

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Friday, 14 October 2022
11:00 – 13:00 (GMT+3)
Hybrid Meeting – Conference Room 9

MEETING SUMMARY

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

1. H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Finland to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, opened the meeting.
2. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP, welcomed all participants and thanked the Bureau for their guidance in preparing for the 9th annual subcommittee meeting.
3. The agenda was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Preparations for the 9th Annual Subcommittee meeting.

4. The Bureau was invited to consider the preparations, organization of work and expected outcome for the 9th annual subcommittee meeting, to be held on 24 – 28 October, based on the agenda, structure and meeting documentation made available on the [meeting portal](#).
5. The Executive Director of UNEP made an introductory statement, which was followed by a presentation by the Secretary of the Governing Bodies on the [structure](#) of the 9th annual subcommittee.
6. One Bureau member requested information on agenda item 7, namely, the organization of the panel discussion on financial outlook and funding challenges for the United Nations Environment Programme. Another Bureau member expressed appreciation for the work done in preparation for the annual subcommittee and pointed out that sufficient time should be allocated for dialogue with Member States under each time.
7. Another Bureau member updated on the modus operandi within the Group of Eastern European States (EEG), stating that following the resignation of the Chair of the Group, the Group has not been able to meet to nominate a new chair; the Bureau member plans to circulate any information received from the secretariat to all the members of the Group; however, the Group will not be in a position to propose candidates for ongoing processes until further notice.
8. The Secretariat provided the following comments and remarks:
 - Regarding the panel discussion, the Secretariat noted that the panel discussion will be moderated by the Acting Deputy Director and consist of a panel of five Member States from various regions, which are yet to be confirmed. The concept note is already

uploaded on the meeting portal, and the list of panelists will be made available online in due time.

- Regarding sufficient time for dialogue, the Secretariat informed that discussion on any item that remains open could be accommodated on Friday, 28 October,
9. The Bureau agreed on an internal division of work for the chairing of the different agenda items of the 9th annual subcommittee meeting.

Agenda item 3: Preparations for the joint meeting of the UNEA-6 and of the CPR Bureau.

10. The Bureau was invited to consider the preparations for the joint meeting of the UNEA-6 and of the CPR Bureau to be held on 17 October, including a discussion on the options for defining the theme for UNEA-6 and other related matters.
11. The Executive Director of UNEP made an introductory statement informing the CPR Bureau that the UNEA-6 Bureau, at a meeting held on 1 July, agreed on the guiding principles and criteria for defining a theme for UNEA-6 and asked the Secretariat to prepare an options paper to kick start the discussion, adding that the consultations on the theme will be a Member States-led process under the leadership of the President of UNEA. The Executive Director informed that the [options paper](#) had been made available on the meetings portal. The Secretary of the Governing Bodies presented the three proposed themes: (i) Environmental multilateralism fit for the future: Towards healthy economies, healthy societies and a healthy planet; (ii) Towards the implementation of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment; and (iii) Multilateral solutions for climate change, nature loss and pollution. The Secretary also informed of the timeline for consultations on the theme that was agreed by UNEA-6 Bureau at its meeting on 1 July.
12. One delegation requested information on the main purpose of the 17 October Bureau meeting and sought clarification on the decision-making process for the UNEA-6 theme.
13. Another delegation stressed the importance of having a general exchange in the framework of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and a more inclusive process.
14. The Secretariat clarified that the 17 October joint meeting is for the two Bureaus to provide preliminary views on the proposed themes and to convey any views from the Regional Groups; the consultation process will be led by UNEA-6 President; as per UNEA decision 5/4, the final decision will be taken by UNEA-6 Bureau, following a broad consultation process and in coordination with the CPR Bureau; and as per practice the decision on the theme will be taken by consensus, hopefully, at the joint retreat of the two Bureaus planned for 30 and 31 January 2023 in Morocco.

Agenda item 4: Other matters.

15. The Chair informed updated on the process to nominate Co-Chairs for two processes emanating from UNEA resolution 5/2, on “Sustainable Nitrogen Management” and resolution 5/5, on “Nature-based Solutions for supporting sustainable development”. He added that consultations were still ongoing, especially for nominations related to resolutions 5/5.
16. One Bureau member requested clarification on the list of nominations received for resolution 5/5 and emphasized the importance of following the UNEA rules of procedures.

17. Another Bureau member asked the Secretariat to share the list and notes on the nominations of the Co-Chairs with all the members of the CPR Bureau as it has been done in the past.
18. At the request of the Chair, the Legal Advisor provided clarification on the nomination process.
19. The Chair reassured the Bureau members that he will proceed in a fair, transparent and legally/procedurally correct manner, in consultation with UNEA President, to ensure that the process can conduct its work smoothly. The Bureau agreed that the Secretariat circulate to the Bureau the nominations received for the process under resolution 5/5.

Agenda item 5: Closing of the meeting.

20. The meeting ended at 12:30 p.m.

Annex: List of Participants

The Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau Members:

H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Finland to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP

H.E. Mrs. Selma Malika Haddadi, Ambassador of Algeria to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, Vice Chair of the CPR.

H.E. Mr. Erasmo Roberto Martínez, Ambassador of Mexico to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP, Vice Chair of the CPR.

H.E. Mrs. Katarina Leligdonova, Ambassador of Slovakia to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP.

A representative of the President of the UN Environment Assembly participated in an ex officio capacity:

Ms. Siham Mourabit, Deputy Head of Mission and Deputy Permanent Representative of Morocco to UNEP.

The UN Environment Program Secretariat was Represented by:

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director.

Ms. Sonja Leighton-Kone, Acting Deputy Executive Director.

Mr. Rafael Peralta, Chief of Staff.

Ms. Radhika Ochalik, Secretary of Governing Bodies.

Mr. Ulf Björnholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies.

Mr. Stadler Trengrove, Legal Advisor.