

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Bureau Meeting
Friday 4 October 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
UNEP Executive Office Boardroom
NOF Block 1 Level 3 South Wing
United Nations Office at Nairobi, Gigiri

MEETING SUMMARY

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

1. H.E. Mr. Fernando Estellita Lins de Salvo Coimbra, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representative, opened the meeting, in which the following members of the Bureau, Regional Groups and the Secretariat participated:

Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau members:

H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra, Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil

H.E. Mr. Sunil Da Silva, Vice Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka

Mrs. Gudi Alkemade, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, representing H.E. Mr. Frans Makken, Vice Chair, Ambassador and Permanent Representative

H.E. Mrs. Francisca Ashietey-Odunton, Rapporteur: High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Ghana

The President of UN Environment Assembly was represented by:

H.E. Ms. Elin Bergithe Rognlie, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway

The Eastern European Regional Group was represented by:

H.E. Mr. Dragan Zupanjevac, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative of Serbia, Chair of the Eastern European Group

The UN Environment Programme Secretariat was represented by:

Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis, Secretary of Governing Bodies

Mr. Ulf Björnholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies

2. The meeting agenda was adopted.

Agenda Item 2: Follow-up to the Bureau meeting of the UN Environment Assembly

3. The Chair of the CPR invited H.E. Ms. Elin Bergithe Rognlie, Envoy to the UNEA President and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway, to provide a short briefing on the outcomes of the UNEA Bureau meeting held on 1 October 2019. The summary from that meeting is made available on the dedicated [meeting portal](#).
4. With regard to identifying a theme for UNEA-5, the Bureau supported the approach taken by the Chair of the Committee and the Envoy of the UNEA President to continue consultations with regional and political groups and in the context of the full Committee in the upcoming weeks. Based on the feedback from these meetings, the President intends to circulate to all Member States a revised document on the theme for further consideration, in view of arriving at a final decision at the joint meeting of the UNEA and

CPR Bureaux scheduled for 3 December.

5. One Bureau member pointed out that there is limited time available to reach a consensual decision. Another member stressed the need to include member States who are not based in Nairobi in this process.
6. The Chair underlined that the two Bureaux of UNEA and CPR will need to work closely together to ensure broad consultations, in cooperation with regional and political groups, and recalled that formal consultations on the theme are planned for the Subcommittee meeting scheduled for 31 October 2019.
7. With regard to the potential relationship between the implementation of decision UNEP/EA.4/2 and General Assembly resolution 73/333, the President's Envoy informed the meeting that the UNEA Bureau had agreed to request the Chair of the Committee and the President's Envoy, supported by the Executive Director, to undertake consultations on the future process in Nairobi, and to report back on next joint Bureau meeting scheduled for 3 December 2019.

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of decision UNEP/EA.4/2 and of resolution UNEP/EA.4/Res.22.

8. With regard to the process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives as mandated by Decision 4.2, the Chair initially informed the meeting on the status on the nomination of co-facilitators, and welcomed the nomination of Mr. Marcus Davies, Deputy Permanent Representative from Canada, as one of the two co-facilitators.
9. The Bureau member representing the African Group informed the meeting that the Group had agreed to nominate Mr. Mapopa Kaunda, Deputy Permanent Representative from Malawi, as the second co-facilitator. Bureau members converged on the need to keep regional groups informed of the deliberations held within the Bureau, so as to ensure transparency and inclusivity.
10. The Bureau endorsed the nomination of the two co-facilitators and underlined the importance of open and transparent consultations and of allowing for active engagement by member States not represented in Nairobi. One member called for a clear roadmap of meetings and agenda items to facilitate for delegations to plan their contributions well in advance of the consultations.
11. The Chair proposed to meet with the 2 co-facilitators shortly after the Bureau meeting to develop a draft consolidated proposal and a roadmap of meetings for the review, for further consideration by the Bureau and subsequently by the Committee in conjunction with the 6th annual subcommittee meeting.
12. The Bureau considered other related processes referred to in UNEA decision 4/2, such as the 50-year commemoration of the creation of UNEP and the development of an action plan for the implementation of paragraph 88 in the Rio + 20 Outcome Document. The Bureau considered that that, while these processes may be interrelated, they should for the time being be considered as separate tracks, to allow for focused consultations.

Agenda Item 4: Other matters

13. The Chair informed the meeting of the planned schedule of informal consultations with regional groups on the theme of UNEA 5 in the context of the upcoming 6th annual subcommittee meeting.

14. One member of the Bureau underlined the need to ensure a smooth video conference connection for the next Joint Bureaux meeting scheduled for 3 December 2019.

Agenda Item 5: Closing of the meeting

15. The meeting closed at 10:00 a.m.