

Dear Co- Chair and other dignitaries, thank you very much and highly appreciated for the opportunity given for my country to be represented and to express the views at the meeting.

During the past two meetings held, it was clearly identified the urgency and importance of this Working Group to focus on the implementation of environmental laws and the decisions of the Environment related Agreements as the practicability is the most important factor of decision making. It was identified that, the implementation of some of the Laws and regulations related to Environment have not been properly done in the respective countries. As Sri Lankans we also identify the importance of implementation of certain laws.

Furthermore, all these sessions are highly important when considering with the objectives of the workshops especially in terms of supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

When we go through the substantive recommendations, it is highlighted that strengthening implementation of Multilateral Agreements at the National and International Levels is an important recommendation during the process of globalization.

The Government of Sri Lanka does not have any major issue with the elements related to the objectives given in the Section one of the Co-Chairs' non-paper. The Government provides its general support to the elements related to the substantive recommendations indicated in the Section 2 as we are agreeing to the Principles of it. In order for the proper implementation of the said process of the Section 3, Sri Lanka believes that, the Working Committee, UNEP and UNEA should provide necessary funding, capacity building and ensure of transferring technology. It will help to reinforce International Cooperation, effective means of implementation and ensuring the implementation of legally binding commitments towards the different MEAs. (Ends)

Thank You.