

149th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
18 February 2020
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
United Nations Office at Nairobi, Gigiri
Conference Room 1

CHAIR'S SUMMARY

Note: All pre-meeting and post-meeting documents, including statements provided in writing by member States, are available [here](#).

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

1. The meeting was opened by H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil and Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The meeting welcomed newly arrived representatives to the Committee and bid farewell to departing representatives.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the agenda of the 148th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

2. The provisional meeting agenda was adopted.

Agenda Item 3: Adoption of the draft minutes of 148th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

3. The Committee adopted the draft minutes of the 148th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives held on 10 December 2019.

Agenda Item 4: Report of the Executive Director

4. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UN Environment Programme, provided a statement, available [here](#). In the ensuing dialogue, delegations who took the floor, *inter alia*:
 - Welcomed the report and statement of the Executive Director;
 - Expressed appreciation to the Secretariat for reporting on the implementation of selected UNEA resolutions, but noted with concern that a comprehensive reporting in this regard was lacking, and requested the Secretariat to provide a status update on the implementation of UNEA Resolution 4/22, particularly on the monitoring and reporting mechanism;
 - Requested additional information and regular updates to the Committee on the work of the Environmental Management Group, the Resident Coordinator System, UNEP's work on relevant SDG indicators, and the collaboration between UNEP and other UN agencies;

- Welcomed efforts towards the development of an ambitious post-2020 global biodiversity framework and invited the Secretariat to provide regular updates to facilitate active engagement;
 - Took note of the recent changes in senior level positions in the Secretariat, and in this context stressed underlined the need to achieve geographical and gender balance;
 - Shared information on relevant national initiatives in support of the environmental dimension of sustainable development;
 - Appreciated the quality of the Executive Director's report and other relevant Secretariat documentation in support of Committee meetings, and underlined the need for continued high quality scientific inputs;
 - Requested the Secretariat to provide more information on the upcoming meeting of the UN Chief Executive Board meeting in Nairobi in May;
 - One Member State requested the Secretariat to provide additional information and guidance to Member states on circular economy and sustainable consumption and production.
5. The Executive Director thanked delegations for their inputs and guidance, and welcomed further consideration and guidance from member States to fine-tune and adapt the format of the Executive Director's quarterly report to the CPR, to ensure that it provides maximum added value while avoiding excessive reporting requirements at the expense of other priorities.

Agenda Item 5: Implementation of paragraph 8 of UNEA Decision 4/2

6. The Executive Director provided an update on the outcome of recent informal consultations with all regional and political groups in Nairobi on the commemoration of the creation of UNEP (UNEP@50), which also provided an opportunity for Member States to address the offer from Sweden to host a UN high level meeting in Stockholm in 2022 to commemorate the 1972 Conference on the Human Environment. The Executive Director also, referred to a document from Kenya and Sweden entitled "[Kenya and Sweden's agreed joint points for consultations on a UN High Level political meeting in Stockholm and on the commemoration of UNEP @ 50 in Nairobi](#)". The Executive Director also provided the following recommendations and proposals, building on the outcome of the consultations:
- That the UNEP@50 commemoration be "kicked off" at the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly;
 - That the Secretariat develop a calendar of commemorative events that could take place after UNEA-5, including in the context of major meetings of other UN organizations, Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and other significant events;
 - That a CPR subcommittee meeting could be organized to continue consultation on UNEP@50, also creating an opportunity for Member States to provide feedback to Kenya and Sweden regarding their joint paper, and that this issue be also included in the agenda for the 150th CPR meeting, scheduled for 30 April;
 - That UNEP serve as the Secretariat for both UNEP@50 and the proposed UN high level meeting in Stockholm.
7. Delegations welcomed the update by the Executive Director and took note of the joint position paper from Kenya and Sweden. Member States expressed various views on the nature, format and complementarity of the UNEP@50 commemoration and the proposal to have a UN high level meeting in Stockholm in 2020. Many delegations underlined the events are different, that they

should be complementary, and that the CPR needs to be involved. Several member States also requested additional information on the substantive contours of the proposal to host a UN high level meeting in Stockholm in 2020. It was agreed to consider the implementation of Paragraph 8 of Decision 4/2 further at a Subcommittee meeting in March and at the 150th CPR meeting on 30 April.

Agenda Item 6: Implementation of General Assembly resolution 73/333.

7. Following a presentation of the summary of written inputs received from member States and stakeholders on the questionnaire on the follow up on General Assembly Resolution 73/333, as well as a proposed roadmap for further consultations, delegations:
 - Welcomed the proposed roadmap, with some members proposing limited amendments to the wording in the text to make it more consistent with General Assembly resolution 73/333;
 - Requested that members of specialized agencies be recognized and treated on an equal basis with member States in the proposed roadmap;
 - One Member State inquired about possible criteria to select the co-facilitators referred to in the roadmap;
 - Requested the Secretariat to ensure that the view expressed by some delegations to consider the matter under a separate agenda item at UNEA-5 is included in the summary of written inputs;
 - Underlined the importance of making use of the substantive recommendations of the ad-hoc expert group as reflected in General Assembly resolution 73/333 as a basis when developing elements for a draft political declaration;
 - Some delegations considered that the proposal to have a UN high level meeting in Stockholm in 2022 may provide a good opportunity to adopt the political declaration;
 - Some delegations noted that the mandate in UNGA Resolution 73/333 does not specify the modalities of a UN high-level meeting, so that the decision to convene it would need to be taken by the UN General Assembly.
8. The roadmap was adopted with minor changes. The final version is available [here](#).

Agenda Item 7: Interagency collaboration in the context of the Environment Management Group.

9. The Secretariat provided an overview of the role and contribution of the UN Environment Management Group in enhancing coordination and collaboration in the UN system on the environment in support of implementation of paragraph 88(c) of the Rio+20 outcome document and relevant UN Environment Assembly Resolutions, followed by an exchange of views with member States. Member States generally welcomed the update and requested additional information, for example on how the work of the EMG was taken up in the development of a zero draft for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, how UNEP's role can be strengthened in the framework of the EMG, and how to continue to leverage the interagency framework towards the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
10. One Member State also requested for more details on the role of the EMG with regards to implementation of resolutions and how it approaches gender issues.

Agenda Item 8: Report of the Subcommittee.

11. The report of the Subcommittee was adopted.

Agenda Item 9: Other matters.

12. The delegation of Turkey referred to a zero-waste project in which Turkey demonstrated its leadership and involvement in tackling the issue of plastic litter, and informed delegations that the 22nd meeting of the Conference of Parties under the Barcelona Convention, scheduled for December 2021, will be hosted in Antalya, Turkey.

Agenda Item 10: Closing of the meeting.

13. The meeting closed at 4 pm.