment Programme strengthen the likelihood of impact, the achievement of project outcomes and the sustainability dimensions of projects in the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027 and subsequent programmes of work;

16. *Recommends* that the United Nations Environment Programme strengthen its institutional learning through implementation of the recommendations of evaluations during the development of new policies and project designs, and that it present proposals for how it intends to do so during the consultations on the medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2029;

(d) **Coordination within the United Nations system on the environment through the United Nations Environment Management Group**

17. *Highlights* the importance of regular briefings on the work of the United Nations Environment Management Group at future subcommittee meetings;

(e) **Road map for the development of a medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2029 and a draft programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027**

18. *Requests* the secretariat to fully reflect the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Environment Assembly in the draft medium-term strategy;

19. *Also requests* the secretariat to include in the draft medium-term strategy a full range of environmental challenges;

20. *Welcomes* the results of the lessons learned from new evaluations and audits and, recalling United Nations Environment Assembly decision 6/7, paragraph 9, and Environment Assembly resolution 4/18, paragraph 8, requests the secretariat to include an explicit focus on the linkages between poverty and the environment in the draft medium-term strategy, for discussion by the Committee;

21. *Requests* the secretariat to indicate clearly and early in the process how lessons learned from the implementation of the current medium-term strategy and programme of work will be taken into account in the development of the medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2029 and future iterations of the programme of work;

22. *Recommends* that the secretariat highlight in the road map the regional consultations on the medium-term strategy and programme of work;

23. *Also recommends* that the secretariat continue to enhance the consideration of the role and viability of regional forums of ministers of environment and environment authorities in the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, specifically when considering the development of the medium-term strategy for the period 2026–2029 and future programmes of work, in accordance with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 6/3, paragraph 1 (a);

24. *Requests* the secretariat to present to the Committee information on how it will refine its engagement with the private sector² in the context of the United Nations Environment Programme resource mobilization strategy;

25. *Recommends* that the secretariat schedule more meetings at the level of the subcommittee, including informal meetings aimed at forging consensus on a robust and efficient road map.

² United Nations Environment Programme, *Harnessing the Private Sector for Solutions to the Three Planetary Environmental Crises: 2023 Report to the Committee of Permanent Representatives on Private Sector Engagement* (Nairobi, 2024). Available at <https://wedocs.unep.org/20.500.11822/45896>.