

Statement by South Africa on behalf the African Group on the Provisional Agenda of the second substantive session of the ad hoc open ended working group established pursuant to the General Assembly resolution 72/277

Chairperson,

My delegation would like to make this statement on behalf of the African Group.

The African Group is of the position that the substantive sessions should take place for the period of five days, however we wish to propose for the second substantive session to take place in April 2019 taking into consideration the of Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR) and the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

The Group has taken note of agenda item 4 and wish to get more information on the basis of considering these possible options. We are not in a position to consider various options yet to address possible gaps because there is no clear determination of what the gaps are. This can be done during the second substantive session and collectively decide on the gaps.

Lastly chairperson, it may be recalled that the basis of the substantive sessions as per UN General Assembly resolution 72/277 is to look at the Secretary-General's report.

We thank you