



Committee of Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations Environment Programme
169th meeting
Nairobi, 20 March 2025
Item 8 of the provisional agenda*
Report of the subcommittee

Draft recommendations proposed by members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its subcommittee meetings for consideration by the Committee at its 169th meeting

The Committee of Permanent Representatives,

Recalling paragraph 2 of its [decision 167/2](#) on improving the identification, formulation and recording of decisions and conclusions of the Committee,

Noting the discussions of the subcommittee of the Committee at its meetings on 23 January, 20 February and 27 February 2025,

(a) Review of thematic programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme¹

1. *Recommends* that the United Nations Environment Programme expand its technical support and capacity-building programmes for personnel from developing countries, particularly African countries, in areas such as the use of digital solutions to enhance transparency, with the aim of improving data collection and analysis processes and preparing relevant reports;
2. *Requests* the secretariat, in future briefings on or reviews of thematic programmes, to provide relevant information on the budgets available for those programmes, including on sources of funding;

(b) Outcomes of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa²

3. *Invites* Member States to join the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership;
4. *Also invites* Member States to renew their commitments to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or

* UNEP/CPR/169/1.

¹ Highlights of the discussions under agenda item 2, on review of United Nations Environment Programme thematic programmes, at the subcommittee meetings held on 10 September 2024 and 23 January 2025 can be found, respectively, in the [draft Chair's summary](#) and [Chair's summary](#) of those meetings.

² Highlights of the discussions under agenda item 2, on briefing on the outcomes of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, at the subcommittee meeting held on 20 February 2025 can be found in the [Chair's summary](#) of that meeting.

Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and to participate actively in the implementation of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;

(c) Land degradation portfolio of the United Nations Environment Programme³

5. *Recommends* that extra efforts be made to allow cross-border initiatives especially on issues regarding land degradation to be given attention in accessing the financial commitments;

6. *Also recommends* that consideration be given to the development of options for the creation of a United Nations Environment Programme portfolio to address the issues of drought and desertification, and that discussion or reflection begin on how these issues can be more fully incorporated into the medium-term strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme for the period 2026–2029;

7. *Invites* Member States to invest in innovative solutions and technologies that enhance land restoration efforts;

8. *Also invites* Member States to foster collaboration among governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to build a united front against desertification;

(d) Organization of work⁴

9. *Recalls* the guidance on the organization of work for the Committee of Permanent Representatives endorsed by the Committee at its resumed 162nd meeting, on 31 October 2023, in particular paragraphs 4 and 5 setting out the requirement that documents be made available no later than 15 working days before the quarterly meetings of the Committee and 7 working days before subcommittee meetings, and recommends that, in accordance with that guidance, consideration of relevant agenda items be postponed to subsequent meetings when documents are not made available within the mentioned time frames.⁵

³ Highlights of the discussions under agenda item 3, on a briefing on the land degradation portfolio of the United Nations Environment Programme, at the subcommittee meeting held on 20 February 2025 can be found in the [Chair's summary](#) of that meeting.

⁴ Highlights of the discussions under agenda item 6, on other matters, at the subcommittee meeting held on 27 February 2025 can be found in the [Chair's summary](#) of that meeting.

⁵ See document [UNEP/CPR/162/7/Rev.1](#).