

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday 22 November 2018
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
United Nations Office at Nairobi, Gigiri
Conference Room 1

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

1. H.E. Mrs. Francisca Ashietey-Odunton, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representative and High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Ghana, opened the meeting.
2. The Chair informed Member States that the CPR Bureau has decided to exceptionally postpone the regular meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives from 18 December 2018 to 8 January 2019, and that the change of dates will not render any negative financial consequences in terms of costs for conference services.
3. Mr. Erik Solheim delivered a resignation speech as Executive Director of UN Environment Programme, and expressed his sincere gratitude to member States for their support. Member States thanked Mr. Solheim for his hard work, expressed their deep appreciation for his many accomplishments during his term as Executive Director, and committed to continue to support the UN Environment Programme under the new leadership of Ms Joyce Msuya as acting Executive Director.
4. The meeting agenda was adopted.

Agenda Item 2: Update on preparations for the fourth UN Environment Assembly

5. The Secretariat provided an update to member States on preparations for the fourth UN Environment Assembly which will be held from 11-15 March, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya.
6. The meeting welcomed the briefing and acknowledged progress made in preparation for a successful Assembly, and raised the following comments and questions:
 - The need to make concept notes and draft resolutions available online;
 - The importance of agreeing on adequate themes for the Leadership Dialogues that link closely to the theme of fourth UN Environment Assembly;
 - A requested for more information on multi-stakeholder events and exhibitions planned for the fourth UN Environment Assembly;
 - One member State announced a contribution of around 40,000 EUR to support the participation of stakeholders and covering the funding gap.
7. The Secretariat explained that concept notes and resolutions are already made available on a dedicated papersmart portal (<https://papersmart.unon.org/resolution/>) and took note of the

questions and comments raised by Member States in view of providing more information at the next Subcommittee meeting scheduled for 29 November.

Agenda item 3: Secretariat briefing on the preparation of the Second Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group meeting on the marine litter and plastic resolution.

8. The Secretariat briefed the meeting on the preparation of the 2nd meeting of the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on the marine litter and plastic resolution, which is scheduled for 3-7 December 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Secretariat also expressed gratitude for financial contributions received from some member States in support of the organization of the meeting.
9. Member States welcomed the briefing and inquired whether Geneva-based organizations had been invited to the meeting.
10. The Secretariat confirmed that all relevant organizations in Geneva had indeed been invited to take part in the meeting.

Agenda item 4: Secretariat briefing on the outcome of fourth Intergovernmental Review Meeting of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.

11. The Secretariat gave an overview of the key outcomes of the Fourth Intergovernmental Review Meeting of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, which took place in from 31 October to 1 November 2018 in Bali, Indonesia.
12. The meeting welcomed the presentation and inquired about the timeline of the planned Analysis Report with regard to the 3 options for the future of the Global Programme of Action, and about potential links to the Ocean Strategy.
13. The Secretariat explained that an extended outline of the Analysis Report is foreseen to be shared with member States in January 2019, and that the work on a revised Ocean Strategy for the UN Environment Programme – whereby a draft strategy is to be made available to member States for wider consultation in December – is largely a separate initiative.

Agenda item 5: Consideration of draft resolutions for the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly

14. The Secretariat provided an overview of concept notes for the tabling of draft resolutions for the fourth UN Environment Assembly received by member States to date.
15. The African Group announced that they intended to table four additional resolutions shortly.

Agenda Item 6: Other matters

16. One Member State inquired when the gap report for the consultation meeting on the Global Pact for the Environment would be made available in all UN languages.
17. The Secretariat explained that the gap report will be made available in English on 30 November, and in all six UN working languages by 15 December.

Agenda Item 7: Closing of the meeting

18. The meeting closed at 12:45 p.m.

Meeting requests for follow-up by the Secretariat:

- 1) Provide additional information on multi-stakeholder events at the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly to member States at the Subcommittee meeting on 29 November.