

Joint Bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly  
and the Committee of Permanent Representatives  
11 December 2024, 16:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)  
Online Meeting – Microsoft Teams

## Summary

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

1. His Excellency Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and Chair of the Environment Authority of Oman, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants, followed by opening remarks by His Excellency Firas Khouri, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, and Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted.

### **Agenda item 2: Consideration of the theme for the seventh session of the UN Environment Assembly.**

3. The President of UNEA briefed the two Bureaux on the status of the informal consultations on the theme for the seventh session of UNEA and presented a final revised, streamlined proposal, which read “**Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet**” and the final [background document](#).
4. Some UNEA Bureau members appreciated the extensive consultation held by the Presidency on the theme and expressed support to the revised, streamlined proposal, which is action-oriented, has broad ownership and easy to communicate. Some UNEA Bureau members also expressed concern about the omission of key elements, particularly the concept of just transition, means of implementation, transfer of technology, financing and capacity building, which are essential for developing countries. The President clarified that the theme will provide guidance to the work of UNEA-7 and Member States have the sovereign right to submit draft resolutions as per established practices and procedures.
5. Upon request by a CPR Bureau member for clarification on the status of the background document on the theme, the UNEP secretariat explained that the background document was made available to solely facilitate the informal consultations on the theme and to support the work of the UNEA Bureau, therefore, it has no “formal” status and it would not be further revised. The UNEA President thanked the members of the two Bureaux for their comments, and while reiterating UNEA decision 6/7, in which UNEA requested its Bureau to define a theme, invited UNEA-7 Bureau to agree on the theme.
6. Subsequently, the UNEA-7 Bureau decided by consensus that the theme for UNEA-7 will be defined as follows: “**Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet**”. The President thanked Her Excellency Nasra Salim Mohamed Al Hashmi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Oman, for conducting the informal consultations on the theme for UNEA-7 and informed that he would write to the Ministers for the Environment to inform them of the UNEA Bureau’s decision on the theme.

**Agenda item 3: Discussion on the roadmap for the consultations on the draft Ministerial Declaration of the seventh session of the UN Environment Assembly.**

7. The President of UNEA presented a draft [roadmap](#) for the consultations on the draft ministerial declaration for UNEA-7.
8. The UNEA and CPR Bureau members highlighted the need for a concise, impactful, ambitious and action-oriented ministerial declaration, drawing from previous UNEA experiences.
9. One UNEA Bureau member asked that the intergovernmental consultations not to be held in parallel to the regional ministerial environmental forums, particularly the meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean planned for early October 2025.
10. Some UNEA and CPR Bureau members suggested that the ministerial declaration should be a negotiated text, while one UNEA Bureau member informed that one member in her Group suggested the possibility of a President's summary.
11. The President emphasized that, as per past practice, the ministerial declaration was not a "line-by-line" negotiated document. The President assured openness to receiving comments, opinions, and proposals from all Member States and observers. The President informed that the draft roadmap will be presented at the [168<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CPR](#) on 17 December 2024 for further input before being finalized and circulated to Member States and observers in early January 2025 with a call for inputs for the zero draft ministerial declaration.

**Agenda item 4: Contributions of the UN Environment Assembly to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.**

12. The Secretariat presented a [briefing](#) on the [preparation of UNEA's contributions to the high-level political forum \(HLPF\) to be held in 2025, 2026 and 2027](#).
13. Many UNEA Bureau members emphasized the importance of respecting the established past practice.
14. One UNEA Bureau member emphasized the importance of adhering to [UNEA decision 6/5](#) and the role of the CPR members to consider and approve UNEA's contributions to the HLPF.
15. Another UNEA Bureau member raised a reservation about focusing one of the leadership dialogues at UNEA-7 on the themes of the 2026 and 2027 HLPF, adding that the UNEA high-level segment should focus on UNEA theme and suggested that one dialogue at UNEA-7 could focus on the sustainable development goals that are relevant to UNEA-7 theme and the 2026 and 2026 HLPF themes.
16. The Secretariat took note of the discussion to be considered while preparing UNEA's contributions to 2025, 2026 and 2027 HLPF.

**Agenda item 5: Organization of work.**

17. The Secretariat presented a briefing on the organization of work of the two Bureaux based on the [2025 draft roadmap](#) for the UNEP Governing Bodies.

**Agenda item 5: Other matters.**

18. No other matters were raised.

**Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting.**

19. The meeting closed at 18:00 (GMT+3).

## **Annex: List of Participants**

### **United Nations Environment Assembly Bureau Members:**

1. H. E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of UNEA and Chair of the Environment Authority of Oman.
2. H. E. Ms. Zakia Khattabi, Vice President of UNEA and Federal Minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal of Belgium.
3. H. E. Ms. Fitsum Assefa Adela, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Planning and Development of Ethiopia, **represented by** Mr. Seyoum Mekonnen, State Minister for Planning and Development.
4. H. E. Ms. Nino Tandilashvili, Vice President of UNEA and First Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.
5. H. E. Ms. Anikó Raisz, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of State for Environmental Policy and Circular Economy of Hungary.
6. H. E. Mr. Ali Gholampour, Vice President of UNEA and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to UNEP.
7. H. E. Mr. Juan Carlos Castro Vargas, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Environment of Peru, **represented by** Mrs. Raquel Soto, Vice-Minister of Strategic Natural Resources Development.
8. H. E. Ms. Johanna Lissinger Peitz, Vice President of UNEA and Senior Advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Government Offices of Sweden.
9. H. E. Mr Mike Mposha, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia, **represented by** Mr. Douy Chibamba, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia.
10. H. E. Ms. Joyelle Clarke, Rapporteur of UNEA and Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

### **Committee of Permanent Representative Bureau Members:**

1. 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.
2. H. E. Mr. Wael Attiya, Vice Chair, Ambassador of Egypt to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
3. H. E. Mr. Arnaud Suquet, Vice Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of France to UNEP, **represented by** Mr. Clement Payet, Deputy Permanent Representative of France to UNEP.
4. Mr. Jovan Bernard Reid, Rapporteur, Deputy Head of Mission of the Permanent Mission of Barbados to Kenya and Deputy Permanent Representative to UNEP.

### **UN Environment Programme Secretariat was represented by:**

1. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP.
2. Ms. Elizabeth Mrema, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP.
3. Mr. Nicolas Bertrand, Chief of Staff, UNEP.
4. Ms. Radhika Ochalik, Secretary of Governing Bodies, UNEP.
5. Mr. Gerhard Kreutzer, Legal Officer, UNEP.