United Nations





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United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

137th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme Nairobi, 16 January 2017, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Agenda Item 6.

Preparations for the fourth Annual sub-committee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

Member States will be invited to endorse the 'Proposed Structure of the Fourth Annual Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN Environment' (Annex 1).

In addition, the Secretariat presents for the information of Member States, a revised 'Note by the Secretariat on the Structure and Agenda of the Fourth Annual Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN Environment' (Annex 2) as follow up to the Informal Open-Ended Working Group meeting held on 6 December 2016.

(Annex 1) Proposed structure of the Fourth Annual Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN Environment

As follow up of the Informal Open-Ended Working Group meeting on 6 December 2016, this has been revised by taking account of inputs received from Member States.

	Monday, March 6	Tuesday, March 7	Wednesday, March 8	Thursday, March 9	Friday, March 10
09:30 – 12:30	Opening of the meetingOverview of the Budget and Programme PerformanceImplementation of UN Environment work on Climate Change	Implementation on UN Environment work on Environmental Governance and Chemicals and Hazardous Waste.	Contribution of the Environment Assembly to the High Level Political Forum	Preparations for the 2017 Environment Assembly (Dialogue on theme of the Assembly)	The 138th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
12:30 - 14:30					
14:30 – 17:30	Implementation of UN Environment work on Disasters and Conflicts and Ecosystem Management.	Implementation of UN Environment Work on Resource Efficiency and Environment under Review	<i>Continued</i> Contribution of the Environment Assembly to the High Level Political Forum	Preparations for the 2017 Environment Assembly (Timelines of Submission of draft resolutions; structure of the High-Level Segment; Outcome of the High Level Segment; Budget of the 2017 Environment Assembly) Closing of the meeting	

(Annex 2) Note by the Secretariat on the Structure and Agenda of the Fourth Annual Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN Environment March 6-10, 2017

As follow up of the Informal Open-ended Working Group meeting on 6 December 2016, this has been revised by taking account of inputs received from Member States.

- 1. At its second session, the UN Environment Assembly decided that on an exceptional basis, the Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the UN Environment Programme (UN Environment) would take place in 2017. It mandated the Committee of Permanent Representatives to review the agenda and organizational modalities of the Subcommittee. (Decision 22/2, 3c).
- 2. It will be recalled that Governing Council decision 27/2 established a subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives that would meet annually for a period of five days to review, with the support of the secretariat, the medium-term strategy and programme of work and budget, in a manner coherent with the budgetary cycle of the United Nations, to be endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the governing body's approval, and to oversee their implementation and accountability by the Secretariat. Since a Programme of work and budget was adopted at the second session of the Assembly, the next Medium Term Strategy and Programme of work for UN Environment will be considered at the Fourth Session of UNEA in 2019.
- The Fourth Annual Subcommittee meeting has been scheduled by the Bureau of the Committee from Monday 6th to Friday 10th of March 2017 (including the 138th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives).
- 4. The Secretariat is cognizant of ensuring the inclusion of non-resident Member States and to this effect shall send a letter requesting their physical participation or shall send a Go to Meeting invitation so that they may participate albeit virtually.
- 5. The forthcoming Annual Subcommittee meeting is expected to focus on progress in the implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget including of the resolutions adopted by the UN Environment Assembly; while also addressing the preparations for the third session of the Assembly. At the request of Member States the Secretariat shall

prepare a table on the status of implementation of resolutions from the second UN Environment Assembly.

- 6. Building on the guidance from the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives with the support of the Secretariat, has put forward for Members guidance the following substantive items for the provisional agenda of the Fourth Annual Subcommittee:
 - a) Budget and Programme Performance including implementation of Assembly's resolutions
 - b) Contribution of the Environment Assembly to the High Level Political Forum
 - c) Preparations for the 2017 Environment Assembly
 - d) 138th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

Budget and Programme Performance including implementation of Assembly's resolutions

- 7. This agenda item will provide an overview of progress, particularly on the budget for the programme of work. It will include an overview of the budget, financial situation including gaps in funding, resource mobilisation and the functioning and efficiency of Umoja.
- 8. This agenda item will allow participants to take part in a deep dive of the sub-programmes getting insights of the status of implementation of the Programme of Work and resolutions linked to it.
- 9. The proposed agenda item would be discussed on Monday 6 and Tuesday 7. It is suggested that in order to allow adequate consideration, the subcommittee dedicates approximately 1.5 hours of discussions on each sub-programme in the following way:
 - a. An overview of the sub-programme priorities and a snap shot of implementation including major achievements, with an emphasis on measurable achievements, and general direction (including how the resolutions are being implemented), and gaps/challenges.
 - An illustrative case study with a UN Environment partner, a representative from the country in which the case study takes place and Multilateral Environmental Agreements as appropriate. There would be one case study per sub-programme

intended to demonstrate impact and how results are being achieved and highlighting the links to respective multilateral environmental agreements.

- c. Open discussion amongst participants.
- 10. Each session would be much more geared towards having a dialogue with Member States on how the programmes are evolving and helping them to see how the resolutions they adopt feature.

Contribution of the Environment Assembly to the High Level Political Forum

- 11. The fourth annual subcommittee meeting will consider an agenda item on "Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development", with a view to ensuring that the voice of UN Environment is fully heard at the next meeting of the Forum, which will take place in New York from 10 to 19 July 2017 (with a ministerial segment from 17 to 19 July) under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council. The theme of the 2017 High Level Political Forum is "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world".
- 12. The UN Environment, through the President of the Assembly, is expected to provide substantive inputs to the meeting. In providing these inputs, the Council President has invited UN Environment to consider the following template:
 - a. An assessment of the situation regarding the principle of "ensuring that no one is left behind" at the global level
 - b. The identification of gaps, areas requiring urgent attention, risks and challenges;
 - c. Valuable lessons learned on eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity;
 - d. Emerging issues likely to affect the realization of poverty eradication and achieving prosperity;
 - e. Areas where political guidance by HLPF is required;
 - f. Policy recommendations on ways to accelerate progress in poverty eradication.
- 13. The proposed agenda item, which could be discussed on Wednesday 8 March 2017, would provide an opportunity for the members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to share views on what they wish to see UN Environment convey to the Forum, particularly in view of the fact that the next session of the Assembly which will take place in December 2017, with its outcomes feeding only into the 2018 Forum. The

Secretariat will prepare a discussion note addressing the elements covered by the template. Member States will be invited to provide in advance contributions to the inputs to the Forum.

14. The UN Environment Assembly President shall convey the selected messaging in advance of the HLPF in the form of a Chiar's Summary.

Preparations for the 2017 Environment Assembly

- 15. It is suggested that the Subcommittee addresses the agenda item "Preparations for the 2017 Environment Assembly on Thursday, March 9, through five sub-agenda items:
 - a. Dialogue on the outline for the background document to the theme of the High Level Segment (pollution) and communications campaign on the theme for the 2017 Environment Assembly;
 - b. Submission of draft resolutions for consideration of the Assembly;
 - c. Discussions about the Structure of the High Level Segment;
 - d. Outcome of the UN Environmental Assembly;
 - e. Resource mobilisation for the UN Environment Assembly.
- 16. With regards to the first sub-agenda item (Dialogue on the outline for the background document on the theme for the 2017 Environment Assembly), the Subcommittee will be invited to react to the presentations from the Secretariat on a first draft outline of the Report and possible key-recommendations regarding the theme of the High-Level Segment (pollution). The presentation will further introduce how the process for the sixth edition of the Global Environmental Outlook will complement the preparations for the Report. In addition, Member States will be invited to provide inputs to the communication and externel background background to the theme of the communication.

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