

**Statement by Mr. Zerubabel G. Tefera, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to UNEP at the 143<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Program**

**(UNON, Nairobi, 28 September 2018)**

**Madam Chairperson,**

**Ambassadors and High Commissioners,**

**Colleagues,**

**Good Afternoon,**

Taking the floor on our national capacity for the first time, Ethiopia welcomes the Deputy Executive Director to her first CPR. Ethiopia believes that she brings unique yet complementary sets of skills into the management of UN Environment Program. In this regard, Ethiopia expresses its readiness to support her in all possible ways.

**Madam Chairperson,**

Ethiopia congratulates the Joint Bureaux of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the United Nations Environment Assembly, the President of the Fourth UNEA and United Nations Environment Program Secretariat for a successful Second Joint Retreat held in Tallinn, Estonia.

**Madam Chairperson,**

Ethiopia views the emergent cooperation, communication, transparency and inclusivity will certainly contribute towards the success of the Forth United Nations Environment Assembly. We also take note the deadlines put by the Joint Bureaux; Ethiopia also believes that timely communication by Member States and Geographic groups in informing the Secretariat and other member states of their intent to table resolutions is paramount to successful negotiation and subsequent adoption.

**Madam Chairperson,**

Ethiopia duly appreciates the active role played by the Secretariat to reach out to respective Member States and Geographic Blocks in order to accommodate their respective interests in the development of the Concept Note for the Fourth UNEA. Ethiopia is satisfied by the process.

Moving forward, Ethiopia calls upon the Secretariat and the President of the UNEA to continue to take into consideration the proceedings of African Ministerial Conference on the Environment held between 17 and 19 September 2018 here in Nairobi, especially in outlining and developing the Ministerial Declaration and the Executive Director's Report.

I thank You!