

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Thursday 29 November 2018
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.,
Governance Affairs Office Meeting Room
United Nations Office at Nairobi, Gigiri

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

1. H.E. Ms. Francisca Ashietey-Odunton, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Ghana, chaired the meeting, in which the following members of the Bureau and the Secretariat participated:

The Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau members:

H.E. Ms. Lori Dando, Permanent Representative of United States of America, Vice Chair, Western European and Other States Group;
H.E. Mr. Marek Rohr-Garztecki, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland, Rapporteur, Eastern European Group;
Mr. Changgyu Lee, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea, representing H.E. Mr. Kwon Young-dae, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea, Vice Chair, Asia Pacific Group
Mr. Sergio Salazar Alzate, Charge d’Affaires a.i. of Colombia, representing H.E. Ms. Elizabeth Jay Taylor, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Colombia, Vice Chair, Latin America and Caribbean Group;

The UN Environment Assembly was represented by:

Mr. Ado Lõhmus, Special Envoy of the President of the UN Environment Assembly, Estonia

The UN Environment Programme Secretariat was represented by:

Ms. Joyce Msuya, Executive Director a.i.;
Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis, Secretary of Governing Bodies;
Mr. Ulf Björnholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies;
Mr. Stadler Trengrove, Principal Legal Officer;
Mr. Fadi Abou-Elias, Head, Corporate Budgets Office - Corporate Services Division
Mr. Ebrahim Gora, Senior Programme Management Officer – Policy & Programme Division;

2. The meeting adopted the provisional agenda.

Agenda Item 2: Preparations of the Open-Ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly

1. The Secretariat shared a draft roadmap and grouping of resolutions in preparations for informal consultations on draft resolutions by the Committee of Permanent Representatives for consideration by the Bureau. The meeting took note of the proposals as a useful basis for further consideration with

the Bureau and the Committee in view of ensuring effective preparations for the Open-Ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the UN Environment Assembly and invited the Secretariat to further elaborate on the proposed grouping and roadmap.

2. The meeting agreed that proponents of similar draft resolutions should work on consolidating resolutions as soon as possible, including through informal meetings, and invited the Secretariat to facilitate this process and identify member States focal points for the resolutions.

3. The meeting agreed to identify 1-2 co-facilitators per resolution working group for decision at the joint Bureau meeting on 7 January at the latest and requested that the Secretariat send out an invitation to nominate possible co-facilitators.

4. The meeting agreed to defer the discussion on the draft Terms of References for the Bureau to the next meeting of the joint Bureaux scheduled for 7 January 2019.

Agenda Item 3: Any Other matters

5. The meeting was informed that the Office of Internal Oversight Services report will be addressed at the 144th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, preceded by consultations with regional and political groups.

6. The meeting raised no objections to the proposed themes of Leadership Dialogues during the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly, which mirror the following three focus areas of the Secretariat concept note for the theme:

- a. Environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss;
- b. Life-cycle approaches to resource efficiency, energy, chemicals and waste management;
- c. Innovative sustainable business development at a time of rapid technological change

7. The meeting requested the Secretariat to undertake further consultations with the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Bureau of the UN Environment Assembly on this basis, and recommended that each Leadership Dialogue will have a set of focused questions and a maximum of 1-2 pre-defined introductory speakers, to allow for an engaging and interactive dialogue.

8. The Chair informed the meeting that she had been informed by Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy UN Secretary-General, that the vacant Executive Director position should be filled before the next Environment Assembly, and that applications for the position will have to be submitted before 31 December 2018.

9. Ms. Joyce Msuya, Executive Director a.i., underlined her intention to work closely with the Bureau of the Committee in the coming weeks and months to ensure a successful fourth session of the Environment Assembly.

Agenda Item 4: Closing of the Meeting

10. The meeting closed at 9:10 a.m.

Meeting requests for follow-up by the Secretariat:

- 1) Elaborate further on a roadmap and possible groupings of resolutions

2) Send request to Chairs of regional group to nominate possible co-facilitators for resolutions working groups

3) Consult with the Committee of Permanent Representatives members and the Bureau of the UN Environment Assembly on the proposed themes for the leadership dialogues