

MGFC, RF and UNEP teleconference

Summary of minutes

6 October 2020

Agenda:

1. Date and format of UNEA 5
2. Implications for GMGSF
3. Clusters next steps
4. Annual CPR Subcommittee
5. MGS Consultation on 9 Oct 2020
6. RCM update
7. Other issues

Participants:

- UNEP: Alexander Juras, Isaiah Otieno, Aurora Cheung
- Science MG: Stephen Stec
- Trade Union MG: Bert De Wel
- NGO MG: Griffins Ochieng, Khawla Al-Muhannadi
- Women MG: Isis Alvarez, Giulia Carlini
- Children and Youth MG: Yugratna Srivastava, Teresa Oberhauser
- Local Authorities MG: Yunus Arikan
- Farmers MG: Wali Haider, Gabor Figeczky
- Indigenous peoples and local communities MG: Naw Ei Ei, Paul Kanyinke Sena
- Business and Industry MG: Michelle Tan
- Regional Facilitators:
 - o LAC: Gladys Lorena Terrazas Arnez
 - o West Asia: Fatima Frutan
 - o Europe: Patrizia Heidegger, Sophiko Akhobadze
 - o North America: Jennifer Garard
 - o Africa: Ayman Cherkaoui, Gertrude Kenyangi

Summary of Minutes

1. Date and format of UNEA 5

- Input from Alexander Juras (UNEP Civil Society Unit): Presidency's draft proposal: two sessions, UNEA-5.1 online meeting in February 2021 during the dates planned for UNEA-5, and UNEA-5.2 as a physical meeting in February 2022 (if possible); online session in February 2021 would focus on the most important issues (UNEP MTS, Programme of Work, budget, and a few decisions etc.); second session in February 2022 could be combined with UNEP at 50; reflects what many member states have proposed. UNEA can be split in different sessions in line with the rules of procedure.
- Clarification on eventual content resolutions to be adopted during the first online session in February 2021: eventually a Ministerial Declaration, eventually two substantial resolutions for the online session.
- CPR sub-committee should have agreed the decision by the end of week of 12 October 2020.
- Impacts on RCMs: no strong need to have an RCM before UNEA-5.1 February 2021; there could be a smaller consultation on those agenda points covered in February 2021 and then to have the full RCM in 2021 in preparation of the UNEA-5.2 in February 2022, will depend on the decision taken by the CPR Sub-Committee week of 12 October 2020.
- Clarification on modalities for participation: online sessions must be open for participation of accredited organization, online sessions must provide translation, both in line with the Rules of Procedure.

2. Implications for GMGSF

- Proposal from UNEP Civil Society Unit: if UNEA is split into two sessions, the GMGSF could be split into two, too, in line with the issue that are on the agenda of the two UNEA sessions; the opportunity with an online GMGSF could be to spread it out over several days with shorter sessions; if a physical UNEA-5.2 can take place in February 2022, a GMGSF can then take place eventually in the week before UNEA-5.2 in Nairobi.
- Timing of GMGSF: concerning whether we could have 2 face-to-face GMGSFs before UNEA-5.2 – one a few weeks before, and one right before UNEA-5.2. However this would have budget implications as well as a higher environmental footprint if people had to travel twice.
- Question around interaction with Ministers: needs to be discussed how this can be done; it was suggested that interaction is probably better during a physical meeting, but needs to be seen.
- Suggestion: cluster leaders should also take a lead in organizing sessions on the respective issue during the GMGSF, preparatory meetings should be held by December 2020 or January 2021, as the topics have already been discussed, such as the MTS. Also, the topics for the 1st session are those that are traditionally less covered by NGOs such as the UNEP budget.

- Agenda setting of GMGSF must be set by the Major Groups and Stakeholders, then collaborate with interested organizations and UNEP in organization.

3. Clusters next steps

- MGFC Chair has reached out to MG to identify cluster leaders; now cluster leaders need to take up responsibility to organize the first part of the GMGSF; fill the cluster with interested organizations and persons; work out a work plan for 2020/2021.
- Question around self-organization of clusters: how to deal with positions coming out of the clusters that some Major Groups do not agree with? The Major Groups have the mandate to agree on positions; suggestion: expects that the number of people engaging in one cluster to be rather limited, their role is to find agreements.
- It was raised that the process of the choice of the cluster leaders did not seem transparent, and it was not discussed in the MGFC.

4. 7th Annual CPR Subcommittee (12-16 October 2020)

- The one-week CPR Subcommittee [meeting](#) is an important step in the preparation of UNEA; in the past MGS participants could join face-to-face, this time the meeting is online and all MGS can register to participate. Topics: MTS, future of Geo assessment, format of UNEA-5; invitation to look at the agenda and MGs are meeting this week to prepare input this week.
- Yugratna: deadline for registration is this Thursday through the portal;
- MGS preparation meeting: 9 October 2020, 11am - 2pm Nairobi time; objective is to have an agreed position; focus on MGFC plus up to 5 representatives of each Major Groups and region to participate; the agenda mirrors agenda of CPR meeting.

5. MGS Consultation on 9 October 2020

- Meeting in preparation for the 7th Annual CPR subcommittee [meeting](#), see internal agenda and planning at this link: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FwQR0zDdpC3_dmS648sN2tJGlc-SGO2DS3dNb_qYXo/edit#
- Info via email will be sent by organizer.
- Looking for about 5 nominations per major group: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1WXlrmRIAtlhCU-y6qPaFcVrfW7A6GPvfj-egPKz51aY/edit#gid=0>

6. RCM update

- UNEP will send update via email.

7. Other issues

- Webinar: Climate Change and Cultural Extinction: A Human Rights Crisis. A webinar to mark the presentation of a pathbreaking new report by the UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural

rights to the UN General Assembly. 21 October 2020 at 1:15pm - 2:45pm EDT / 5:15pm - 6:45pm GMT (via Zoom), register here
<https://ww3.hunter.cuny.edu/roosevelthouse/view.php?id=8747>

End of meeting