
Committee of Permanent Representatives

Subcommittee Meeting

Tuesday 23 June 2020

9:00 – 12:00

Online Meeting

MEETING SUMMARY

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

1. H.E. Mr. Fernando Coimbra, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil, opened the meeting.
2. The Secretariat provided an overview of the participants present at the meeting. A list of participating member States and stakeholders is annexed to this summary.
3. The meeting [agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda Item 2: Implementation of paragraph 8 of UNEA Decision 4/2.

4. The Secretariat presented an [overview](#) on the implementation of paragraph 8 of UNEA Decision 4/2, which requested the Executive Director “to prepare, in consultation with Member States, the commemoration of the creation of UNEP by the UN Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, making use of contributions from relevant stakeholders”.
5. Delegations took note of the background note presented by the Secretariat, including the idea of the kick-off of the commemoration at the UNEA5, the proposed roadmap and the general outlines of the science-policy input.
6. Several delegations and stakeholders provided further guidance on the next steps for the preparation of the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of UNEP, as follows:
 - Took positive note of the proposal by the Secretariat for the UNEP@50 commemorations to be launched at UNEA-5, while noting the distinct nature of these commemorations;
 - Underlined that UNEP@50 should be celebrated in Nairobi;
 - Stressed the importance of further consideration of this topic within the CPR in an open and inclusive manner;
 - Noted that, in the manner that it is being proposed, the Swedish offer to host a UN High Level meeting in Stockholm in 2022 would still require a specific mandate from member States through a decision in New York or Nairobi;
 - Noted the challenge of organizing multiple major events and meetings in a short period of time, also taking into account the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to limit the environmental footprint of such events;
 - Suggested the initiation of a substantive discussion among member States on what it would mean to strengthen UNEP, including in relation to relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements;

- Recommended that the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of UNEP should find a balance between stock-taking and forward looking conclusions;
 - Suggested that the background paper could be expanded to include aspects related to the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development and means of implementation;
 - Supported the emphasis on a strong science-policy interface in the background paper;
 - Underlined the importance to involve civil society stakeholders in the process;
 - Called for further consideration of the possible linkages between the commemorations, the implementation of General Assembly resolution 73/333, and UNEA-5;
 - Requested further clarification on what is meant by “outreach activities throughout the year” and “more effective multilateralism” in the background paper;
 - Invited Sweden to provide additional information on the offer to host a UN High Level Meeting in Stockholm in 2022.
7. With regard to the Global Synthesis Report, member States in general supported the report and requested the preparations for review process of the report.
 8. The delegation of Sweden stated that, in their view, their offer to host a UN High Level Meeting in Stockholm in 2022 to commemorate the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment and the 50-year commemoration of UNEP should be considered as separate but interlinked processes and should be mutually supportive. Sweden also expressed the intention that the meeting in Stockholm should take place at the highest political level, aim to promote action towards a healthy and prosperous planet in support of the environmental dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of the UN decade of action for the SDGs, contribute to building back better after the COVID pandemic, and have a strong youth component. Sweden announced that they would present a non-paper to the committee at a future meeting of the subcommittee. Sweden also supported the launch of UNEP@50 at UNEA5, as an important opportunity to strengthen UNEP in Nairobi, environment multilateralism in general, as well as the science-policy interface.
 9. The Chair thanked delegations for their contributions and requested the Secretariat to revise the background document to take into account relevant inputs from Member States, with a view to revert to the matter at a subcommittee meeting scheduled for 14 July, and encouraged Sweden to submit a non-paper on the offer to host a UN High Level Meeting in 2022.

Agenda Item 4: Other matters.

10. The Secretariat informed the meeting that documents in support of the first informal substantive consultation on UNGA resolution 73/333 would be made available soon.
11. Secretariat also provided additional information about the informal consultation under the process for review by the CPR scheduled for 25 June, which will feed into the formal consultation meeting on 2 July.

Agenda Item 5: Closing of the meeting.

12. The meeting closed at 11:15 a.m.

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**List of Delegations to the Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent
Representatives on 23 June 2020**

Member States

- 1 Algeria
- 2 Estonia
- 3 Kenya
- 4 Costa Rica
- 5 United Kingdom
- 6 State of Palestine
- 7 Malaysia
- 8 Brazil
- 9 Canada
- 10 Korea
- 11 Chile
- 12 China
- 13 Japan
- 14 United States of America
- 15 Djibouti
- 16 India
- 17 Madagascar
- 18 Israel
- 19 Norway
- 20 France
- 21 Ethiopia
- 22 European Union
- 23 Finland
- 24 Saudi Arabia
- 25 Indonesia
- 26 Belgium
- 27 Germany
- 28 League of Arab States
- 29 Venezuela
- 30 Portugal
- 31 Mexico
- 32 Egypt
- 33 Peru
- 34 Iran
- 35 Colombia
- 36 Morocco

37	Sweden
38	Switzerland
39	Russian Federation
40	Cameroon
41	Botswana
42	Hungary
43	Nigeria
44	Netherlands
45	Democratic Republic of the Congo
46	Serbia
47	Panama
48	Eritrea
49	Poland

Accredited Stakeholders

1	Children and Youth Major Group
2	World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
3	Society for International Development (SID)
4	Soroptimist International
5	Center for International Environment Law (CIEL)
6	Institute for Sustainable Development and Research (ISDR)
7	International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL)
8	World Animal Net (WAN)