

Committee of Permanent Representatives  
Bureau Meeting  
Thursday 30 July, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Online meeting

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

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

1. H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil, opened the meeting, in which the following members of the Bureau and the Secretariat participated:

**The Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau members:**

H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra, Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil;  
Mrs. Gudi Alkemade, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, representing H.E. Mr. Frans Makken, Vice Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representative;  
H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah, Vice Chair, High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Pakistan;  
H.E. Mr. Marek Rohr-Garztecki, Vice Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland;  
Mr. Patrick Luna, Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil;

**The President of UN Environment Assembly was represented by:**

Ms. Guri Sandborg, Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway;

**The meeting was also attended by the following representatives:**

Mr. Ado Lohmus, co-facilitator for the consultation process on the implementation of UNGA resolution 73/333 and Permanent Representative of Estonia;  
Mr. Marcus Davies, co-facilitator for the consultation on the Process for Review by the CPR and Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada;  
Mr. Mapopa Kaunda, co-facilitator for the consultation on the Process for Review by the CPR and Deputy Permanent Representative of Malawi;

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

Ms. Joyce Msuya, Deputy Executive Director;  
Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis, Secretary of Governing Bodies;  
Mr. Ulf Björnholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies;  
Mr. Tim Kasten, Acting Director of Policy and Programme Division;  
Mr. Andrew Raine, Senior legal officer;  
Mr. Stadler Trengove, Legal Advisor;

2. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted.

## **Agenda Item 2: Discuss planning of meetings for the period of September- October 2020.**

3. Ms. Joyce Msuya, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP thanked the Bureau of the CPR for their commitment and support during the COVID-19 pandemic and reiterated that the Secretariat will continue to provide high quality service to member States, in close cooperation with UNON and other UN organizations in Nairobi. She also highlighted that the Secretariat will continue to provide support to the co-facilitators of the CPR review and on the follow up on resolution 73/333 and that the Secretariat is on track to develop a full proposal for the next Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work.
4. The Secretariat gave a short presentation of the meeting [background note](#), including recommendations on key dates, agenda items and format of upcoming meetings under the CPR for the period up to October 2020, taking into consideration that the UN compound in Nairobi is likely to remain closed until the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee Meeting scheduled for October, as well as the aim to enable as many delegations as possible across different time zones to take part in the meetings, and the need to provide interpretation to regular CPR meetings.
5. The Chair invited the co-facilitators for the consultation process on the implementation of UNGA resolution 73/333 and for the Process for review under the CPR to provide progress updates and proposed next steps.
6. The co-facilitators for the consultation process on the implementation of the UN General Assembly resolution 73/333 gave a short debrief on the outcome from the first consultation meeting held virtually from 21 to 24 July 2020, and suggested to organize the second consultation meeting from 3 to 5 November 2020. While noting that this approach would depart from the roadmap for the consultation process adopted at the 149<sup>th</sup> CPR, the proposed date was motivated by the already delayed date for the first consultation meeting and allow sufficient time to prepare timely and high quality documentation. It would further allow the co-facilitators to conduct preparatory informal consultations before the second consultation meeting, and it was further noted that the second consultation meeting could benefit from the outcomes from the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee Meeting. The co-facilitators stated that they aimed to organize the second consultation meeting partly in person, partly virtually, pending the further development of the COVID-19 pandemic and that with the submission of the documents for the second consultation meeting, the co-facilitators will invite Member States and relevant stakeholders to submit their views in writing, preferably in advance of the meeting.
7. The co-facilitators for the Process for Review by the CPR also provide a short update of progress made, and expressed support for the proposal to move the next consultation meeting from 3 to 10 September and to shorten the stock-taking meeting during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee Meeting to one day, rather than two.
8. The Bureau agreed to the proposal of the co-facilitators to conduct the second consultation on the implementation of the UN General Assembly resolution 73/333 on 3-5 November 2020, while underlining the importance to circulate the background documents for the meeting at least 30 days in advance to provide sufficient time for reflection by member States and for preparatory informal consultations to take place and emphasizing the importance of an inclusive process. The second consultation meeting may take place in person, to the extent feasible, but taking into account

possible travel restrictions, should be organized so that delegations can also participate through a virtual platform. The Bureau also agreed to the proposal of the co-facilitators to provide written input before the meeting and proposed that the Secretariat further develop and make available a dedicated online platform to allow for interactive engagements among delegations well in advance of the meeting. The Bureau further agreed that the third and final consultation meeting should take place before the 5<sup>th</sup> Open-ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (currently scheduled for 15-19 February 2020), preferably in mid-January, taking into account the workload of the preparations towards the 5<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

9. The Bureau also agreed to keep the date of the 151<sup>st</sup> meeting of the CPR (14 September 2020), as well as to reschedule the next meeting of the Subcommittee of the CPR to 10 September, to allow sufficient time for delegations to prepare for that meeting, and that it should be fully dedicated to the Process for review by the CPR. The Bureau also agreed to aim for a one-day stocktaking meeting instead of a two-day one, to allow more time to be devoted to other important issues in the agenda of the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee Meeting. The stock-taking session should be considered under the broad agenda item covering the implementation of UNEA decision 4/2.
10. With regard to the date for the next joint meeting of Bureaux of UNEA-5 and of the CPR, the CPR Bureau supported the proposal to organize this meeting shortly after the next meeting of the meeting of the Bureau of UNEA-5, currently planned for September 2020 (exact date yet to be determined), preferably before the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee Meeting. The representative of the UNEA President indicated that the appropriate date would be agreed in consultation with the Chair of the CPR.
11. In view of the current restriction put in place by the UN Office in Nairobi and by the host country due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Bureau agreed that the CPR meetings shall be held virtually until at least the end of October 2020, and that, as a general rule and until in-person meetings can resume, CPR regular and subcommittee meetings would preferably be convened between 2–6 pm (EAT), and the Annual Subcommittee Meeting will be convened between 1–6 pm (EAT). This would facilitate the participation of experts from capitals by providing the most amenable timing for delegations that connect from different time zones, while broadly retaining the time frame compared to in-person meetings held in Nairobi. It also takes into account the requirements for online interpretation of CPR regular meetings.
12. The Bureau agreed to amend the proposed agenda items for the 151<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the CPR as follows:
  - Report by the Executive Director
  - Consultation on the Medium-Term Strategy 2021 –2025 and Programme of Work and Budget 2022–2023.
  - Progress update by the co-facilitators of the consultation process on the implementation of UN General Assembly resolution 73/333.
  - Progress update on the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on Marine Litter and Microplastics.
  - Progress update on the implementation of the Pollution Action Plan adopted at UNEA-4.
13. With regard to the consultation on the Medium-Term Strategy 2021 –2025 and Programme of Work and Budget 2022–2023, the Secretariat, following the request of one Member, confirmed that the CPR will be invited to consider the revised MTS, the narrative of the POW 2022-2023 and

related budget, based on the same documents that will be submitted to the ASC and that the CPR is expected to provide general guidance in advance of more detailed discussion at the ASC.

14. With regard to the draft decision for the IGR for the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, the Bureau considered that, unless substantive progress was made in finding an agreement since the previous discussion in the subcommittee, an update on the state of play on this topic may also be envisaged under the agenda item on the progress update on marine litter and microplastics.
15. The Bureau also agreed that the Secretariat should provide an update on the implementation of UNEP's "five lines of defense", both on the update of policies and their implementation and on UNEP's contribution to UN Reform, including UNEP's contribution to Country Analyses, at the 151<sup>st</sup> meeting, for example through the report by the Executive Director.
16. The Bureau agreed to retain the previously agreed date of (12-16 October 2020) for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee Meeting, and agreed to the agenda items for that meeting as follows:
  - UNEP Programme Performance Review: January –June 2020, based on a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation provided 3 weeks in advance of the meeting and complemented by the two quarterly reports to the CPR (January - March and April - June 2020).
  - Consideration of a draft UNEP Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2025 and Programme of Work and Budget 2022-2023 3.
  - Implementation of UNEA decision 4/2:
    - Stock-taking meeting for the process for review of by the CPR;
    - Preparations for UNEA-5, including a possible scoping exercise and/or indicative timetable for the presentation of draft resolutions;
    - Preparations for UNEP@50;
    - Draft action plan for the implementation of subparagraphs (a)–(h) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development.
  - Implementation of UNEA resolution 4/22: Implementation and follow up of UNEA Resolutions – Launch of UNEA Monitoring and Reporting Portal
  - Implementation of UNEA resolution 4/23: consultation of the future of the Global Environmental Outlook 6.
  - Consideration of a draft Chair's summary.
17. The Bureau agreed that all presentations by the Secretariat at the Annual Subcommittee Meeting should be brief and succinct, so as to allow member States with the opportunity of an interactive dialogue. It was further noted that all formal documentation for the Annual Subcommittee Meeting should be made available in a timely manner, and also that any PowerPoint presentations, in particular the comprehensive PowerPoint presentations for the Programme Performance Review, be made available at least three weeks in advance of the meeting. It was further suggested that the briefings by the Secretariat could be previously recorded and made available for delegates to watch at the meeting portal, preserving even more time for interactive debate during the meeting itself.
18. The Chair thanked the co-facilitators and Members of the Bureau for their guidance, and requested the Secretariat to update and announce a revised version of the [online roadmap for the UNEP governing bodies](#), and to develop draft agendas for the upcoming CPR meetings in line with the conclusions from the meeting.

19. The Bureau agreed to meet again following the 7th Annual Subcommittee Meeting to further consider the exact dates and agendas for the remaining regular and subcommittee meetings of the CPR until February 2021, taking into account e.g. the evolving situation related to COVID-19, progress made in areas under the responsibility of the CPR, and the preparation of draft resolutions for UNEA-5.

**Agenda Item 3: Other matters.**

20. No other matters were raised.

**Agenda Item 4: Closing of the Meeting.**

21. The meeting closed at 12:20 p.m.