

Joint Bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly
and the Committee of Permanent Representatives
7 December 2025, 16:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)
In-person – Conference Room 9

Summary

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

1. H. E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) and President of the Environment Authority of Oman, welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. He congratulated the Bureau members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) for their leadership during the seventh session of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR-7) held in Nairobi from 1 to 5 December 2025, and congratulated His Excellency Miguel Ángel Espichán Mariñas, Minister of Environment of Peru, on his election as Vice President of the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7), representing the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States. This was followed by the opening remarks by H. E. Mr. Sultan Hajiye, Chair of the CPR, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to UNEP, and Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The meeting was co-chaired by the President of UNEA and the Chair of the CPR. A list of participants is provided in Annex 1.
2. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Update on the consultations on the draft ministerial declaration for the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

3. The President of UNEA recalled that the [final revised draft of the ministerial declaration](#) was circulated on 27 November 2025 and briefed the Bureaux members on the informal consultations held on 4 December 2025 in the margins of the OECPR-7, during which delegations voiced support for the text, acknowledging the inclusive process and efforts to reach a balanced outcome, while a few reiterated that their core priorities remained insufficiently reflected. He informed the Bureaux members that additional small group consultations and bilateral engagements would be convened to consider minimal adjustments, mindful of the fine balance required to achieve consensus. He noted that the final draft would be circulated in all UN official languages on 11 December 2025 for adoption during the closing plenary on 12 December 2025.
4. The President of UNEA expressed appreciation to the co-facilitators, H. E. Mr. Peter Maddens, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Belgium to UNEP, and H. E. Ms. Romy Tincopa, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Peru to UNEP, for their role in convening informal consultations that helped identify areas of convergence, and to Ambassador Nasra Salim Al Hashmi of Oman for her leadership during the intergovernmental consultations. He thanked all delegations for their continued support and constructive engagement throughout the process. He

reaffirmed that the draft ministerial declaration is not only the Presidency's text, but a document shaped collectively by all Member States.

5. The co-facilitators of the draft ministerial declaration, voiced their support to the role of the Presidency as the pen-holder, affirmed that the current draft ministerial declaration is a carefully crafted and balanced text in which many delegations have exercised restraint without crossing red lines, and underscored that only minimal changes should be considered to preserve its balance, noting that approval of the declaration is essential for the success of UNEA-7.
6. The Bureaux members expressed appreciation for the leadership of the Presidency and the co-facilitators, and the broad support for the current well-balanced and ambitious draft ministerial declaration, encouraged the President to maintain the established approach while undertaking limited further consultations to address remaining concerns, and underscored the importance of adopting a unified ministerial declaration as a key outcome of UNEA-7.

Agenda item 3: Outcomes of the seventh session of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives.

7. The Chair of the CPR updated the Bureaux on the outcomes of the seventh session of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives held from 1 to 5 December 2025 as follows:
 - a. The session considered 15 draft resolutions and 3 draft decisions across four clusters. One draft decision entitled "*Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions*", was finalized and transmitted to UNEA-7 for adoption.
 - b. The OECPR at its closing plenary meeting held on Friday, 5 November, transmitted the outstanding 15 draft resolutions and 2 decisions to UNEA for further consideration.
 - c. The Committee decided to transmit non-papers on the operative paragraphs of draft resolutions to UNEA, to be used as the basis for negotiations, with the understanding that delegations may introduce additional text.
 - d. Informal consultations took place in the afternoon of Saturday, 6 December, and the outcomes of those informal consultations would be transmitted as non-papers to the Assembly to be used as the basis for negotiations.
 - e. UNEA-7 is expected to establish a Committee of the Whole on 8 December 2025 to conclude negotiations on outstanding draft resolutions and decisions.
8. One Bureaux member noted that several draft resolutions currently lacked consensus and suggested that Bureau members may need to intervene, encouraging proponents to consider withdrawal where bridge between divergent views cannot be found.
9. One Bureaux member, on behalf of a regional group, emphasized the importance of delivering implementable resolutions, reaffirming the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR), encouraged maintaining consistent terminology with existing instruments and respect to sovereignty over natural resources, expressed support of the proposal to hold the 8th and future regular sessions of UNEA at the beginning of the third week of March in odd-numbered years.
10. Some Bureau members expressed concerns on the progress of the negotiation, called for flexibility and willingness to extend negotiations in order to finalize draft resolutions and to ensure the process is concluded efficiently, called on Bureau members to encourage collaboration among delegations and groups to find compromises for the common good, and stressed that success of the medium-term strategy is crucial for the overall success of the process.

11. One Bureaux member emphasized that consensus should not be interpreted as a veto over discussion, noting that in multilateral practice all agenda items are negotiated until the end, and affirmed that the negotiation process should continue through to the conclusion of the meeting on 12 December 2025.
12. The President of UNEA observed that the arrival of new delegates from capitals in the final stages may impact negotiations and recommended encouraging flexibility and compromise, while seeking to avoid voting wherever possible.
13. The Chair of the CPR asked the Secretariat to take note of the statements.

Agenda item 4: Update on the preparations for the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

14. The Executive Director updated the Bureaux members on the [preparations for UNEA-7](#).
15. The Secretariat briefed on the organization of work of the Committee of the Whole, based on the [provisional agenda and annotated provisional agenda of the Committee of the Whole](#), the [draft structure of the Committee of the Whole](#), and the [guidance on the organization of work of the Committee of the Whole](#)
16. One Bureaux member, on behalf of a regional group, called for healthy working hours, limiting concurrent meetings to no more than two and ending meetings by 10:00 p.m. to ensure all delegations can participate fully.
17. Several Bureaux members highlighted the need to restrict opening statements to regional groups and suggested having a consolidated statement by the 9 Major Groups in order to preserve time, and emphasized the need to use the limited time efficiently and to make every effort to achieve results during the remaining five days.
18. One Bureaux member reiterated that Member States had agreed to limit parallel meetings to two at any given time and stressed that informal informal consultations should also be limited to avoid overburdening delegations with limited capacity.
19. The Secretariat explained that informal informal consultations are intended only for small, issue-specific matters in the final stage of negotiations, will remain limited in scope, and that any outcomes will be reported back to the entire contact groups for consideration by all Member States.
20. The Principal Legal Adviser presented a status of credentials submitted to UNEA-7, recalled Rules 16 and 17 of the Rules of Procedure of UNEA, noting that each member of the Assembly must be represented by an accredited representative and that credentials, including the names of alternates and advisers, must be submitted to the Executive Director before the first meeting at which they will participate. It was further explained that the Bureau is responsible for examining credentials and reporting to UNEA on their status. The Principal Legal Adviser informed members that, consistent with past practice, an oral update was being provided, followed by a written report to be issued on Tuesday or Wednesday for transmission to the President. As of 6 December 2025, formal credentials issued by Heads of State, Heads of Government, or Ministers for Foreign Affairs had been received from 28 Member States, while scanned copies of credentials or letters from permanent missions had been received from an additional 56 Member States. The Principal Legal Adviser noted that credentials continue to arrive as delegations reach Nairobi and that a comprehensive updated list will be provided early next week.
21. The Secretariat informed that the report on credentials will be presented for consideration by UNEA during the plenary meeting on Thursday, 11 December 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

22. The President of UNEA informed the joint Bureaux on the following chairing schedule for the meetings of UNEA-7:
 - a. Her Excellency Mike Mposha, Minister of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia, will chair the national statement on Thursday, 11 December from 15:00 -18:00;
 - b. Her Excellency Nino Tandilashvili, First Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, will chair the national statement on Thursday, 11 December from 19:30 -22:30; and
 - c. Her Excellency Anikó Raisz, Minister of State for Environmental Policy and Circular Economy of Hungary, will chair the national statement on Friday, 12 December from 10:00 - 13:00.
23. The Bureau agreed that opening statements will be limited to the **regional and political groups**. **Each group statement should be limited to 5 minutes** and requested the Secretariat to inform Member States accordingly. The Bureau also agreed that the 9 major groups should deliver one consolidated statement.

Agenda item 5: Other matters.

24. No other matters were raised.

Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting.

25. The meeting closed at 17:30 (GMT+3).

Annex: List of Participants

United Nations Environment Assembly Bureau Members:

1. H. E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of UNEA and President of the Environment Authority of Oman.
2. H. E. Mr. Peter Maddens, Vice President of UNEA and Ambassador of Belgium and Permanent Representative of Belgium to UNEP.
3. H. E. Ms. Fitsum Assefa Adela, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Planning and Development of Ethiopia, **represented by** Mr. Demeke Atnafu, Deputy Head of Mission of Ethiopia in Kenya.
5. H. E. Ms. Anikó Raisz, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of State for Environmental Policy and Circular Economy of Hungary.
6. H. E. Mr. Ali Gholampour, Vice President of UNEA and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to UNEP.
7. H. E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Espichán Mariñas, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Environment of Peru, **represented by** H. E. Ms. Romy Tincopa Vice Chair of the CPR and Ambassador of Peru and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
8. H. E. Ms. Johanna Lissinger Peitz, Vice President of UNEA and Senior Advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Government Offices of Sweden.
9. H. E. Mr. Mike Mposha, Vice President of UNEA and Minister of Green Economy and Environment of Zambia, **represented by** Mr. Exnobot Zulu, Charge d' Affaires, High Commissioner of Zambia to Kenya
10. H. E. Ms. Joyelle Clarke, Rapporteur of UNEA and Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Climate Action, and Constituency Empowerment of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Committee of Permanent Representative Bureau Members:

1. H. E. Mr. Sultan Hajiyev, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Kenya, and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
2. H. E. Ms. Marie Charlotte G. Tang, Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ambassador of the Philippines to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
3. H. E. Mr. Anouar Ben Youssef, Vice Chair of the Committee, Ambassador of Tunisia to Kenya, and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
4. H. E. Mrs. Romy Sonia Tincopa Grados, Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ambassador of Peru to Kenya, and Permanent Representative to UNEP.
5. H. E. Ms. Jenny Da Rin, Rapporteur of the Committee and High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Australia to UNEP, **represented by** Ms. Alexandra Langley, First Secretary and Deputy Permanent Representative of Australia to UNEP.

UN Environment Programme Secretariat was represented by:

1. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director.
2. Ms. Elizabeth Mrema, Deputy Executive Director.
3. Mr. Nicolas Bertrand, Chief of Staff.
4. Ms. Radhika Ochalik, Secretary of Governing Bodies.
5. Mr. Stadler Trengove, Principal Legal Advisor.