

United Nations Environment Assembly
Bureau Meeting
Thursday, 7 November 2024
16:00 - 18:00 (GMT+3)
Online - Microsoft Teams

Summary

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

1. His Excellency Abdullah Bin Ali Al Amri, President of the seventh session of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) and Chair of the Environment Authority of Oman, opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Bureau. The President welcomed and congratulated His Excellency Mike Mposha, Minister of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia, on his election as the Vice President of UNEA-7 representing the African States group. The President also welcomed the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), His Excellency Firas Khouri, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, who joined the meeting as an ex-officio Bureau member.
2. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), delivered her opening remarks.
3. The [agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Consideration of a theme for the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

4. The Secretariat provided a briefing on the informal consultations on the theme for UNEA-7 held on 22 October 2024. The President of UNEA informed the Bureau, that based on the comments and views provided by member states at the informal consultations, he was proposing a streamlined theme, which reads, “**Equitable solutions for a resilient planet.**”
5. Bureau members agreed that the proposed theme should provide a strategic focus, be aligned with UNEP’s mandate and provide UNEA an opportunity to focus on the essential role of science.
6. One Bureau member noted the importance of ensuring Member States fully understood the documents referenced in the background note from other forums, e.g. the 2024 Global Resource Outlook, and suggested focusing the theme on environmental issues.
7. One Bureau member highlighted that adding "equitable solutions" changed the focus of the theme, suggested highlighting environmental solutions, emphasized the need to add precautionary principles when discussing new technologies and suggested reintroducing sustainable governance of natural resources.
8. One Bureau member proposed referencing “financial flows” broadly instead of just “means of implementation”.
9. Some Bureau members also suggested integrating terms like "action-oriented" or "accelerating inclusive solutions" to make the theme more impactful.
10. The President asked the Secretariat to revise the background note, based on views expressed, and circulate a streamlined proposal to Member States and stakeholders for the fourth informal consultations, which will be held on 14 November 2024 from 15:00 to 17:00 (Nairobi time).

Agenda item 3: Decision of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the recommendations on lessons learned from the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

11. The Chair of the CPR briefed on the [recommendations on lessons learned from the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly adopted by the Committee at its 167th quarterly meeting](#).
12. One Bureau member suggested that the Bureau should continuously apply lessons learned throughout the preparations of UNEA-7, particularly those related to the submission of draft resolutions and decisions, emphasizing the importance of training the co-facilitators, encouraging informal interactions among Member States on the draft proposals, and ensuring that the draft resolutions and decisions are submitted within the timelines.
13. One Bureau member mentioned the importance of the regional forums of ministers of environment in preparation for UNEA, highlighting the need to include on the agendas of annual subcommittee meetings of the CPR an item on the contribution of the regional forums of ministers of the environment and emphasized the need for travel support to the representatives from developing countries to ensure their participation in the regional forums.
14. The Executive Director confirmed that [UNEA resolution 6/3](#) is been implemented, reminding that a dialogue with the Presidents of the regional forums was held during the [eleventh Annual Subcommittee meeting of the CPR \(11 ASC\)](#), and assured of the efforts to mobilize resources for travel support.

Agenda item 4: Organization of work.

15. The Executive Director updated on the upcoming meetings of the Bureau for the rest of 2024 and early 2025.
16. Upon inquiry from some Bureau members, the Secretariat confirmed that a roadmap of Bureau meetings for 2025 will be made available in due course.
17. The President reminded the Bureau members of the joint meeting of the Bureaux of the CPR and UNEA scheduled for 11 December 2024 and the in-person joint Bureaux retreat scheduled for 3 and 4 July 2025 in Oman.

Agenda item 5: Other matters.

18. The President invited Bureau members to the Oman Climate Week scheduled for the end of February 2025.

Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting.

19. The meeting closed at 17:45 (GMT+3).

Annex 1: List of participants of the UNEA Bureau

UNEA Bureau members

1. H. E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of UNEA and Chair of the Environment Authority of Oman.
2. H. E. Ms. Nino Tandilashvili, Vice President of UNEA and First Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.
3. H. E. Ms. Anikó Raisz, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of State for Environmental Policy and Circular Economy of Hungary.
4. H. E. Mr. Ali Gholampour, Vice President of UNEA and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to UNEP.
5. H. E. Ms. Johanna Lissinger Peitz, Vice President of UNEA and Senior Advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Government Offices of Sweden.
6. H. E. Mr. Mike Mposha, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia
7. H. E. Ms. Joyelle Clarke, Rapporteur of UNEA and Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Representation of UNEA Bureau members.

8. H. E. Ms. Zakia Khattabi, Vice President of UNEA and Federal Minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal of Belgium, **represented by** H. E. Mr. Peter Maddens, Ambassador of Belgium and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
9. H. E. Ms. Fitsum Assefa Adela, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Planning and Development of Ethiopia, **represented by** Mr. Temesgen Getachew, Second Secretary of the Embassy of Ethiopia in Kenya.
10. H. E. Mr. Juan Carlos Castro Vargas, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Environment of Peru, **represented by** H. E. Ms. Romy Tincopa, Ambassador of Peru and Permanent Representative to UNEP.

CPR Bureau member participating in an ex-officio capacity.

H. E. Mr. Firas Khouri, Chair of the Committee Permanent Representative and Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to UNEP.

UNEP Secretariat

1. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director.
2. Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Deputy Executive Director
3. Mr. Nicolas Bertrand, Chief of Staff.
4. Ms. Radhika Ochalik, Secretary of Governing Bodies.
5. Mr. Gerhard Kreutzer, Legal Affairs Officer