

STATEMENT BY INDIA
ON
CHAPTER-II GAPS CONCERNING PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW.

THANK you

Co-Chairs!

This is a very important chapter as it attempts to look at the possibility of application of principles to address procedural, institutional and implementation gaps with the objective to strengthen existing environmental laws.

In this context we call for comprehensive approach; and are of view that uniform application of the general principles to different international environmental instruments needs further examination, particularly in context of their respective objectives; as many of these instruments are inherently subject specific.

The General Principles need to be carefully considered in terms of their scope so as to ensure that they do not add specific dimension to existing treaties/ instruments and create no special obligations, which are beyond their objectives.

To ensure that the process does not undermine the existing framework and instruments, flexibility needs to be provided for while discussing the general principles, in order to allow for adapting them to the specific requirements of the existing environment related instruments, while not contradicting the already agreed provisions/procedures.

Further, we recall our General Statement to reiterate that among the other general principles that we mentioned yesterday, permanent sovereignty over the natural resources should be an important factor for consideration during this process.

THNAK you once again.
