

Emerging consensual elements by the co-facilitators

Version I, 30 December 2019

A. Introduction

Paragraph 11 of decision 4/2 “Requests the Executive Director to conduct a mapping exercise and provide an input paper on the topics specified in paragraph 10 of the present decision at least 3 weeks ahead of the 6th annual subcommittee meeting.” A [mapping exercise](#) developed by the Secretariat was considered by the CPR at its 146th meeting held on 20 June 2019, and a Secretariat [input paper](#) including specific options based on [inputs in writing submitted by Member States and stakeholders](#), as well as from relevant recommendations included in the “[UNEA-4: Assessment and lessons-learned](#)” paper prepared by the Secretariat and endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) in June 2019, was considered at the 6th annual subcommittee meeting of the CPR held on 9 October 2019. At that meeting, two co-facilitators, Mr Marcus Davis of Canada and Mr Mapopa C. Kaunda of Malawi, were appointed to lead consultations under the process for review, and [a roadmap for the consultation process](#) was adopted. So far, two subcommittee meetings have been held under the process for review by the CPR: respectively on [31 October](#) and [26 November](#) 2019.

This document outlines possible emerging consensual elements, as proposed by the co-facilitators of the process for review, emanating from guidance provided by member States at the subcommittee meetings referred to above.

Subject to further consultations and confirmation by the subcommittee, the proposals may be reviewed at the 7th meeting of the Annual Subcommittee in October 2020, in view of possible submission for final consideration at UNEA 5.

B. Emerging consensual elements

I. The preparation, working arrangements and scheduling of sessions of the UN Environment Assembly and of the objectives, preparation, working arrangements and the scheduling of meetings of its subsidiary body, namely the meeting of the Open-ended CPR and the regular and annual meetings of the subcommittee of the CPR. (Decision 4/2, subparagraph 10 (a))

Preliminary conclusions and recommendations:

1. Under the guidance of the UNEA Bureau and the Secretariat, **ensure that the UNEA theme provides a framework for the political debate at high-level segment as well as for other UNEA-related events and campaigns**, and that it provides “[soft guidance](#)” [inspiration](#) for Member States in their preparation of draft UNEA resolutions, while fully respecting Member States’ right to table draft resolutions on any subject in accordance with the UNEA Rules of Procedures and established practices.
2. **Organize, as a general practice and unless otherwise decided by UNEA, meetings of the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives back-to-back** with the UN Environment Assembly, while ensuring effective, participatory and inclusive intersessional preparations. [Comment by BRA: According to our assessment of the dialogue held, the practice of covening the OECPR back-to-back with UNEA is not consensually perceived as ideal. Also, it should be noted that the CPR Bureau should also be involved in the decision on the scheduling of the OECPR \(so perhaps this decision would be more adequately taken in the context of a joint Bureaux meeting\).](#)

3. **Designate the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives as a “Preparatory Committee for the UN Environment Assembly” (UNEA PREPCOM)**, while keeping its current mandate [and chairmanship](#), as established in UNEP Governing Council decision 27/2, unchanged.
4. **Designate the Annual Subcommittee meeting as a “Review and Oversight Committee”**, while keeping its existing mandate [and chairmanship](#), as established in UNEP Governing Council decision 27/2, unchanged.
5. Under the guidance of the UNEA Bureau and [with the support from](#) the Secretariat, **create an optimal balance between political negotiations, the UNEA high-level Segment, and official and non-official UNEA events**, to ensure political ownership and to enable, as far as possible, all Member States to participate in the negotiations on UNEA resolutions. This may entail limiting the number of side events and other events, and minimizing overlaps in the scheduling and structure of UNEA sessions.
6. Under the guidance of the UNEA Bureau and [with the support from](#) the Secretariat and in close cooperation with the MEA Secretariats, **strengthen the contributions of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) to UNEA with a view to promote coherence and synergies**, while fully respecting their respective mandates, including through a possible “MEA segment” held in conjunction or back-to-back with the UNEA high level segment, and the involvement of MEA Secretariats in consultations on draft resolutions. This may improve synergies in the development of the resolutions and avoid duplication and contradiction between the UNEA resolutions and the MEAs governing bodies’ resolutions.
7. **Strengthen preparations for UNEA at regional level**, including by encouraging Members of the UNEA Bureau [and Nairobi-based delegations of Member States](#) to participate in regional ministerial environmental forums and regional forums on sustainable development, to identify relevant regional contributions and inputs to UNEA sessions.
8. Under guidance of the UNEA Bureau and [with the support from](#) the Secretariat, **strengthen science-policy interface at UNEA**, including by strategic scheduling of the Science-Policy-Business Forum and the Sustainable Innovation Expo, making best use of flagship scientific environmental assessments, and by facilitating science-based decision making through the provision of dedicated briefings and consultations on the theme of UNEA and/or proposed resolutions.
9. In accordance with the UNEA Rules of Procedures and established practices, and under guidance of the UNEA Bureau and the Secretariat and subject to the availability of financial resources, **strengthen the participation of Major Groups representatives at UNEA and its preparatory process**, including in the context of selecting the UNEA theme, by encouraging stronger participation from local, indigenous communities and small and medium-sized enterprises, and by offering relevant Secretariat trainings and briefings for stakeholders.
10. Under the guidance of the CPR Bureau and [with the support from](#) the Secretariat, **improve the identification and formulation of decisions and conclusions from CPR meetings**, including through strategic and timely scheduling of CPR meetings and high-quality documentation from the Secretariat, such as annotated agendas, background documentation and meeting summaries.
11. Under the guidance of the CPR Bureau and [with the support from](#) the Secretariat and subject to the availability of resources, **consider how to further broaden ownership and inclusiveness of CPR meetings** through the facilitation of remote participation of ~~member~~ [Member states](#) ~~States~~ without [resident](#) representation in Nairobi, and [how to improve](#) ~~of~~ online access to documents and crucial information ~~on~~ [by making](#) meeting portals and the UNEA website [more user-friendly](#).

II. The respective roles and responsibilities of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly and of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, including those related to interactions with their respective constituencies; (Decision 4/2, subparagraph 10 (b))

Preliminary conclusions and recommendations - to be completed following consultations with the CPR.

III. Criteria, modalities and timing for presenting and negotiating draft resolutions and decisions; (Decision 4/2, subparagraph 10 (c))

Preliminary conclusions and recommendations - to be completed following consultations with the CPR.

IV. Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme of work and budget and of the resolutions of the Environment Assembly; (Decision 4/2, subparagraph 10 (d))

Preliminary conclusions and recommendations - to be completed following consultations with the CPR.