

## **Comments in writing by Mexico on the Process for review by the CPR, dated 4 March 2020**

As requested during the last meeting of the Process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Mexico is delivering its comments about the work done so far.

I will rather focus the attention on commenting a couple of points derived from the discussions so far that concern us and that Mexico would like to see reflected in written in the final paper resulting from this exercise:

1. The discussion of the proposed resolutions and decisions must start as soon as they are presented.
2. The rules of procedure should not be modified.
3. Independently from the fact that the OECPR and the Assembly are carried out back to back or not, official negotiations or meetings of any kind shall not take place during weekends. This will force us to organise the workload better and will prevent small delegations from not being able to attend parallel negotiation meetings. This element is key in order to achieve a transparent and participatory process.
4. We want to make a better use of the intersessional period. We therefore welcome and support the very interesting proposals made by Norway, the Netherlands, and Brazil encouraging Member States to present their resolutions in a timely manner and in meetings that were not considered before, for example, the Annual Subcommittee Meeting. The option of omnibus resolutions or clusters is also worth evaluating. We have to stimulate this discussion in order to find new ways of making the most of the time previous to UNEA.
5. The question of representation is important. The argument that half of the countries do not have a Permanent Mission should not be an excuse to diminish the importance of the work carried out in Nairobi. We all agree that we want to strengthen UNEP and its headquarters as the programme that leads the international discussions and decision-making on environmental affairs. Encouraging Member States to use technology to be part of the discussions or to establish a Mission in Nairobi is very important. It is worth noting that in some of the last sessions, interested countries have participated via videoconference. In the Marine Litter and Microplastics Meeting carried out a few weeks ago, for example, Peru participated actively and made a point because they were interested in the subject. We cannot allow the subject of representation to hinder or to delay our very important work towards preparing UNEA.

The Permanent Mission of Mexico acknowledges the great efforts made by the Co-Chairs of this process, Mr. Marcus Davies and Mr. Mapopa Kaunda, and thanks them for directing a thorough discussion oriented towards concrete and effective proposals. At the same time, we are grateful for the Secretariat's support in order to achieve our goal of carrying out successful UNEAs. We are looking forward to cooperating in this effort to achieve our common goals.

## **Comments in writing by Mexico on the Process for review by the CPR, dated 30 March 2020**

I acknowledge UNEP's efforts for taking into account Mexico's position in the input paper submitted to the Annual Subcommittee Meeting last October, as well as in the subsequent relevant options papers shared with the CPR, especially paragraph 8 of the Summary of the Subcommittee Meeting of the CPR carried out on 31 October 2019.

We fully understand the impossibility of expressing verbatim submissions in the documents. However, revising all the documents, Mexico's remaining concerns, listed in our previous message, have not been reflected in them.

We strongly believe that Mexico's contribution would help the CPR review process better achieve its mandate by incorporating in writing that:

1. Discussion and negotiation of proposed resolutions and decisions should start as soon as they are presented, including the intersessional period.
2. Resolutions and decisions' negotiations should not be carried out in weekends around the OECPR or the Assembly, unless agreed upon by the programme of work.

These actions would enable negotiations to be less time-consuming, open, inclusive, and transparent, as they would force us to find ways to use the inter-sessional period in such a fashion that we have enough time for participatory and constructive negotiation.

We are about to end the first phase of the consultation process, namely the scoping phase, which began in October 2019 and will end next month. Mexico would not like to carry on to the consolidation phase, from May to October 2020 without seeing its contributions better reflected in future documents.

We strongly agree that the consultations within the CPR based review process present a great opportunity to discuss all these matters, with the aim of arriving at an agreement by consensus for UNEA-5 to consider and take a decision, including to ensure that draft resolutions/decisions are discussed and considered in the CPR at an early stage, while also ensuring that agreed texts are not reopened at a later stage. This could be ensured by having participation of countries not represented in Nairobi in the CPR and Ad hoc Working Groups' meetings. Mexico strongly favours negotiations paragraph by paragraph of the resulting document of this process.

Mexico would be very grateful if the inputs given on March 4<sup>th</sup> and today are uploaded on the portal.

Thank you again for your continued support.