

Committee of Permanent Representatives  
Bureau Meeting  
Wednesday 7 July 2021  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm, GMT+3  
Online

### **DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**

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

1. H.E. Luísa Fragoso, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Ambassador of Portugal to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme, chaired the meeting, in which the following members of the bureau participated:

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

H.E. Mrs. Selma Malika Haddadi, Ambassador of Algeria to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme, Vice-Chair of the CPR

Mr. Lino Leopold Santacruz, Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico representing H.E. Mr. Erasmo Roberto Martínez, Ambassador of Mexico to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme, Vice-Chair of the CPR

Mr. Ado Lohmus, Permanent Representative of Estonia to the UN Environment Programme, Vice-Chair of the CPR

H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah, Ambassador of Pakistan to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme, Rapporteur of the CPR

#### **The Bureau of the UN Environment Assembly represented *ex officio***

Mr. Erlend Arneson Haugen, representing H.E. Ms. Elin Rognlie, Ambassador of Norway to the Republic of Kenya and Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme

#### **The UN Environment Programme Secretariat**

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director;

Ms. Joyce Msuya, Deputy Executive Director;

Mr. Rafael Peralta, Chief of Staff;

Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis, Secretary of Governing Bodies;

Mr. Ulf Bjornholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies;

Mr. Stadler Trengove, Principal Legal Officer.

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2. The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Bureau, followed by opening remarks by the Executive Director whereby she welcomed the election of the new Members of the CPR Bureau and committed to providing secretarial support.
3. The meeting agenda was adopted.

## **Agenda Item 2: Roles and responsibilities of Bureau of CPR**

4. The Secretariat provided an introductory presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives from a legal and practical perspective.
5. The Chair expressed her intention to closely work with the Bureau and the secretariat members towards a successful UNEA 5.2 and UNEP@50 and beyond, noting that the Bureau has inspiring but also challenging tasks ahead. She committed to ensuring a collaborative, transparent and efficient work environment within the Bureau and the Committee.
6. The secretariat provided a presentation that highlighted the Bureau members roles and responsibilities. Members of the Bureau appreciated the presentation and expressed their support to the Chair and the Secretariat in carrying out their functions.
7. Several Bureau Members expressed their wish to resume physical meetings for the Committee as a whole as soon as possible to initiate substantive discussions; they suggested that future Bureau meetings should take place in person. In addition, members recommended inviting the Director-general of the UN Office in Nairobi to the Bureau meeting scheduled on 1 September to discuss options for the resumption of physical or hybrid meetings within the UN Compound.
8. Members of the Bureau also noted the recommendations on the division of work within the Bureau as outlined in the decision of the extraordinary meeting of the CPR held on 23 June 2021, including with regard to the preparation of draft resolutions, the process under General Assembly 73/333, and UNEP@50, and requested additional clarity on the expectations of this decision and on the status and process of referred roles to understand what is expected.
9. The Executive Director agreed with the proposal to organize in-person meetings of the Bureau, provided that the restrictions established by UNON are respected. However, she noted that it would be challenging to resume in-person meetings in full for the Committee as a whole due to insufficient vaccination rates for UN staff. One member of the Bureau asked for more details on the rates of vaccination of UN staff.
10. The Chair thanked the Bureau Members for their contribution, requested the secretariat to organize the next bureau meeting as an in-person meeting and invite UNON DG and the UNEP Executive Director to consider modalities for in-person meetings under the CPR while respecting the need for continued restrictions relating to COVID-19. She suggested deferring discussions on the division of work until the next meeting and combining it with a discussion on key priorities for the Committee for the next semester. One member of the Bureau asked the secretariat for an overview of the mandates that must be fulfilled by UNEA-5.2.

### **Agenda Item 3: Consideration of a draft roadmap of the UN Environment Programme Governing Bodies**

11. The Secretariat presented a draft roadmap for the UNEP Governing Bodies, covering the period until March 2022 for consideration by the Bureau.
12. Members of the Bureau agreed to the dates and tentative agenda items as reflected in the roadmap. However, they asked for more information on when and how the CPR will consider UNEP@50, including with regard to possible mandatory meetings for a special session. The Secretariat clarified that the rules of procedure are silent on possible preparatory meetings for UNEA special sessions. However, such arrangements may take place if requested by member States. Concerning UNEP@50, the secretariat recalled that paragraph 10 of the UNEA 5/3 resolution states that preparations should take place under the leadership of the Presidency and Bureau of UNEA-6.
13. Bureau Members suggested that the preparation for draft resolutions should start no later than at the subcommittee meeting scheduled for 11 November. They requested further clarification on the timeline of the provision of background documentation for CPR meetings, suggested putting UNEP@50 on the agenda for the 155<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee and envisage inserting dedicated sub-committee meetings in the roadmap for its preparation. They also questioned whether it was timely to address the process for review at that meeting.
14. The Secretariat clarified that the roadmap is a “living document” that can be modified over time, as necessary, and added that background documentation are made available three weeks ahead of regular CPR meetings and 1-2 weeks ahead of subcommittee meetings at the latest.
15. The Chair asked the secretariat to note the comments made, noting the general agreement on the key dates and tentative agendas outlined in the roadmap.

### **Agenda Item 4: Other Matters**

16. No other matters were raised.

### **Agenda Item 5: Closing of the Meeting.**

17. The meeting closed at 1:00 p.m.