

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Subcommittee Meeting
Monday 15 March 2021
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (GMT+3)
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 Representative, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil, opened the meeting.
2. The [meeting agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda Item 2: Inputs to the 2021 High Level Political Forum

3. Following the consultations by the subcommittee on 4 March and 11 March, the Secretariat presented revised draft inputs from the UN Environment Assembly to the 2021 High- Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, with a view to finalize the consultations with the CPR called for by UNEA Resolution 3/3 regarding the contribution for submission from the UNEA President to the HLPF Secretariat by 15 March 2021 at the latest, as requested by the President of ECOSOC his letter dated 18 November 2020.
4. The Chair noted that the latest draft would represent a balanced text, largely based on the guidance provided by Member States to date and reminded delegations that the draft input would not be subjected to line by line negotiations.
5. Delegations expressed appreciation for the revised text and provided the following additional guidance:
 - Several delegations favored maintaining the use of the term “nature-based solutions” in the text, with the understanding that further work may be needed to agree multilaterally on the definition of this concept.
 - One delegation reiterated the need to stick to previously agreed language and refrain from introducing new concepts.
 - One delegation proposed the inclusion of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities under section b), paragraph 1, and expressed a preference to reformulate paragraph 5 while recognizing that the text is based on previously agreed language.

- One delegation representing a political group cautioned against further watering down of key messages relating to the link between human activities and zoonotic diseases, referring to UNEP's scientific work pointing to those findings, and expressed reservation towards singling out specific principles from the Rio Declaration in the text.
 - Two delegations proposed the reintroduction of the word "balanced" in section b, paragraph 7.
 - One delegation pointed out that in section f), the UNEA-5 leadership dialogue should not be reflected as a formal outcome of the meeting.
 - One delegation suggested the deletion of several formulations in the text which referred to the link between zoonotic diseases and natural resources management / sustainable consumption and production, questioning the scientific basis for these statements.
6. The Chair thanked delegations for the additional guidance provided and requested the secretariat to make final adjustments to the draft with the aim to, as far as possible, accommodate the views expressed by delegations in a balanced manner, with a view to circulate a final draft to member States by close of business on 15 March. In the absence of further comments by Member States within 24 hours, the document would be finalized without further changes and forwarded to the President of the UN Environment Assembly for subsequent submission to the President of ECOSOC.

Agenda Item 3: Other matters.

7. No other matters were raised.

Agenda Item 4: Closing of the meeting.

8. The meeting closed at 4:00 p.m.