

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Monday 18 October 2021
11:00 – 13:00 pm, GMT+3
Hybrid meeting - Conference Room 9

MEETING SUMMARY

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

1. H.E. Mrs. Luísa Fragoso, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Portugal opened the meeting.

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

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*

H.E. Mr. Gunnar Andreas Holm, Ambassador of Norway and Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme

Mr. Øystein Størkersen, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme

The UN Environment Programme Secretariat

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director

Mr. Ulf Bjornholm, Secretary a.i. of Governing Bodies

Mr. Stadler Trengove, Principal Legal Officer

2. The Chair welcomed all participants, followed by opening remarks by UNEP’s Executive Director, Ms. Inger Andersen. The Executive Director congratulated the CPR members for fruitful subcommittee meetings and thanked the Chair and Bureau for their support and leadership as we approach a “new normal”. She also referred to the circulation of the zero draft ministerial declaration for the resumed session of UNEA-5 and the draft political declaration under UNGA resolution 73/333.
3. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda Item 2: Preparations for the 8th Annual Subcommittee meeting.

4. The Secretariat provided an update on the preparations for the 8th Annual Subcommittee meeting to be held on 25-29 October, including on modalities for in-person participation, and invited the Bureau to provide further guidance on the meeting structure, in particular regarding the “open sessions”.
5. The Vice Chair representing the Group of Latin America and Caribbean States and the Vice Chair representing the African Group briefed the Bureau on the outcomes of the subcommittee meetings held on 14 and 15 October.
6. The Bureau members thanked the Vice Chairs and the Secretariat for the update and sought further clarity on the registration of capital-based delegates, the submission of resolutions on marine litter and plastic pollution, and the status of the negotiating process in New York with regard to the report from UNEA 5.1 report.
7. One Member of the Bureau suggested to request a briefing from UNON at the annual subcommittee meeting to provide an update on the guidelines of re-opening of meeting facilities in the UN complex.
8. Another Member of the Bureau underlined the need to invite Member States to send the draft resolutions at an early stage, and to provide more time for consideration of the drafts at the annual subcommittee, and suggested to invite the chairs of regional and political groups to nominate Nairobi-based facilitators at the 8th meeting of the annual subcommittee, to support the upcoming consultations on draft resolutions.
9. One Member of the Bureau clarified that further consideration was warranted on the proposed theme for the special session on UNEP@50.
10. The Bureau agreed that consultations on the draft resolution on marine litter be arranged on the second session on 27 October, that consultations on the process for review by the CPR would take place on the first session on 28 October. The Bureau also agreed that any remaining open slots may be used, if needed, for further discussions on the Programme Performance Review and/or the special session on UNEP@50, or for consultations on the proposed action plan for the implementation of paragraph 88 or any other issue arising under agenda items 3, 4 or 5. .
11. The Chair proposed a division of work within the Bureau for chairing the different agenda items at the annual subcommittee and that the open session on 27-28 October take place as plenary meetings, to allow for online representation at all times. She suggested to organize bureau meetings on 27 and 29 October to take stock of the meeting and discuss the way forward.
12. The Chair also requested the secretariat to reach out to UNON to provide an update during the annual subcommittee on the UNON guidelines and possible modalities for the resumed session of UNEA-5.2 and the special session of UNEP@50, to draft a letter to chairs of regional and political groups inviting them to nominate facilitators, to inform Member States about the expectations to present draft resolutions 27 October under agenda item 4(b), and to prepare for CPR Bureau meetings on 27 and 29 October.
13. The representative of UNEA President informed the bureau of recent changes in government of Norway and outlined the related interim arrangements whereby France will temporarily act as UNEA President.

Agenda Item 3: Organization of work

14. The Secretariat presented the latest draft roadmap, including a proposal to postpone the 157th meeting of the CPR to 1 February 2022, followed by an exchange of views with Bureau Members.
15. The Bureau agreed with the proposed dates. Some Members expressed concern with the limited number of meetings scheduled to discuss all the substantive issues at hand.
16. One Bureau Member underlined the need to avoid clashes with UN-Habitat meetings.
17. Another Bureau Member proposed to include a briefing on the World Environment Situation Room in one of the subcommittee meetings scheduled for November, in view of the requests by Members States to have more information on the WESR upgrade.
18. The Chair requested the secretariat to adjust the roadmap accordingly, and to revert to the issue at an upcoming Bureau meeting.

Agenda Item 4: Other matters

19. No other matters were raised.

Agenda Item 4: Closing of Meeting

20. The meeting closed at 2:00 p.m.