



STATEMENTS BY WORLD ANIMAL NET

Global Pact for the Environment

Second Substantive Session: March 2019

Monday 18th March 2019

WAN STATEMENT

SPEAKER: JANICE COX

Thank you Chair,

It is a pity that this workshop has fallen back into set-piece statements.

Many of which reflect lack of political will to move forward for fear of obligations or implications (work commitment, cost, sovereignty, trade etc.).

Much of the debate seems to be “filibustering”!

So how do we avoid a meeting full of verbose statements, and move towards some constructive action.

In this regard, we agree completely with the process of compilation and examination. We could begin by categorising environmental principles which have been agreed in the first instance, and then move on to other principles which might be desirable.

As the SG’s Gap report and the initial draft of the Global Pact for the Environment by the Club de Juristes shows, there are not actually that many principles. During the time we are speaking, these could have been pulled together, ready for examination.

Many of them are widely acceptable and highly desirable.

The other aspect which could be quite easily considered are environmental rights and duties.

- The universal right to an ecologically sound environment; which is safe, clean, healthy and sustainable.
- The rights of environmental defenders and environmental media to pursue their work without physical and verbal threats, harassment, criminalisation, victimisation, or damage.
- Hand in hand with duty(ies) to take care of the environment.

Tuesday 19th March 2019

WORLD ANIMAL NET STATEMENT

SPEAKER: JANICE COX

Thank you Co-Chair.

I am Janice Cox from World Animal Net.

I have just a couple of points to add into the discussion.

Firstly, political will is essential for implementation. There is also a clear need for capacity building and funding

support for compliance in developing countries, and technical assistance on legislation and enforcement. Member States should commit funds for this purpose. However, this also needs the commitment and political will of developing countries; fully including and prioritising implementation within national development plans. There is also a need to involve and include stakeholders, including NGOs working in-country on environmental issues.

Secondly, one of the most effective methods of supporting implementation over the longer term is the development of respect and reverence for Nature, through environmental and humane education, and public awareness. This ethic can be developed through education and awareness, providing effective methods and messaging are used, and an action-oriented approach adopted. There is a role for the collection of best practice in this regard, and for leadership from UNEP.