*10 December 2020*

**Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP (CPR)**

**Nairobi, 10 December 2020**

**Agenda Item 4: Preparations for the virtual fifth session of Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives**

***Comments by the European Union and its Member States***

* The EU and its Member States thank the Secretariat for preparing a draft structure for the OECPR in 2021.
* The EU and its Member States welcome the concentration of OECPR sessions during the first two days and are of the view that the proposed structure would ensure the effective and efficient use of time, while also allowing the Chair the flexibility to use subsequent days in case of contingencies.
* In addition, it is the view of the EU and its Member States that the time and space freed up by the more compact scheduling of OECPR sessions on the first two days could be used for organizing side events during the subsequent days, as needed.
* The Agenda of the OECPR refers to GEO-6 under its agenda items that may be referred to the resumed OECPR in 2022, which is likely meant to be a reference to the Future of GEO and should therefore be amended accordingly.
* Already at this stage, the EU and its Member States wish to highlight that the OECPR preceding the resumed session of UNEA-5 in February 2022 will need to use the usual five days to their fullest as it will likely have a considerable workload. In addition, its agenda and structure should also include a reference to the consideration of ED reports already submitted for UNEA-5/1, so as to enable the Secretariat to update and complement the reports with additional information, where relevant.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_