

Statement by H.E. Beyene Russom, Dean of the African Group on the Third Substantive Session of the ad-hoc Open-Ended Working Group Established Pursuant to the General Assembly Resolution 72/277 – “Towards a Global Pact for the Environment”

20th May 2019

Co-Chairpersons,

Ambassadors, High Commissioners,

Distinguished Delegates, and Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group.

The African Group align itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Ambassador Hazem Shabat, Ambassador of the State of Palestine on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Co-Chairpersons,

The Group acknowledges the extraordinary efforts by the co-chairs in the conduct of the two previous substantive sessions and the non-paper circulated for our consideration. In this regard, the Group believes that the draft elements contained in the non-paper and earlier co-chairs summaries capture the interests, opinions, and positions of several delegations during the previous substantive sessions.

Co-Chairpersons,

In conclusion, the African Group reiterates its appreciation that the co-chairs non-paper recognizes the role of the United Nations Environment Program and its headquarter functions and looks forward to engaging constructively during this final segment of the Substantive Session of the ad-hoc Open-Ended Working Group Established Pursuant to the General Assembly Resolution 72/277 – “Towards a Global Pact for the Environment.

I thank you!