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## United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

**Annual meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives  
to the United Nations Environment Programme**

**Eighth Meeting**

Nairobi, 25 - 29 October 2021

12:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)

Hybrid meeting

Conference Room 1

### Chair's Summary

#### **Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting**

1. H.E. Mrs. Luisa Fragoso, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Portugal opened the meeting and welcomed its members and observers, including major groups and stakeholders.

#### **Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda of the Sixth Annual Subcommittee meeting.**

2. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted.
3. Ms Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme, delivered a statement to the meeting, available [here](#).
4. The meeting heard opening statements by regional and political groups and individual Member States, available on the [meeting portal](#).

#### **Agenda Item 3: Programme performance review of UNEP's Programme of Work 2020-2021.**

5. The Secretariat introduced the programme performance review covering the 18-month period from January 2020 – June 2021, based on a PowerPoint [presentation](#) from the Secretariat. All presentations are available on the online [meeting page](#).

#### **Overview**

6. Delegations who took the floor provided the following general guidance to the Secretariat:
  - a) Commended UNEP on the high level of progress and results achieved in the 18-month January 2020- June 2021 period, despite the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, and for its response to the pandemic;
  - b) Observed that while UNEP's overall performance is high, the state of the environment continued to deteriorate and recommended recalibration of the indicators to allow for more realistic results;

- c) Underlined the importance of UNEP to effectively support Member States' efforts to implement the environmental dimension of the UN 2030 agenda, upon request; some other delegations requested UNEP's assistance to align with its normative mandate
  - d) Encouraged Member States to further engage in the CPR oversight and review process within the context of the UNEP Programme and Performance Review;
  - e) Requested the Secretariat to ensure that Programme Performance Review documents:
    - Clearly highlight information on key challenges and lessons learnt and how they will inform the future work of UNEP moving into the new MTS;
    - Explain the methodologies used for the calculation of the presented data;
    - Provide additional information on the reasons for underachievement for the indicators that partially achieved their targets;
    - Provide additional information on the discrepancy between the low expenditures of earmarked funds and the high overall achievement;
    - Include more gender results under sub-programmes.
    - Include a narrative content for the Programme Performance Review, as well as annotations for the PowerPoints.
    - Highlight UNEP's work on capacity building, especially South-South cooperation.
  - f) Requested the secretariat to make available relevant previous Programme Performance Reports as reference documents.
  - g) Some delegations considered that the PowerPoint presentation format for the 6 and 18 months did not provide the level of detail required for their oversight functions and indicated that a narrative report presented a better option. Others indicated that it provided a rich and comprehensive review and a precise structure that is easy to understand.
  - h) One delegation raised concerns that flagship reports such as the UNEP Production Gap report, Adaptation Gap report and Emissions Gap report are released prior to engagement and recommended that flagship reports should be discussed with Member States before publication; several other delegations invited the secretariat to present the UNEP Gap report to the CPR, and underlined that the independent and scientific character of these reports should be preserved.
7. The Secretariat observed that the 6 months and 18 months performance reviews had been traditionally presented in PowerPoint format. It welcomed the opportunity to discuss the kind of reports that Member States require, taking into consideration the heavy reporting burden. The current Programme of Work did not allow for recalibration of the indicators, but the new Medium-Term Strategy provided an opportunity to focus on indicative and realistic indicators. Specific sections of the subprogrammes contain detailed information on challenges and lessons learnt. The comments on gender would be addressed.

### **Sub-Programme on Climate Change**

8. Delegations who took the floor:
- a) Appreciated the performance report and the clear subprogramme focus on adaptation and climate finance.
  - b) Noted a discrepancy between the high delivery rate of the subprogramme while the climate crisis is exacerbated.
  - c) Requested the Secretariat to improve the process of sharing information with UNEP Governing Bodies.
  - d) Recognized the importance of adaptation projects and welcomed work supporting access on climate finance through partnerships and initiatives.
  - e) Sought clarification on how UNEP will use lessons learned from the current programme of work to the next programme especially on climate ambition and investment to decarbonize economies.
  - f) Noted the funding discrepancies for subprogrammes 1 and 3 especially with earmarked funds.

### **Sub-Programme on Resilience to Disasters and Conflicts**

9. Delegations who took the floor:
- a) Welcomed the results achieved for the 18 months' period.
  - b) Acknowledged the importance of the effective mainstreaming of disasters and conflicts work under the next Medium-Term Strategy and the importance that the work is maintained. The work coordinated by the UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit to support UN partners and Member States in matters of environment emergencies was specifically mentioned.

#### **Sub-Programme on Healthy Productive Ecosystems**

10. Delegations who took the floor:
- a) Welcomed the results achieved on mainstreaming ecosystems approach across sectors and transboundary collaboration frameworks as well as the inclusion of ecosystems consideration in economic decision making.
  - b) Highlighted the good work regarding communication outreach and education for sustainability and commended UNEP for its important work for better coordination among the biodiversity related Multilateral Environmental Agreements for their synergetic involvement in the post 2020 global biodiversity framework process.
  - c) Noted that despite these achievements the negative trends in biodiversity and ecosystems continue and recommended that UNEP elaborate on how, building on the lessons learnt during the current PoW, UNEP will continue to further mainstream ecosystems approach across sectors in the implementation of the new PoW.
  - d) Also requested additional information on the National Capital Accounting (NCA) work, especially the methodology used for NCA in UNEP supported initiatives.

#### **Sub-Programme on Environmental Governance**

11. Delegations who took the floor:
- a) Welcomed the work done and results achieved under the Sub-Programme.
  - b) Noted need to enhance UNEP's ability to work through key partnerships.
  - c) Requested UNEP to reflect the linkages to the SDGs in its work.
  - d) Appreciated the work of the EMG and requested the Secretariat for an update to the CPR

#### **Sub-Programme on Chemicals, Waste & Air Quality**

12. Delegations who took the floor:
- a) Commended the work done under the Sub-Programme highlighting the timely delivery of reports (Assessment Science Policy interface, science- based evidence) as requested by UNEA, the important work done on Special Programme and the support offered to SAICM, milestones and the improvements on air quality.
  - b) Requested for information changes in the new Medium-Term Strategy and their impact on the work of UNEP on chemicals and pollution.
  - c) Also requested for adequate time to review the Environmental Impact Pesticides & Fertilizers Report and for a summary of policy makers to be provided before the report is published.
  - d) Stressed the need to strengthen the science-policy interface and work on marine litter.

#### **Sub-Programme on Resource Efficiency**

13. Delegations who took the floor:
- a) Expressed support for 10YFP and hoped that the post 2020 framework would continue to provide a platform for cross sectional practitioners to share experiences, best practices and lessons learned.

- b) Underlined the importance of the International Resource Panel and expressed support for further alignment of public and private finance promoting UN reform and gainful partnerships and for work on sustainable consumption and production and the multi partner trust fund of SDG 12.
- c) Welcomed the work on sustainable finance principles undertaken by financial institutions and requested for additional information on how this would be followed up in the new Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work.

### **Sub-Programme on Environment Under Review**

#### 14. Delegations who took the floor:

- a) Recognized UNEP's ongoing efforts in supporting countries to implement the Environmental Dimension of SDGs, particularly in strengthening capacity on methodologies, monitoring and reporting.
- b) Stated that UNEP publications and flagship reports have high legitimacy and play an important role in the global environmental work, encouraging monitoring of uptake of the reports.
- c) Reiterated that access to UNEP information is important and close collaboration with other UNEP Sub Programmes to ensure quality of the outputs was equally important.
- d) Emphasized high quality, credible, open, shared environmental data, assessments and expertise as critical in supporting integration of environmental issues across the UN and in strengthening evidence-based policy making.
- e) Inquired on what will change for the Subprogramme in the new MTS and how it will adjust to support the 3 action pillars.
- f) Highlighted the World Environment Situation Room (WESR), inquiring on its contribution to identifying emerging issues and the need to fully operationalize it.

### **Management Overview**

#### 15. Delegations who took the floor:

- a) Called for widened funding base for the Environment Fund and invited all Member States that had not yet done so, to contribute to the Environment Fund; many delegations also emphasized that contributions should be in line with the Voluntary Indicative Scale of Contributions (VISIC), which has also been communicated as each Member States' "fair share".
- b) Requested the Secretariat to provide a more detailed briefing to the CPR on the updated Resource Mobilization Strategy and the proposed thematic funds.
- c) Highlighted the importance of increasing partnerships with Private Sector including resource mobilization.
- d) Commended the secretariat for the detailed presentation and for the new structure and coordination on geographical and regional outreach and gender parity.
- e) Reiterated the need for increased efforts by the secretariat to achieve greater geographical and regional representation.
- f) Requested the Secretariat to present information on the balance in geographical representation balance from a historic perspective to make it easier to assess the impact of measures taken to support change in geographical diversity, and requested for inclusion of a desirable target range for each regional group and country.
- g) Commended UNEP on achievements such as progress in management reform, update of internal policies, improvements in addressing outstanding audits and, efforts on regional and geographical balance

### **Evaluation Overview**

#### 16. Delegations who took the floor:

- a) Commended the Secretariat on presentation and management response, expressed appreciation that UNEP is learning from the evaluations and incorporating lessons learned in their work, and requested that it be provided in writing as a basis for further engagement with the Secretariat.
- b) Appreciated the recognition of the importance of the poverty environment nexus and programmes that support poverty eradication and social development as well as the efforts that UNEP is undertaking on this issue.
- c) Requested for information about on the independent status of the evaluation office.
- d) Provided information about a forthcoming meeting on the presentation of MOPAN findings on UNEP.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Preparations for the resumed session of UNEA-5.**

##### **a) Consideration of key areas of importance in accordance with mandates from previous UNEA resolutions**

- 17. This agenda item was chaired by the Vice Chair of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Mr. Ado Lõhmus, Estonia.
- 18. The United Nations office in Nairobi briefed the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting on the COVID-19 guidelines related to the reopening of the UN complex in Nairobi.
- 19. The Secretariat provided an overview of key areas of importance for the resumed session of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5-2), as reflected in document [UNEP/ASC.8/2](#), and referred to document [UNEP/ASC.8/3/rev.1](#), which contains a consolidated overview of recommendations from the official documents submitted by the secretariat to the online session of UNEA-5. The secretariat also provided an update on the status of preparations for UNEA 5.2, including on format, timelines and structure, and on the development of the Executive Director's report for the high-level segment of UNEA-5.2.
- 20. Following the Secretariat presentation, delegations who took the floor provided the following guidance:
  - a) Stressed the need for Member States to announce or submit draft resolutions as soon as possible, with a view to start consultations, preparations and awareness at an early stage.
  - b) Called for a manageable agenda, with a limited, but ambitious set of outcomes for UNEA-5.2, taking into account the challenges relating to the restriction relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and the shortened 3-day session.
  - c) Recognized that the adoption of a Ministerial Declaration is a key priority for the resumed session of UNEA 5, with some delegations suggesting that it could serve as an input to the Stockholm+50 International Meeting.
  - d) Underscored the need for the meeting format of UNEA 5.2 to ensure in-person universal participation for all countries.
  - e) Suggested that UNEA 5.2 may wish to take action on the proposed action plan for paragraph 88 of the Outcome Document from Rio+20, the future governance of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, the process for review by the CPR, and a possible extension of the 10 Year Framework for Sustainable Consumption and Production.
  - f) Looked forward to the upcoming consultations on a political declaration in accordance with the mandate provide by UN General Assembly resolution 73/333, scheduled for 17-19 November 2021, with many delegations advocating for the special session on UNEP@50 to be the appropriate high level meeting for its adoption.
  - g) Reminded the secretariat about the request in UNEA decisions 5/2 to provide a report on geographical representation of human resources in UNEP.
  - h) Appreciated the implementation of UNEA resolution 4/8 on chemicals and waste and resolution 4/14 on mineral resources governance, with one delegation announcing draft resolutions on these topics.

- i) Welcomed discussions on the need to tackle marine litter and plastic pollution at UNEA-5.2. with the aim to create an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC).
21. One stakeholder representative underscored the importance of inclusive and meaningful participation of the civil society at the high-level segments and the leadership dialogues of UNEA-5.2 and the need to build capacity among children and youth in UNEA processes. Another stakeholder representative announced a hybrid youth assembly and called for an intergenerational dialogue.
22. Following a [presentation](#) by Mr Ivar Baste, co-chair for the Steering Committee on the Future of the Global Environment Outlook, delegations who took the floor provided the following guidance:
- Expressed appreciation for the work of the Steering Committee and underlined the importance for UNEA 5.2 to take action on this matter.
  - Considered that the GEO is central to UNEP’s work under the science policy interface and that it needed adequate financial resources.
  - Called for geographical balance regarding the authors and expert teams for the Global Environment Outlook, to ensure diversity and balance of scientific inputs.
  - Asked for more information on how the synthesis report launched by UNEA 5.1 may provide lessons learned and noted that the science policy report planned for UNEP@50 may relate to the GEO process.
23. The secretariat informed that the final document will be made available in all UN languages once published.
24. Delegations considered paragraph 3 of the outcome document from the consensual process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, as mandated by UNEA decision 4/2, which was the only outstanding paragraph in that document. On the final day of the meeting, the meeting agreed to the following formulation of paragraph 3: “Reaffirm the mandate of the Committee of the Permanent Representatives as stipulated in Governing Council decision 27/2 (paragraph 9) and underline its oversight role of UNEP and its role in the preparatory process of UNEA meetings, including in the preparation of draft resolutions and decisions, as well as in the monitoring of their implementation. This involves the preparation of draft resolutions and decisions, even in advance of the meeting of the annual subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, as appropriate, as further detailed in paragraph 13, and monitoring of their implementation and the implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget, as referred to in paragraph 14. This further involves convening, in addition to the regular quarterly meetings of the CPR and meetings of the CPR subcommittee, a dedicated biennial open ended CPR meeting for preparations of UNEA meetings<sup>1</sup>, encouraging the participation of capital-based delegations, as well as convening a dedicated annual subcommittee meeting to review UNEP’s Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work and Budget and to oversee their implementation<sup>2</sup>, also encouraging the participation of capital-based delegations.”
25. The meeting also agreed to recommend that, in the standard decision on "Provisional agenda, date and venue for UNEA-6", an operative paragraph would be included as follows: “Endorses the outcome of the stock-taking meeting for the Process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, as mandated by UNEA Decision 4/2.”
26. With regard to paragraph 7 of UNEA decision 5/3, whereby the CPR is invited to consider, in view of systemic problems and in a comprehensive manner, the cycle of the term of office of the Bureau of the CPR in relation to that of the Bureau of UNEA, the meeting agreed to recommend that the Chair of the OECPR will include a paragraph in the report to UNEA-5.2, whereby reference is made to the relevant recommendation in UNEA decisions 5/3, as well as to the relevant decision by the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its extraordinary meeting on 23 June 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> As mandated by UNEP Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 10.

<sup>2</sup> As mandated by UNEP Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 11.

## **b) Announcements of draft resolutions for UNEA-5**

27. This agenda item was chaired by the Vice Chair of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, H.E. Mr. Erasmo Roberto Martínez, Mexico.
28. The following draft resolutions for UNEA-5-2 were introduced or announced:
- a) [Draft resolution from Rwanda/Peru, supported by several co-sponsors, on an internationally legally binding instrument on plastic pollution](#)
  - b) [Announcement from Japan on a draft resolution on an international legal instrument on marine plastic pollution](#)
  - c) [Draft resolution from Sri Lanka on Sustainable Nitrogen Management](#)
  - d) [Draft resolution from Indonesia on Sustainable Lake Management](#)
  - e) [Concept note from Argentina, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Senegal and Switzerland on a draft resolution on mineral resource governance](#)
  - f) [Concept note from Switzerland on a draft resolution on the sound management of chemicals and waste](#)
  - g) [Concept note from Costa Rica, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Uruguay on a draft resolution for a Science Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution](#)
  - h) [Concept note from the EU, supported by Costa Rica, on a draft resolution on Nature-based Solutions for supporting sustainable development](#)
  - i) [Concept note from the EU on a draft resolution on accelerated adaptation measures to secure water quality and strengthened climate resilience in aquatic ecosystems](#)
  - j) Announcement from Eritrea on behalf of the African Group to on draft resolution on green recovery
  - k) Announcement from Eritrea on behalf of the African Group to on a draft resolution circular economy
  - l) Announcement from Eritrea on behalf of the African Group to on a draft resolution on biodiversity and health
  - m) Announcement from Ghana, with the support of Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal, South Sudan, and Ethiopia on a draft resolution on animal welfare.
  - n) Announcement from Costa Rica on a draft resolution on financial mechanisms for forests ecosystems and biodiversity
  - o) Announcement from the Russian Federation on compliance of equitable geographical representation and balance in the secretariat of UNEP
29. With regard to the draft resolutions on plastic pollution, delegations who took the floor provided the following guidance:
- a) Expressed general support for UNEA 5.2 to take action on plastic pollution through a resolution to establish of an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a global agreement/instrument on marine litter and plastic pollution.
  - b) Many delegations welcomed the draft resolution presented by Rwanda and Peru on this topic, some of which announced the intention to co-sponsor the draft.
  - c) The delegation of Japan expressed their intention to submit a separate resolution on the same topic as soon as possible.
  - d) Many delegations underlined the need for a transparent and participatory process that includes the views of all relevant stakeholders in the development of the legally binding instrument.
  - e) Many delegations underlined the need to ensure adequate means of implementation, including capacity building, finance and technology transfer, as part of the legally binding instrument.
  - f) Many delegations also stressed the importance of credible and inclusive science-based targets., and that it should build on rather than duplicate current instruments.
  - g) Some delegations noted that they are still developing their position on this issue.
  - h) Several representatives from Major Groups and Stakeholders, including from non-governmental organizations, industry, and children and youth, expressed support for the establishment of an INC to develop a global agreement/instrument on this topic at UNEA-5.2.

- i) Many delegations underlined the importance of a circular economy approach that covers the full life cycle of plastics.
  - j) Some delegations encouraged the co-sponsors of both texts to discuss the possibility of merging their proposals.
30. The Chair thanked delegations for the presentations and announcements for draft resolutions and noted that the number of initiatives from Member States now reached 15 in total, in addition to the 10 key areas of importance identified by the Secretariat. He reiterated the importance of early identification of areas of interest even before the start of the annual subcommittee and noted that the experience this year demonstrates that the time to consider resolutions and decisions is limited. He concluded that the future consultations in the Committee will need to be well organized and distributed, both in terms of timing and facilitation, to make full use of the intersessional period before UNEA 5.2. He reiterated his call on regional groups to nominate 1-2 facilitators as soon as possible, to distribute workload and streamline the negotiations on draft resolutions.
31. The Chair also suggested that the secretariat will support our upcoming consultations on the draft resolution by providing technical guidance in writing for each draft resolution, with a technical analysis on the following three aspects: i) Relation to UNEPs Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work; ii) Legal aspects; and iii) Budget implications.
32. The Chair also presented indicative dates for further consideration of draft resolutions, and appealed to delegations that have announced the intention to present draft resolutions to make them available to the membership by 15 November at the latest.

#### **c) Briefing on the informal consultations on a draft ministerial declaration for UNEA-5**

33. This agenda item was chaired by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, H.E. Mrs. Luisa Frago, Portugal.
34. Upon invitation by France, Acting President of UNEA-5, the delegation of Norway provided a briefing to the Committee on the consultation on the basis of a revised [zero draft ministerial declaration](#) and a recent [letter from the Presidency with a roadmap for consultation](#), and invited Member States to provide feedback in writing by late November 2021.
35. Many delegations supported the draft declaration as drafted, and expressed appreciation to the Presidency for making available the revised draft and timeline for consultations in a timely manner, and expressed their willingness and commitment to engage constructively, including by sending written comments.
36. Many delegations also highlighted the importance of an inclusive, participatory and transparent approach, and of making full use of the Committee of Permanent Representatives during the consultation process.
37. Several delegations expressed support for an increased level of ambition on means of implementation, that the declaration should reflect the three dimensions of sustainable development on a more balanced manner, and that should refer to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.
38. Some delegations also highlighted that the declaration should refrain from applying concepts and formulations that had not been multilaterally agreed.
39. Some delegations suggested that the ministerial declaration should constitute the contribution from UNEA-5 to the Stockholm+50 International meeting, and one delegation questioned this idea on the basis of limited ownership by the CPR.



40. A representative of Major Groups and Stakeholders proposed to include a new paragraph on the essential role of the children and youth to advance the global environmental agenda.
41. The delegation of Norway expressed appreciation for the comments and inputs received and reiterated its strong commitment to an inclusive process based on the established practice whereby the Presidency holds the pen and highlights textual changes compared to previous drafts, and looked forward to receiving comments in writing in view of presenting a revised draft to the Joint Bureaux at its meeting in December and at the 158<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CPR in early 2022.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Preparations for the special session on the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the creation of UNEP**

42. This session was chaired by the Vice Chair of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, H.E. Ms. Selma Malika Haddadi, Algeria.
43. The Chair referred to previous consideration on the preparations for the special session on UNEP@50, including the subcommittee meeting held on 15 October, and invited delegations to reflect on and make concrete suggestions about key aspects relating to the theme, the structure, the level of participation, and the political outcome. In this regard she recalled the following questions: i) Should the special session result in summaries from leadership dialogues and the plenary; ii) Should UNEP@50 result in a negotiated ministerial declaration; iii) If there is a declaration, how should it be drafted and negotiated; iv) How should such a declaration also address the existing process under UNGA resolution 73/333.
44. The secretariat presented a [revised note](#) on the preparations for the special session on UNEP@50, based on comments and questions from Member States and Stakeholders at the meeting of the CPR subcommittee on 15 October, with complementary information on the scope of the possible political outcomes, the high-level leadership dialogues, and the strengthening of UNEP's capacity for implementation, particularly in relation to the enhancement of the World Environment Situation Room, and to the promotion of a renewed universal financial commitment to UNEP.
45. Delegations who took the floor provided the following feedback and guidance:
  - a) Many delegations stressed the importance of strengthening the role of UNEP as the global authority on the environment in the UN system.
  - b) Many delegations welcomed the proposed structure for the special session in general terms, including with regard to the leadership dialogues, and called for inclusive, balanced and high-level participation, including from Multilateral Environment Agreement secretariats and Major Groups and Stakeholders; further clarity was sought on the expected level of participation.
  - c) Many delegations expressed support for a theme for UNEP@50 as follows: "Towards the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development for the future we want", noting that a theme can provide guidance to the plenary and leadership dialogues.
  - d) Some delegations questioned the need for a theme going beyond the commemoration of UNEP.
  - e) Some delegation also suggested that, should there be a theme, it should focus on strengthening UNEP.
  - f) Some delegations advocated for UNEP to conduct a "gap analysis" on means of implementation, with some other delegations expressing doubts about this proposal.
  - g) Many delegations supported the adoption of the political declaration stemming from the process under General Assembly resolution 73/333, with some delegations underlining that this should not be the only political outcome.
  - h) Some delegations took note of the information note on the budget for UNEP@50 and UNEA 5.2 and committed to explore the possibility of providing extra-budgetary resources to ensure a successful organization of both events.
  - i) Some delegations called for a strengthened communication strategy around UNEP@50 and suggested that international meetings such as MEA COP meetings would be a good opportunity to

increase the visibility about UNEP@50, complemented by commemorations at national and regional levels.

- j) Some delegations proposed consideration of how to reflect the right to a safe and clean environment, as adopted by the UN Human Rights Council, in the outcome of UNEP@50.
  - k) Some delegations announced that they would be contributing with financial support for the participation of delegates from developing countries.
  - l) Some delegations also suggested that a specific chapter on south-south cooperation is included in the science policy report to UNEP@50.
  - m) Some delegations called for creative and innovative ways to enhance UNEP's implementation role, such as considering it as a clearinghouse for the environmental dimension of sustainable development.
  - n) It was suggested that, in looking back at the past 50 years since the creation of UNEP, it is important to recognize key figures and pioneers in UNEP's past, including Dr. Mostafa Tolba, the first Deputy Executive Director and the second Executive Director of UNEP, and pay tribute to their contributions.
46. The Chair thanked delegations for their guidance and noted that some positions were converging, but that more work is needed towards a clear collective vision for UNEP@50, in particular in relation to logistical and political aspects of the event. Concrete steps on the way forward would be considered in consultation with the CPR Bureau, in view of an upcoming subcommittee meeting.

**Agenda Item 6: Briefing on the preparations for the international meeting entitled “Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity”**

47. This session was chaired by the Vice Chair of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, H.E. Mrs. Saqlain Syedah, Pakistan.
48. The Executive Director of UNEP informed the meeting that she had been appointed Secretary-General of the Stockholm +50 Internal Meeting by the UN Secretary-General and that UNEP will act as the focal point within the UN system to support Sweden and Kenya with the preparations in their capacities as co-hosts. The Secretariat provided a [presentation](#) on the state of preparations for the international meeting.
49. The delegation of Sweden expressed hope that Stockholm+50 will be a collaborative and inclusive effort of joint, action-oriented solutions to the urgent global commitments, and noted that UNEA has unique insight into the three planetary crises and would be well placed to provide relevant inputs to Stockholm+50. She considered the three planned leadership dialogues to be at the heart of Stockholm+50, and expected a bottom-up approach that reflects the richness and the diversity of engagement based on the three engagement pathways: implementation, interconnectivity, and intergenerational responsibility.
50. The delegation of Kenya considered Stockholm+50 as a great opportunity to commemorate 1972 Conference and accelerate implementation of commitments, including sustainable recovery from COVID-19. She acknowledged that UNEP@50 and Stockholm+50 share similar visions, while being complimentary in their contribution, avoiding overlaps and duplications.
51. Delegations who took the floor provided the following feedback and guidance:
- a) Expressed gratitude to Sweden and Kenya for their leadership in organising the Stockholm+50 International Meeting.
  - b) Congratulated the Executive Director of UNEP for the appointment as the Secretary-General of the meeting, took note of the of the key milestones, and expressed readiness and commitment to engage constructively.

- c) Emphasized the importance of the role of UNEP serving as the focal point for the organization of the international meeting, particularly in ensuring that Stockholm+50 and UNEP@50 are mutually reinforcing, and avoiding overlaps and duplications.
- d) Highlighted the relevance of addressing sustainable consumption and production at Stockholm+50.
- e) Stressed the importance of the Stockholm+50 international meeting to be inclusive, with a wide engagement of diverse stakeholders taking into account geographical and gender balance, and with particular emphasis on youth, indigenous peoples and women.
- f) Several delegations supported the suggestion made by the UNEA-5 Presidency that the UNEA 5.2 ministerial declaration may provide a valuable contribution to Stockholm+50, and that an additional paragraph referring to the meeting in the draft declaration would be helpful in this regard; other delegations called for more information and further discussion on this proposal.
- g) Some delegations called for the inclusion of aspects related to the uneven COVID 19 recovery and to the need for greater solidarity and support due to the disproportionate and exacerbated impact of the pandemic in developing countries as an impediment for the the achievement of the SDGs and overcoming poverty.
- h) Some delegations requested information on how UNEA, including through the CPR, would contribute to the provision of input to the Stockholm+50 international meeting.
- i) One stakeholder representative informed that it would convene a self-organized youth component on the margins of the Stockholm+50 International Meeting with the first part taking place in Nairobi and the second part taking place in Stockholm in 2022.

**Agenda Item 7: Consideration of a draft Chair’s summary.**

- 52. The meeting adopted the Chair’s Summary.

**Agenda Item 8: Other Matters**

- 53. One delegation on behalf of a regional group questioned the allocation of meeting room, which was considered too small to allow for physical distancing, the chosen timing of the meeting, which was considered less than ideal for the in-person participants, and the lack of written reports for the PPR.
- 54. The secretariat took note of the comments received and explained that the allocation of conference rooms was due to the need to use simultaneous interpretation equipment for another meeting, that the timing had been agreed by the CPR Bureau, and that PPR reports in writing are made available on a yearly basis while the half-year updates are traditionally provided in the form of Powerpoint presentations. On the latter, the Secretariat welcomed a separate discussion with interested Member States to ensure a clear and balanced reporting burden.
- 55. Due to limited time availability, consideration of the proposed action plan for the implementation of paragraph 88 of the Outcome Document from Rio + 20 could not take place as planned, and will instead be addressed at an upcoming meeting of the CPR subcommittee.

**Agenda Item 9: Closing of the meeting**

- 56. The meeting closed at 4:30 p.m.