



United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme 152nd meeting

Nairobi, 19 November 2020

Online meeting

13:00 – 15:00; 15:30 – 17:30 (GMT+3)

Agenda Item 7(a): Preparations for the fifth session of UN Environment Assembly: Structure of UNEA-5

Following the consideration of the timing and format of the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly in view of COVID-19 by the [UNEA Bureau](#) at its meeting on 8 October, the UNEA Bureau decided to support the [proposal by the UNEA President](#) to adopt a “two-step” approach that will allow for the convening UNEA-5 in February 2021 at the dates previously agreed in a virtual format with a revised and streamlined agenda. The UNEA Bureau also requested the Secretariat to propose a structure for a virtual session of UNEA-5 in February 2021 for consideration at the 7th annual subcommittee and thereafter, on the basis of feedback from Member States, to the next meeting of the Joint Bureaux of UNEA and of the CPR, scheduled for 1 December 2020.

At the [7th annual subcommittee](#) held from 12 – 16 November 2020, there was also a broad agreement with the “two-step approach” that would allow for a virtual session of UNEA-5 to be convened in February 2021 followed by a resumed session of UNEA-5 in February 2022.

This note outlines a revised draft structure for the virtual session of UNEA-5 to be held from 22 to 24 February 2021 and a proposed distribution of agenda items between the virtual and resumed session of UNEA-5.

In particular it is proposed that the virtual session of UNEA-5 consists of one opening plenary, one high level opening, one multistakeholder dialogue, two leadership dialogues and one adjournment (wrap-up) plenary.

The proposed themes of the two Leadership Dialogues are: I. “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” (the overarching theme for UNEA-5), and II. “Building back better and supporting a stronger UNEP”.

Member States are invited to consider the draft provisional agenda and proposed structure for the virtual session of UNEA-5 and provide feedback and guidance with a view to facilitate further consideration of this matter at the next meeting of the Joint Bureaux of UNEA and of the CPR, scheduled for 1 December 2020.

DRAFT STRUCTURE FOR THE VIRTUAL SESSION OF UNEA-5

	Monday 22 February 2021	Tuesday 23 February 2021	Wednesday 25 February 2021	Thursday 26 February 2021	Friday 27 February 2021
11:00 - 13:00	Opening Plenary - Functional opening [President and Executive Director] - Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Statements from Regional and Political Groups - Credentials of representatives - Report by the Committee of PR's on recommended decisions ACEFRS	Leadership Dialogue I: <i>Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals</i> ACEFRS			
13:00 -14:00	BREAK				
14:00 - 16:00	High Level Opening ACEFRS	Leadership Dialogue II <i>Building back better and supporting a stronger UNEP</i> ACEFRS	Adjournment (Wrap-up) Plenary Session - Summary of Leadership Dialogues - Adoption of procedural decisions including MTS and POW - Political message - Kick-off of UNEP@50 - <i>Adjournment of the Session.</i> ACEFRS		
16:00 – 17:00	BREAK				
17:00 – 19:00	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue ACEFRS <i>Theme TBC</i>				

ACEFRS – Refers to official languages of the United Nations. All times indicated in GMT+3.

Provisional agenda as adopted by [UNEA decision 4/2](#) ¹

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
5. International environmental policy and governance issues.
6. Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues.
7. Stakeholder engagement.
8. Contributions to the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
9. High-level segment.
10. Provisional agenda and date of the sixth session of the Environment Assembly.
11. Adoption of the resolutions, decisions and outcome document of the session.
12. Election of officers.
13. Other matters.
14. Adoption of the report.
15. Closure of the session.

¹ The proposed distribution of items for the virtual session of UNEA-5 (February 2021) and the resumed session of UNEA-5 (February 2022) are reflected in the following page.

Proposed distribution of agenda items

Agenda items to be considered during the virtual session February 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening of the session.• Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.• Credentials of representatives.**• Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.*• Programme of work and budget, and other administrative and budgetary issues including Programme of Work and Budget for 2022-2023 and Medium-Term Strategy for the Period 2022-2025.• Stakeholder engagement.• High-level segment and Leadership dialogues are missing here
Agenda items to be considered at the resumed session of UNEA-5 in February 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International environmental policy and governance issues.• Contributions to the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.• High-level segment.**• Provisional agenda and date of the sixth session of the Environment Assembly.• Adoption of the resolutions, decisions and outcome document of the session.**• Election of officers.• Other matters.• Adoption of the report.• Closure of the session.
Supplementary item recommended in accordance with rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure to be considered at the resumed session in February 2022 or alternatively as a high-level event convened back-to-back with the resumed session.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972.

** The report of CPR will remain open in light of the work required to prepare the resumed session of UNEA-5 and the need to convene an OECPR meeting in 2022.*

*** These items, having been opened in the virtual session (February 2021) will be formally closed during resumed session (February 2022).*