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Subcommittee of the
Committee of Permanent Representatives
Seventh meeting of 2026
Nairobi, 7 July 2026

Draft Chair's Summary of the seventh subcommittee meeting of 2026

Agenda item 1

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

1. The meeting, which was held in Nairobi in a hybrid format, was opened at 9.10 a.m. on Thursday, 14 May 2026 by Marie Charlotte Tang, Vice Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Ms. Marie Charlotte Tang chaired the morning session of the meeting and her fellow Vice-Chair, Anouar Ben Youssef, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tunisia to UNEP, chaired the afternoon session.
2. The [agenda](#) was adopted on the basis of the provisional agenda that had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Agenda item 2

Briefing on the work of the Climate Technology Centre and Network

3. A representative of the Secretariat provided a [briefing](#) on the work of the [Climate Technology Centre and Network](#) (CTCN) on capacity-building, technology and technology transfer, including an update on the work of the CTCN regarding the support provided through technical assistance, knowledge sharing and capacity-building, as well as progress in implementing its 2023–2027 Programme of Work.
4. Representatives of many delegations¹ welcomed the presentation and provided responses to the issues raised. In their comments, the representatives:
 - (a) Welcomed the Centre's continued support to developing countries through technical assistance, capacity building and technology transfers; congratulated UNEP for its successful bid for UNEP to continue hosting the CTCN, reiterated their support for the climate agenda and underlined the importance to move from planning to implementation to unlock wider climate finance;
 - (b) Encouraged the CTCN to strengthen the outcome-level monitoring and reporting to better demonstrate the long-term effectiveness and impact of its support, including on adaptation, resilience and technology uptake at the country level;
 - (c) Expressed support for the CTCN's work in assisting developing countries to identify and address technology needs while strengthening national capacities;

¹Brazil, Costa Rica, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Peru, Portugal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, non-governmental organizations major group, children and youth major group.

(d) Welcomed the CTCN's efforts to strengthen partnerships with multilateral development banks, climate funds, philanthropic organizations and the private sector while encouraging further efforts to mobilize finance and facilitate access to climate technologies;

(e) Welcomed the growing emphasis on gender responsive approaches, youth engagement and climate innovations; and

(f) Encouraged greater transparency, inclusiveness and regional balance by strengthening the participation of underrepresented regions and stakeholders, including Latin America and the Caribbean, civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, academia, the private sector and local communities.

5. Requested the Secretariat to clarify:

(a) The review of the CTCN hosting arrangements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including the implications of UNEP's renewed hosting role and the Belém Technology Implementation Programme (BTIP);

(b) Project selection and prioritization criteria, funding sources, access to support, opportunities for stakeholder engagement, and how stakeholders can contribute to accountability, knowledge sharing, and scaling-up of solutions;

(c) The CTCN's monitoring and evaluation framework, including how success is measured beyond greenhouse gas emission reductions and how lessons learned from its first Programme of Work have been incorporated into the second cycle, including their application to other areas such as mobilizing multilateral development bank financing;

(d) Efforts to expand equitable participation of African institutions, civil society organisations and other underrepresented stakeholders within the CTCN network; and

(e) The CTCN's approach to supporting clean cooking technologies, particularly in developing countries.

6. Responding to the comments, representatives of the Secretariat:

(a) Explained that the hosting arrangements of the CTCN are periodically reviewed by the Parties to the UNFCCC and confirmed that UNEP has been selected to continue hosting the Centre for a further 15-year period;

(b) Highlighted that the CTCN is strengthening its outcome-oriented, consistent and systematic monitoring and evaluation framework to better demonstrate the long-term effectiveness and impact of its work, including through indicators approved by the UNFCCC Parties and the Advisory Board to measure resilience, technology deployment and post-implementation results, while incorporating lessons learned from the previous Programme of Work;

(c) Noted that CTCN membership is voluntary and open to eligible organizations, with current membership reflecting organic growth, particularly in Europe and Asia, while efforts are underway to expand participation from underrepresented regions;

(d) Highlighted the appointment of a regional manager for Latin America and the Caribbean, the implementation of a network engagement strategy, and strengthened engagement with academia (including through partnerships with academic institutions), youth, Indigenous Peoples, women, business and civil society through the Advisory Board and initiatives such as the Climate Youth Innovation Programme;

(e) Noted that support is country-driven through National Designated Entities (NDEs), with project prioritization guided by criteria approved by the Advisory Board and financed primarily through donor contributions, complemented by partnerships with climate funds, multilateral development banks and other financing institutions;

(f) Explained that CTCN's work is aligned with the Belem Technology Implementation Programme in support of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs) and the technology action plan and that the Programme strengthens CTCN's role in supporting implementation of national climate priorities, mobilizing finance and connecting countries with financial institutions;

(g) Explained that the CTCN has supported clean cooking initiatives through projects promoting improved cookstoves, alternative energy solutions, sustainable livelihoods and forest conservation; and

- (h) Underlined that countries can engage with CTCN by becoming members of the network, submitting requests through their NDEs or by providing financial support.

Agenda item 3

Consideration of relevant evaluation reports and audits

7. A representative of the Evaluation Office of UNEP [presented](#) on the evaluation of the Nature Action Subprogramme, followed by a [management response](#) by the Secretariat.
8. Representatives of many delegations² welcomed the presentation and provided responses to the issues raised. In their comments, the representatives:
- (a) Encouraged the prioritization and implementation of the evaluation recommendations, particularly those related to monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL), results-based management and the operationalization of the One Impact Framework, including enhanced support for national-level monitoring capacities for evidence-based decision-making;
 - (b) Highlighted the importance of stronger coordination and integration across UNEP divisions, regional offices, UN Country Teams and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), supported by improved knowledge management and sharing of lessons learned;
 - (c) Stressed the need to support national implementation of environmental commitments, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) and NBSAPs, through capacity-building, technology transfer and regional support;
 - (d) Noted the importance of measures to improve operational flexibility, financial efficiency, project sustainability and mobilization of private finance, including through deeper engagement with the private sector;
 - (e) Welcomed ongoing efforts to strengthen synergies among MEAs and vertical funding mechanisms, while emphasizing the need to avoid creating additional implementation burdens for Member States and to use agreed intergovernmental language;
 - (f) Emphasized the importance of meaningful participation of civil society, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth, academia and other stakeholders throughout project design to strengthen national ownership, accountability and sustainability;
 - (g) Encouraged UNEP to ensure that gender equality, youth empowerment, and social inclusion are integrated as measurable outcomes across nature action interventions; and
 - (h) Suggested that greater use should be made of subcommittee meetings of the Committee to support understanding of the implementation of UNEA resolutions, including resolution 6/13, and noted the need to use agreed language in the document on freshwater priority actions for 2026-2029 as well as other documents related to operationalizing UNEP's medium-term strategy.
9. Requested the Secretariat to clarify:
- (a) The contribution of the UN80 reform process to improving impact at country level, as well as support for countries where UNEP does not have a field presence;
 - (b) The implications of low survey response rates for evaluation findings;
 - (c) The factors affecting the performance of different project modalities;
 - (d) The timeline for filling key vacant positions;
 - (e) Opportunities for Member State engagement in the development of the freshwater priorities; and
 - (f) The respective roles of Member States and the Secretariat in advancing reforms and improving programme delivery.
10. In response, representatives of the Secretariat:
- (a) Noted that the One Impact Framework is being operationalized through common indicators, reporting tools and portfolio mapping methodologies to strengthen results measurement at outcome and impact- levels and aggregation across the Nature Action Subprogramme and beyond;

²Armenia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Türkiye, the European Union, non-governmental organizations major group, women major group.

- (b) Clarified that meaningful environmental impacts typically require sustained implementation and may take several years to become visible, while the standard timeframe for implementing evaluation recommendations is 18 months;
- (c) Took note of concerns regarding low survey response rates and clarified that the evaluation drew on multiple sources of evidence, including stakeholder surveys, interviews with 48 individuals, in-depth case studies of 10 projects, and findings from 85 terminal evaluations conducted between 2014 and 2025, and expressed confidence that the triangulation of these evidence sources provided a robust basis for the evaluation findings and conclusions;
- (d) Outlined plans to strengthen engagement with financial institutions and private sector actors through partnerships, support for bankable investment opportunities, and the use of blended finance approaches where appropriate;
- (e) Explained that the independent UNEP Evaluation Office monitors management compliance with evaluation recommendations and provides technical input to the development of UNEP's One Impact Framework, and noted that the framework is expected to improve the consistency and quality of quantitative data available for future evaluations;
- (f) Highlighted support for implementation of the KMGBF and NBSAPs through UNEP's project portfolio, including GEF-funded initiatives, with support from regional offices and Nature Action Regional Subprogramme Coordinators;
- (g) Noted that UNEP's approach to MEAs synergies focuses on strengthening coherence and coordinated implementation while respecting the mandates and governance structures of individual agreements and highlighted efforts to promote integrated national planning, strengthen common data and reporting systems, support capacity-building and knowledge-sharing, and improve collaboration between UNEA, UNEP and MEA governing bodies;
- (h) Highlighted that support to countries where UNEP does not have a country presence is provided through regional offices and the Nature Action Regional Subprogramme Coordinators;
- (i) Highlighted that the freshwater strategic priorities requested under UNEA [resolution 6/13](#) had been presented during the recent informal webinar; clarified that the webinar was informal in nature; and outlined plans for continued discussions later in the year, including during the subcommittee meeting of the Committee scheduled on 15 October, taking into account ongoing discussions on SDG 6 and preparations for the UN Water Conference;
- (j) Noted that recent reductions in the Nature Action Subprogramme's core budget did not affect the findings of the present evaluation, as the budget reductions occurred outside the evaluation period and indicated that any resulting impacts may become apparent in future evaluations, depending on UNEP's ability to adapt to the changing resource context.

Agenda item 4

Briefing on the activities leading up to the fourth part of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution, including in the marine environment

11. A representative of the secretariat provided a [briefing](#) on the activities leading up to the fourth part of the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC 5.4).
12. Representatives of many delegations³ welcomed the presentation and provided responses to the issues raised. In their comments, the representatives:
 - (a) Commended the INC Chair, the Bureau and the Secretariat for organizing a successful informal in-person Heads of Delegation meeting and welcomed the constructive and open (Pamoja/Umoja) spirit throughout the discussions;
 - (b) Welcomed the constructive discussions, which contributed to a better mutual understanding, while acknowledging that differences on substance remain and stressed the importance of maintaining this momentum towards INC 5.4;

³Colombia, Brazil, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Norway, Peru, Portugal, the European Union.

- (c) Noted that the Chair's forthcoming "Aid to Negotiations" and "Summary Note" would be critical next steps and emphasized that they should reflect the full range of views expressed, including areas of convergence and remaining divergence;
 - (d) Reaffirmed commitment to continue engaged in the process in a spirit of cooperation and flexibility as work progresses towards the fourth part of the fifth session of the INC (INC 5.4);
 - (e) Requested the Secretariat to update the national focal point list for one member of the Committee; and
 - (f) Requested clarification on how observers would be engaged in future informal meetings.
12. In response, representative of the Secretariat:
- (a) Noted that the Chair was preparing the "Aid to Negotiations" and "Summary Note", taking into account the need for a balanced reflection of the discussions;
 - (b) Confirmed that the national focal point list is up to date and urged all Members to always use the official INC Secretariat email to inform of any focal point changes to facilitate timely processing; and
 - (c) Acknowledged the importance of observer engagement throughout the process, noting that the Chair and Bureau were actively discussing ways to enhance such engagement and added that the ongoing observer webinar series convened by the Chair was intended to keep all observers informed throughout the informal period leading to INC-5.4.

Agenda item 5

Briefing on the Global Youth Environment Assembly 2025

13. The Secretariat provided a [briefing](#) on the outcomes and follow-up of the third session of the Global Youth Environment Assembly (YEA-3), held at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi and online on 29 and 30 November and 7 December 2025, in preparation for the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.
14. Representatives of many delegations⁴ welcomed the presentation and provided responses to the issues raised. In their comments, the representatives:
- (a) Commended the Secretariat, the children and youth major group (CYMG), Member States and partners for the successful organization of YEA-3 and for strengthening youth engagement in environmental governance;
 - (b) Welcomed the outcomes of YEA-3 and emphasized the value of the Global Youth Declaration on the Environment as a substantive contribution to UNEP, UNEA and broader multilateral environmental processes;
 - (c) Noted that stronger references to the Youth Environment Assembly and to the role of youth in the UNEA-8 Ministerial Declaration would be welcomed;
 - (d) Welcomed the adaption of UNEA [resolution 7/6](#) on enhancing the meaningful participation of youth in environmental processes and encouraged its effective implementation through strengthened collaboration among Member States, UNEP, the CYMG and other partners;
 - (e) Recognized the valuable contribution of youth to UNEA processes and environmental governance, including through policy dialogue, research, regional consultations, capacity-building and engagement in negotiations, and encouraged Member States to continue supporting youth participation mechanisms, including by engaging youth at the national level and, where appropriate, including youth delegates in national delegations;
 - (f) Commended the Secretariat and the organizers of the Youth Environment Assembly for expanding regional consultations, supporting youth participation across multilateral environmental processes, strengthening capacity building on environmental governance, science diplomacy and environmental policy; and
 - (g) Recognized the importance of predictable and sustainable financial support for the Youth Environment Assembly and encouraged Member States and partners to provide early financial contributions to facilitate planning, broaden youth participation and support future sessions.
13. Requested the Secretariat to further clarify:

⁴Finland, Germany, Kenya, the European Union, non-governmental organizations major group, children and youth major group.

(a) The key lessons learned from the third session of the Youth Environment Assembly and how those might shape the planning and organisation of the fourth session of the Youth Environment Assembly;

(b) How the implementation of UNEA resolution 7/6 could be advanced, including through strengthened coordination across UNEP, tailored capacity-building and enhanced engagement with Member States throughout the intersessional period; and

(c) Which additional measures are being considered to move youth participation beyond consultation towards sustained partnership in environmental decision making, implementation and accountability, including how recommendations contained in the Global Youth Declaration will inform UNEP's work.

14. In response, representatives of the Secretariat:

(a) Expressed appreciation to donor Member States and partners for their contributions to the third session of the Global Youth Environment Assembly (YEA-3);

(b) Highlighted that participation in YEA-3 exceeded expectations, with more than 1,100 in-person and over 500 online participants, and noted that future sessions could benefit from more interactive formats, including smaller discussion groups;

(c) Noted that earlier financial contributions from Member States and partners would facilitate planning, reduce travel and logistical costs and strengthen the organization of future assemblies;

(d) Explained that implementation of UNEA resolution 7/6 is being coordinated through UNEP's internal Youth Working Group, involving UNEP divisions and UNEP-administered multilateral environmental agreements, and that consultations had already been held with youth-led and youth-serving organizations to inform implementation;

(e) Highlighted that future work would place greater emphasis on tailored capacity-building for young people on science diplomacy, environmental negotiations and policy drafting, in collaboration with relevant UNEP divisions; and

(f) Confirmed that the Secretariat would continue to collaborate with Member States, the CYMG and other partners in preparing for YEA-4 and UNEA-8, while continuing the practice of engagement between UNEP senior management and youth and providing technical and, subject to the availability of resources, financial support for youth engagement activities.

Agenda item 6

Other matters

15. No other matters were considered.

Agenda item 7

Closing of the meeting

16. The meeting was declared closed at 14:25 p.m. on Tuesday, 7 July 2026.
