

Fourth Annual Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
6-9 March 2017
Gigiri, UN Office at Nairobi
Conference Room 1

Agenda item 5: Preparations for the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

In reference to the UN Environment Assembly Bureau Retreat (27 – 28 October 2016) and further to the Informal Working Group meeting of 16 February 2017, the Secretariat is pleased to present for Member States consideration a document entitled 'Required documents for the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and the 2017 the Environment Assembly. This document is comprised of two annexes:

1. Annex 1- Note on the process for submission of Draft Resolutions to be adopted by the 2017 Environment Assembly; and
2. Annex 2 - Note on the documents for the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and 2017 Environment Assembly.

Member States are invited to provide feedback to the Secretariat on the above documents as applicable.

Contact person: Jorge Laguna-Celis Secretary of Governing Bodies Director, Governance Affairs Office UN Environment Jorge.Laguna-Celis@unep.org Land Line: +254-20-7623411
--

Annex 2

Note on the process for submission of Draft Resolutions to be adopted by the 2017 Environment Assembly

Lessons learned

The paper on 'Lessons learned from the UN Environment Assembly-2 and way forward to the UN Environment Assembly-3' Compiled by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, 10 October 2016, highlighted the following challenges:

- There was late transmission of draft resolutions and final documents;
- There was insufficient time for the work of the Committee of the Whole given the large number of resolutions
- There was lack of translation of the negotiated document in all six UN languages.

The recommendations that were proposed included:

- There is a need for stricter deadlines in the Rules of Procedure for submitting resolutions, maybe 8-12 weeks in advance of UN Environment Assembly, which is in line with other UN processes and ideally before the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives in order to ensure availability in all official languages. This needs to be instituted;
- There needs to be a single online platform for reviewing and updating documents to avoid confusion;
- The timely distribution and translation of background documents are critical for the preparations of all meeting and for the interactive engagement of high-level participants.

Guidance from the Bureaux of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives

During the Joint meeting of the Bureaux of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives, 27 – 28 October 2016, Nairobi, Kenya, the bureau provided the following guidance:

- Member States should submit draft resolutions in good time before the Assembly. The President of the Assembly will send a letter to all Ministers of the Environment encouraging them to respect the deadline that will be set by the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
- The Committee of Permanent Representatives will set preliminary deadlines for indicating intentions to submit resolutions. Given the short time available, the number of resolutions for the consideration of the Assembly should be limited.
- Resolutions should be related to the theme of the Assembly, global in focus and actionable.
- The Assembly will be open to consider critical emerging issues.
- Meeting documents should be translated and distributed well in advance, including in line with the six-week rule of the Assembly;
- The Committee of Permanent Representatives will engage in discussions on different positions on resolutions and in pre-negotiation. It will endeavor to finalize negotiations during the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives.

- The Secretariat is requested to translate and distribute draft resolutions upon official submission by Member States and to activate a password-protected platform, based on the Committee Portal, to allow Member States track updates made to draft resolutions.

Recommendations for consideration during the 4th Annual Subcommittee meeting

Member States are invited to submit draft resolutions at least 20 days before the 139th and 140th meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives at which they will be discussed. This would enable the Secretariat to translate them as submitted by Member States into all six official languages of the United Nation in accordance with Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure.

In light of the above considerations, the following deadlines are presented for consideration by the Committee of Permanent Representatives as reflected in the table below for submission of resolutions.

TENTATIVE DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTIONS
30 April 2017 Member States signal intention to submit draft resolutions
20 May 2017 Single online platform activated
1 June 2017 Draft resolutions are submitted to the Secretariat
27 June 2017 139th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives <i>Agenda to include discussion on draft resolutions</i>
*8 September 2017 Submission of resolutions to the Secretariat <i>*increased time to allow for informal consultations</i>
October 10 140th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives <i>Send off of draft resolutions to Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives</i>

Documents for the 2017 Environment Assembly and Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives.

The Secretariat draws the attention to the note entitled ‘Required Documents for the 2017 Environment Assembly’ (4-6 December 2017) which interalia includes the Update of the Executive

Director on the implementation of the second UN Environment Assembly resolutions and other preparatory documents mandated by the Assembly, in addition to a document entitled ‘The report of the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives’ to be considered by the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (29 November – 1 December 2017).

This will consist of:

1. A Chair’s Summary;
 2. Resolutions as submitted (translated)
 3. Resolutions as discussed (English only)
- made available on a single online platform accessible to all Member States and viewed in real time as amendments are made*

Annex 2

Note on the documents for the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and 2017 Environment Assembly

Required information documents for the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the 2017 Environment Assembly

(As of 22 February 2017)

Official working documents and information documents		
Official working documents (UNEP/EA.3/x) are prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with previous Assembly's resolutions for consideration under each agenda item. They are also prepared pursuant to certain rules of procedure. Also included shall be draft resolutions as submitted by Member States in accordance with Rule 44 of the Rules of Procedure.		
Symbol (provisional)	Title	Forecast submission to Member States
EA.3/1	Provisional agenda	16 October 2017
EA.3/1 Add. 1	Annotated provisional agenda	16 October 2017
EA.3/2	Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives: Chair's summary ;and draft resolutions as submitted by Member States by the 140th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives).	16 October 2017
EA.3/3	Rules of Procedure of the UN Environment Assembly	16 February 2017
EA.3/4	Progress Report on the contribution of the UN Environment to the implementation of the delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (EA.2/Res.5)	16 October 2017
EA.3/5	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on the role and functions of regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities (EA.2/Res.2)	16 October 2017
EA.3/6	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on investing in human capacity for sustainable development through environmental education and training (EA.2/Res.3)	16 October 2017
EA.3/7	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on the role, functions and modalities for UN Environment implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (EA.2/Res.4)	16 October 2017
EA.3/8	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly resolution on the support to the implementation of the Paris Agreement (EA.2.2/Res.6)	16 October 2017
EA.3/9	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on sound management of chemicals	16 October 2017

	and waste (EA.2/Res.7)	
EA.3/10	Update of the Executive Director on the implementation of UN Environment Assembly resolution on sustainable consumption and production (EA.2/Res.8)	16 October 2017
EA.3/11	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on the prevention, reduction and reuse of food waste (EA.2/Res.9)	16 October 2017
EA.3/12	Proposal from the Executive Director on the UN Environment's 2011 marine and coastal strategy (replacement)pursuant the UN Environment Assembly resolution (EA.2/Res.10)	16 October 2017
EA.3/13	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on marine plastic litter and micro plastics (EA.2/Res.11) <i>This also includes the recommendations from the Assessment (UNEP/EA.3/INF/4)</i>	16 October 2017
EA.3/14	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on sustainable coral reefs management (EA.2/Res.12)	16 October 2017
EA.3/15	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products (EA.2/Res.14)	16 October 2017
EA.3/16	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on the protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict (EA.2/Res.15).	16 October 2017
EA.3/17	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on enhancing the work of UN Environment in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions (EA.2/Res.17)	16 October 2017
EA.3/18	Update of the Executive Director on progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on the relationship between the UN Environment and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariat (EA.2/Res.18)	16 October 2017
EA.3/19	Update of the Executive Director on the progress made pursuant to the Assembly Resolution on the Midterm review of the fourth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme IV) (EA.2/Res.19)	16 October 2017
EA.3/20	Progress Report of the Executive Director on the sixth Global Environment Outlook.	16 October 2017

**Kindly note pursuant to UN Environment Resolution 22 'Review of the cycle of sessions of UN Environment of UN Environment Programme' the Executive Director's Updates shall be short and succinct and limited to 2 pages.*

Required information documents for the Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the 2017 Environment Assembly

(As of 22 February 2017)

Information documents for the third session of the UN Environment Assembly		
<p>Information Documents (UNEP/EA.3/INF/x) are prepared by the secretariat without a specific mandate and are intended to provide information complementing and/or supplementing that provided in the official working documents. There are other information documents that have been prepared for the information of participants only, which are not intended for discussion under any agenda item. Information Documents are not translated.</p>		
Symbol (provisional)	Title	Forecast submission
UNEP/EA.3/INF/1	Note of the Executive Director on the organization of the third session of the Environment Assembly (scenario note) *	16 October 2017
UNEP/EA.3/INF/2	Minutes of all CPR meetings as of the 135 th meeting of the CPR Compilation of Resolutions as discussed during the CPR meetings (including all changes)	16 October 2017
UNEP/EA.3/INF/3	Background Report of the Executive Director on the theme of the third session of the Assembly (pollution) *	16 October 2017
UNEP/EA.3/INF/4	Assessment of the Executive Director on the effectiveness of the UN Environment Programme 2011 marine and coastal strategy pursuant the UN Environment Assembly resolution (EA.2/Res.10)	16 October 2017
UNEP/EA.3/INF/5	Assessment of the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and sub-regional governance strategies and approaches to combat marine plastic litter and micro plastics.	16 October 2017
UNEP/EA.3/INF/6	Information Document on the sixth Global Environment Outlook	16 October 2017
UNEP/EA.3/INF/7	Date and provisional agenda of the Fourth Session of the Environment Assembly	16 October 2017

* translated into all official UN Languages