



Distr.: General

12 September 2022

English only



United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

**159th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the
United Nations Environment Programme**

Nairobi, 29 September 2022

Hybrid meeting

10:00 – 13:00, 15:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)

Agenda item 5: Implementation of UNEA resolutions

c) UNEA resolution 5/5: Nature-based Solutions for supporting sustainable development

This background document has been developed by the Secretariat to inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives on overall progress made in the implementation of UNEA resolution 5/5: Nature-based Solutions for supporting sustainable development. More specifically, it includes detailed information on the following aspects:

- Status update on establishing intergovernmental consultations meant to compile examples of best practices in nature-based solutions, assess existing and discuss potential new proposals, to address divergence with a view to achieving a common understanding among Member States on implementation of nature-based solutions and identifying options for supporting sustainable investment in nature-based solutions.
- Status update on provision of extra-budgetary resources to support the implementation of the process by Member States.
- Present planned next steps after end of the deadline for Member States to submit nominations for potential Co-Chairs which was extended to 22 September 2022.

Member States are invited to provide guidance to the Secretariat on the further implementation of this resolution.

Background Note for 159th Meeting of Committee of Permanent Representatives

29 September 2022

1. This note provides an update on the implementation of the resolution on Nature-based Solutions. The resolution can be found [here](#).
2. The resolution contains the following requests to UNEP:

Paragraph 5

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, subject to available resources and to further support the implementation of nature-based solutions, as defined in the present resolution, to convene intergovernmental consultations in a transparent, inclusive, regionally balanced manner, striving for gender balance, in order to undertake the following:

- (a) Compile examples of best practice in nature-based solutions, based on the best available science;
- (b) Assess existing and discuss potential new proposals, criteria, standards and guidelines to address divergences, with a view to achieving a common understanding between Member States for the implementation of nature-based solutions, including to support Member States in designing, UNEP/EA.5/Res.5 3 implementing and evaluating nature-based solutions, building on existing work, initiatives and platforms, as appropriate, and without prejudice to existing efforts and initiatives of and new proposals from individual Member States;
- (c) Identify options for supporting sustainable investment in nature-based solutions and share information on bilateral and multilateral sources of finance to enable developing countries to develop and deploy nature-based solutions;

Paragraph 6

Also requests the Executive Director, subject to available resources, to support the intergovernmental consultations, including enabling the participation of developing countries and relevant partners and stakeholders, consistent with applicable United Nations rules

3. UNEP has appointed two staff members to co-lead UNEP's support to the intergovernmental consultations, Melissa De Kock (Head of the Biodiversity, People and Landscapes Unit) and Barney Dickson (Senior Programme Officer, Nature for Climate Branch).
4. The Executive Director (ED), in a letter dated 7 July 2022, addressed to the Ministers responsible for the Environment, invited expressions of interest from Member States, to be appointed as Co-Chairs, one each from a developing and a developed country, to lead the consultations. The ED also invited governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide extra-budgetary resources to support the implementation of the process. To date, no such resources have been confirmed.
5. On 18 July 2022, UNEP held an informational webinar for the members of the CPR on the implementation of the resolution. Over 100 CPR members participated in the webinar. UNEP outlined some initial suggestions on how the intergovernmental consultations might be conducted and

the CPR members provided feedback on these options and requested further clarification of the role of the Co-Chairs.

6. Further to the 7 July 2022 letter, The ED, in a subsequent letter dated 31 August 2022, addressed to the Ministers responsible for the Environment, informed of the revised process for the appointment of the two Co-Chairs, i.e. that the process will be coordinated by the Chair of the CPR, under the leadership of the President of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, taking account of the need for geographical balance and gender parity. The terms of reference for the Co-Chairs were attached to the letter. The deadline for Member States to submit nominations for potential Co-Chairs was extended to 15 September 2022.
7. At the request of the chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the deadline for nominations was further extended until **22 September 2022**.

For more information on any of these points, please reach out to barney.dickson@un.org.