



Orientation of New Members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

A Bird's Eye View of the work of Governing Bodies

**Rosemary Semafumu Mukasa, Deputy Secretary/
Head of the Governing Bodies Unit
Governance Affairs Office**

24 January 2017

Contents

1. UN Environment Governance Structure
2. UN Environment Assembly
3. Committee of Permanent Representatives
4. Documentation
5. Conclusion



Introduction

1. Evolution of Governing Bodies aligned to history and milestones of UN Environment
2. Continues to evolve in response to changing needs and demands by Member States for greater effectiveness, efficiency and responsiveness and changes in the global landscape.
3. UN Environment has a unique mandate as an advocate for the environment.



UN Environment Governance Structure

Governed by Rules of Procedure (last amended in May 2016)

United Nations Environment Assembly

- ✓ Universal meetings starting in 2014
 - 1st session: 23-27 June 2014
 - 2nd session: 23-27 May 2016
 - 3rd session: 4-6 December 2017



Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

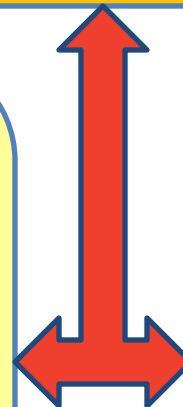
- ✓ Subsidiary inter sessional body of the Environment Assembly
- ✓ Composed of representatives of member States accredited to UN environment

Open-Ended CPR Meetings

- Meets for 5 days
 - ✓ 1st meeting 28-28 March 2014
 - ✓ 2nd Meeting: 15-19 Feb 2016
 - ✓ 3rd Meeting: **29 Nov-1 Dec 2017**

Regular Meetings

- Quarterly meetings
- Extraordinary meetings



- Annual subcommittee meeting
 - ✓ 1st meeting: 23-27 Sept.2013
 - ✓ 2nd meeting: 27-31 Oct 2014
 - ✓ 3rd meeting: 6-9 March 2017
- Subcommittee meetings
- Informal Working Groups
 - Briefings

Functions of the United Nations Environment Assembly

☞ Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 5 (Feb 2013)

- (a) Setting the global environmental agenda;
- (b) Providing overarching policy guidance and defining policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges;
- (c) Undertaking policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences;
- (d) Setting the strategic guidance on the future direction of the United Nations Environment Programme;
- (e) Organizing a multi-stakeholder dialogue;
- (f) Fostering partnerships for achieving environmental goals and resources mobilization.



UN 
environment



Introduction

1. Evolution of Governing Bodies aligned to history and milestones of UN Environment
2. Continues to evolve in response to changing needs and demands by Member States for greater effectiveness, efficiency and responsiveness and changes in the global landscape.
3. UN Environment has a unique mandate as an advocate for the environment.



Introduction

1. Evolution of Governing Bodies aligned to history and milestones of UN Environment
2. Continues to evolve in response to changing needs and demands by Member States for greater effectiveness, efficiency and responsiveness and changes in the global landscape.
3. UN Environment has a unique mandate as an advocate for the environment.



Some Components of the UN Environment Assembly

- (a) Plenary
- (b) High Level Segment
- (c) Committee of the Whole: Drafting Groups
- (d) Multi-stakeholder dialogue;
- (e) Side Events
- (f) Pre-session Events like the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum
- (g) Hospitality Events
- (h) Regional Consultations
- (i) Media events



Introduction

1. Evolution of Governing Bodies aligned to history and milestones of UN Environment
2. Continues to evolve in response to changing needs and demands by Member States for greater effectiveness, efficiency and responsiveness and changes in the global landscape.
3. UN Environment has a unique mandate as an advocate for the environment.



Introduction

1. Evolution of Governing Bodies aligned to history and milestones of UN Environment
2. Continues to evolve in response to changing needs and demands by Member States for greater effectiveness, efficiency and responsiveness and changes in the global landscape.
3. UN Environment has a unique mandate as an advocate for the environment.



GOVERNING COUNCIL VS Environment Assembly

	Governing Council	UN ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY
Membership	58 elected members	193 UN member States
Bureau	5 members	10 members
Meets	Annually (ordinary and special sessions)	Biennially in even years, preceded by OECPR serving as a UNEA prepcom
Organization	5 days, including the Global Ministerial Environment Forum	5 days, including a two-day high-level segment at the end of session
	Both preceded by the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF)	
Outcome	Decisions and other outcome documents as decided by Members	Resolutions, decisions and other outcome documents as decided by member States

UN Environment Assembly Bureau Members – 10 MEMBERS

Office	Name and Designation	Country	Regional group
President	H.E. Mr. Edgar Gutierrez, Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica	Costa Rica	Latin America and the Caribbean Group
Vice Presidents	H.E. Mr. Dennis Lowe, Minister of Environment and Drainage	Barbados	Latin America and the Caribbean Group
	Ministry of Environment	Gabon	African Group
	Federal Ministry of Environment	Nigeria	African Group
	H.E. Mr. Jassim Humadi, Ag. Minister of Health and Environment	Iraq	Asia Pacific Group
	H.E. Ramon J.P. Paje, Secretary, Minister of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Philippines	Asia Pacific Group
	Mr. Vladislav Smrž, Deputy Minister, Ministry of the Environment	Czech Republic	Eastern European Group
	H.E. Mr. Mr. Milorad Šćepanović, Permanent Representative of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva	Montenegro	Eastern European Group
	Mr. John Matuszak, Senior Advisor, Office of Environmental Quality and Transboundary Issues, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State	United States of America	Western European and Others Group
Rapporteur	H.E. Ms. Roxane de Bilderling, Ambassador and Permanent Representative	Belgium	Western European and Others Group

COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ESTABLISHMENT

- ❑ Established in May 1985 by Governing Council decision 13/2 in response to the need for a more formal process of consultation among Governments and between the Executive Director and Governments and took into account the increasing number of Governments accredited to Nairobi.
- ❑ The decision “invite[d] Governments that have not accredited a permanent mission to the Programme to designate a focal point to whom information and documentation pertaining to the meetings of the Committee can be conveyed.”



UN 
environment



COMMITTEE STRENGTHENING

- ❑ In April 1997, at its 19th session, the Governing Council strengthened the Committee as its subsidiary organ.
- ❑ Four regular meetings a year. Extraordinary meetings may be also convened by its Chairperson, after consultation with the other members of the Bureau or at the request of at least five members
- ❑ May establish subcommittees, working groups and task forces as deemed appropriate (GC decision 19/32).



UN 
environment



FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

Mandate from Governing Council decision 19/32,

- (a) Review, monitor and assess the implementation of decisions of the Council on administrative, budgetary and programme matters within the policy and budgetary framework provided by the Governing Council;
- (b) Review the draft programme of work and budget during their preparation by the secretariat;
- (c) Review reports requested of the secretariat by the Governing Council on the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of the functions and work of the secretariat and to make recommendations thereon to the Governing Council;
- (d) Prepare draft decisions for consideration by the Governing Council based on inputs from the secretariat and on the results of the functions specified above;



UN 
environment



FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES

Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 9 (Feb 2013)

- (a) Contribute to the preparation of the agenda of its governing body;
- (b) Provide advice to its governing body on policy matters;
- (c) Prepare decisions for adoption by its governing body and oversee their implementation;
- (d) Convene thematic and/or programmatic debates;
- (e) Promote effective ways and means to facilitate participation of the non-resident members of the Committee, particularly from developing countries
- (f) Perform any other functions delegated to it by its governing body.



COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- ❑ Consists of, “the representatives all States Members of the UN and members of its specialized agencies, and the European Community, accredited to the UN Environment, whether based in Nairobi or outside” (Governing Council decision 19/32, paragraph 8).
- ❑ Currently the CPR members consist of the following:
 - Accredited Members: 116 accredited members
 - Non-Member States: Holy See, State of Palestine
 - European Union
- ❑ The League of Arab States and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta participate as observers.
- ❑ 84 accredited missions based in Nairobi;
34 outside of Nairobi



OPEN-ENDED MEETING OF CPR

Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 10 (Feb 2013)

“Decides to convene an open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, while ensuring support to developing countries representatives, to enable the participation of capital-based delegates as well as stakeholders for a period of five days in an even year to contribute to preparation of the agenda of its governing body, and to provide advice to its governing body on policy matters.”

- ❑ 1st OECPR: 24- 28 March 2014
- ❑ 2nd OECPR: 15-19 February 2016
- ❑ 3rd OECPR: 29 Nov-1 Dec 2017



CPR ANNUAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 11 (Feb 2013)

“Decides to establish a sub-committee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives that will meet annually for a period of 5 days to review, with the support of the secretariat, the Medium Term Strategy and Programme of Work and budget, in a manner coherent with the budgetary cycle of the United Nations, to be endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the governing body’s approval, and to oversee their implementation and accountability by the Secretariat.”



COMMITTEE BUREAU – 5 MEMBERS FOR A 2-YEAR TERM

Current Bureau concludes its term in office on 30 June 2017.

Chair

Romania: H.E. Ms. Julia Pataki, Ambassador & PR

Vice-Chairs

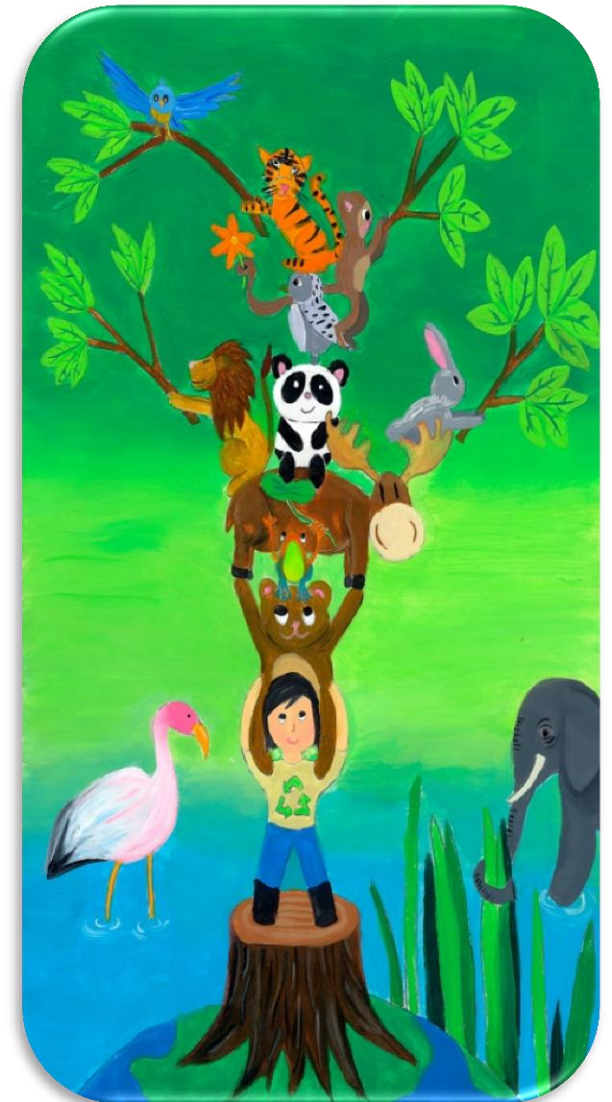
Botswana: H.E. Mr. John Moreti, High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Botswana.

Brazil: H.E. Ms. Marcela M. Nicodemos, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil.

Pakistan: H.E. Mr Raza Bashir Tarar
Vice Chair, High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Pakistan

Rapporteur

Finland: Mr. Toni Sandell, Deputy Permanent Representative of Finland.



Governance Affairs Office, SECRETARIAT OF GOVERNING BODIES

Admin Officer
Assist Admin
Sp. Assist

Director
Governance Affairs Office
Secretary
Secretariat of Governing Bodies

Governing Bodies Unit

Civil Society Unit

Partnerships Unit

Contact <unep.sgb@unep.org>

Documentation

- ❑ **6-week rule for UNEA** (Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure):

The Executive Director shall be responsible for all the necessary arrangements for meetings of the UNEA and of its subsidiary organs, including the preparation and distribution of documents at least 42 days in advance of the sessions of the UNEA and its subsidiary organs, if any.

- ❑ **4-week rule for CPR subcommittee meetings** (Governing Council decision 27/13)

Recalls paragraph 13 of decision 19/32 of the Governing Council, and requests the Executive Director to ensure that the secretariat provides documentation and information related to the programme of work, budget and medium term strategy to the meeting of the CPR at least 4 weeks in advance of the meeting in question.

- ❑ **CPR Portal: <http://web.unep.org/about/cpr/>**



Trends:

- Higher expectations for results and quality
- Increase in quantity
- More involvement and engagement of representatives and Governing Bodies
- Greater reliance on technology, especially ICT



UN 
environment



Trends:

Calls for

- Greater visibility of UN Environment and Governing Bodies
- More inclusiveness: Demand for innovative ways to ensure greater inclusion of non-Nairobi based representatives and non English speaking representatives
- More meaningful participation of actors beyond Member States. This includes Major groups and stakeholders, scientists, private sector, NGO's
- Calls for greater efficiency



UN 
environment



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION



UN 
environment

