



EU & MS Statement in the AHOEWG on the Global Pact for the Environment on the chapter of the UNSG report on existing regulatory regimes

14-18 January 2019, Nairobi

Co-Chairs, Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

As regards existing regimes and their implementation, the EU and its Member States would like to, first and foremost, recognise that the report provides a good overview. The report identifies a number of gaps and we do acknowledge that those and other gaps, which are not covered in the report, might need to be addressed.

In some instances, the report could have provided us with more information on regimes that have not been covered. As previously noted, we consider that it will be necessary to progress beyond merely discussing the UN Secretary General report and to arrive at concrete recommendations. In doing so, the report itself should not become the subject nor the centre of negotiations.

In this process, we all will have to consider together what the ad-hoc open-ended working group can address and where other fora may be better placed to respond to these gaps.

To be able to do so, a thorough analysis of the gaps covered in this chapter is essential, including with regard to their origin, their scope and ways to address them. While doing so, it will be essential to involve all relevant stakeholders.

The EU and its member states are ready to engage on further work within the ad-hoc open-ended working group accordingly. In our analysis, we have identified that action regarding regulatory regimes might be associated with two different situations:

Firstly, where regulatory regimes already exist, the process within this working group should provide political momentum for the UN General Assembly to strongly encourage all UN member states who have not yet done so to join the existing regimes.

Furthermore, we may wish to recommend to the UN General Assembly to invite those regimes to address certain gaps as identified by the working group, while fully respecting their distinct decision-making frameworks.

Secondly, we recognise that some gaps are already being addressed in ongoing processes. The ad-hoc open-ended working group could consider, through its recommendations to the UN General Assembly, to support these processes on a political level and, in certain cases, invite these fora to pay attention to additional issues as identified by this working group.

Lastly, where there are gaps that are not being addressed by existing regimes or ongoing processes and where the working group finds that collective action at the global level could improve environmental protection, the EU and its Member States are open to discuss recommending further action on the issue.

We look forward to engaging with all member states in this process to develop ambitious recommendations to the United Nations General Assembly.