

Statement by Dominican Republic on the proposed themes for the 2017 UN Environment Assembly

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic wishes to respond to H.E. Mr. Edgar Gutiérrez Espeleta, Minister of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica and Chair of the UN Environment Assembly, regarding the suggestions of topics for the 2017 Environment Assembly.

In view of the above, we want to express our support for the proposal corresponding to Theme 2: Planet 2.0: how to prepare the planet for 3 degrees and 9 billion people. We share the concern that population growth and global temperature increase will have negative effects on our planet. These changes will undoubtedly be accompanied by the degradation of ecosystems, loss of biodiversity, climate change, reduction of family livelihoods, among others.

Countries like the Dominican Republic are highly vulnerable to natural disasters and the impacts of climate change. It is in this context that we see this proposal as more comprehensive and inclusive as it incorporates as well concepts such as urban, rural, marine, terrestrial and public-private.

We hope that UNEA 2017 will be able to prepare scenarios and interventions that will increase resilience from an environmental, social, economic and political point of view, incorporating all sectors of the population.

In the same way, we confirm our participation in the next round of consultation in a virtual way, so we request that we facilitate access if necessary.

Without further ado at the moment, and grateful for your kind attention, I bid you cordially

Sincerely,

Ms. Rosa Otero

Director of Trade and Environment

Vice Ministry of International Cooperation

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources