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**169th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations Environment Programme**

Nairobi, 20 March 2025

Conference Room 2

10:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)

Hybrid meeting

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Report of the subcommittee

**Draft report of the Subcommittee of the
Committee of Permanent Representatives**

1. Since the 168th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), held on 17 December 2024, six meetings of the subcommittee of the Committee have taken place. Detailed meeting agendas, background documentation, and meeting summaries are available on the respective meeting webpages, with links provided below.
2. At the [subcommittee meeting held on 23 January 2025](#):
 - a. Member States considered UNEP's thematic programmes on “Towards Zero Waste” and “Pollution and Health”, a briefing on the Policymakers' Guide to Robust Life Cycle Assessment, and a briefing on the outcomes of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
 - b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
 - c. The outcome of the meeting is reflected in the [Chair's summary](#).
 - d. The following draft recommendation was proposed for further consideration by the CPR at its 169th quarterly meeting:
 - 1) ***Requests* the Secretariat, in future briefings on thematic programmes or reviews, to provide relevant information on the available budget for the programme, including on the sources of funding.**

- e. The subcommittee was reminded of the further consideration by the CPR at its 169th quarterly meeting of the following draft recommendation, which was proposed at a previous subcommittee meeting:

1) *Recommends* that UNEP expands its technical support and capacity building programmes for personnel from developing countries, particularly from Africa, in areas such as employing digital solutions for enhancing transparency efforts, with the aim of enhancing data collection and analysis processes and preparing relevant reports.

3. At the [subcommittee meeting held on 20 February 2025](#):

- a. Member States heard a briefing on the outcomes of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, a presentation on UNEP's Land Degradation Portfolio, and an overview of the audit of the 2023 Financial Statement by the Board of Auditors.
- b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
- c. The outcome of the meeting is reflected in the [Chair's summary](#).
- d. The following draft recommendations were proposed for further consideration by the CPR at its 169th quarterly meeting:

- 1) *Invites* Member States to join the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership.**
- 2) *Invites* Member State to renew their commitments to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and actively participate in the implementation of the Rio declaration.**
- 3) *Recommends* that extra effort be made to allow cross-border initiatives, especially on issues regarding land degradation to be given attention in accessing the financial commitments.**
- 4) *Recommends* considering options and ways on how UNEP could add another portfolio that can address the issues of drought and desertification, and also to open discussion, or reflection, on how these issues can also be better reflected and better focused in the next medium term strategy for 2026-2029.**
- 5) *Invites* Member States to invest in innovative solutions and technologies that enhance land restoration efforts.**
- 6) *Invites* Member States to foster collaboration among governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to create a united front against desertification.**

4. At the [subcommittee meeting held on 25 February 2025](#):

- a. Member States were briefed on the preparations for the resumed third session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution (SPP OEWG 3.2) and a presentation on UNEA's contribution to the High-level political forum on sustainable development.
- b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
- c. The outcome of the meeting is reflected in the [Chair's summary](#).

5. At the [subcommittee meeting held on 27 February 2025](#):

- a. Member States considered UNEP's thematic programmes on "Finance and Economic Transformations" and "Circularity in Sectors", a briefing on the outcomes of the twenty-ninth

session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 29), a presentation on the outcomes 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), and a briefing on the first session of the Preparatory Commission for the Entry into Force of the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) and early actions for the ratification and implementation of the Agreement.

- b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
- c. The outcome of the meeting is reflected in the [Chair's summary](#).
- d. The following draft recommendation was proposed for further consideration by the CPR at its 169th quarterly meeting:

1) *Recalls the guidance on the organization of work for the Committee of Permanent Representatives endorsed at its resumed 162nd meeting on 31st October 2023, particularly paragraphs four and five regarding the timing for making documents available, namely 15 working days for the quarterly meetings of the Committee and 7 working days for the subcommittee meetings, and recommends that the consideration of the relevant agenda items should be postponed to a future meeting if documents are not made available in accordance with this guidance.*

6. At the [subcommittee meeting held on 13 March 2025](#):

- a. Member States considered UNEP's thematic programmes on "Adaptation & Resilience" and "Decarbonization" and a presentation on relevant evaluation reports and audits.
- b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
- c. The outcome of the meeting will be reflected in the Chair's summary.
- d. The following draft recommendation was proposed for further consideration by the CPR at its 170th quarterly meeting:

1) *Requests the Secretariat to provide a presentation on the work of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) regarding capacity building, technology and technology transfer.*

- e. In line with decision 167/2 on improving the identification, formulation and recording of decisions and conclusions of the CPR, adopted by the CPR at its 167th meeting, Member States also considered a draft decision containing draft recommendations proposed by members of the Committee at subcommittee meetings for consideration and possible adoption by the Committee at its 169th quarterly meeting, set out in document [UNEP/CPR/169/L.2](#). The Member States agreed to continue consideration of the draft recommendations at the subcommittee meeting scheduled for 18 March 2025.

7. At the [subcommittee meeting held on 18 March 2025](#):

- a. Member States heard a briefing on the assessments reports approved by the 11th session of the plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES 11), a presentation on the work of the International Resource Panel.
- b. Several questions were raised by Member States on the items considered at the meeting, to which the Secretariat provided responses.
- c. Member States continued the consideration of the draft decision containing draft recommendations proposed by members of the Committee at subcommittee meetings for

consideration and possible adoption by the Committee at its 169th quarterly meeting, set out in document [UNEP/CPR/169/L.2](#).

- d. Member States agreed to defer the consideration of the draft recommendations to a subsequent meeting, on the understanding that a non-paper containing streamlined language proposals from the proponents of the draft recommendations would be circulated by the Secretariat after the meeting. The non-paper can be accessed [here](#).
- e. The outcome of this meeting will be reflected in the [Chair's summary](#).