

STATEMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI TO THE CO-CHAIRS NON-PAPER DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

Thank you Co-chairs

Firstly let me congratulate the Co-chairs for their effort on the work they have done to produce the non-paper for further consideration by delegates. We believe that the document form a bases for our discussions in this Third session of the AWG.

May I state that Eswatini has strong concerns on environmental degradation and their visible effects. We remain committed in ensuring the implementation of international environmental laws and is continuously developing national laws in this regard. Thus we fully agree with the recommendations as they are summarized by the Co-chairs in Section I of the Non-paper.

Regarding Section II we feel that there is need to further strengthen the implementation of international environmental principles in their entirety as recognized to be useful in the respective environmentally related instruments instead of singling out a few that this process will find important in its own assessment. In our view, the process should build on and refrain as much as possible from undermining existing processes and efforts of other multilateral environmental agreements and governing bodies. Therefore we echo the recommendation that additional to the task before us, bodies of other Multilateral Environmental Agreements should be urged to identify and address challenges of implementation challenges within their regimes with a view to strengthening their implementation at the national and international levels.

Under this section we further underscore the need for accelerating the mobilization of the means of implementation of Multilateral Environment Instruments consistent with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Over and above that which the non-paper recognizes, we of the view that this process should recognize and work in support with other Multilateral Environment Agreements on the mobilization of means of implementation of such instruments.

We also stress the need for cooperation and coordination among the respective governing bodies to promote synergy of the respective Multilateral Environment Agreements and other instruments in the subject.

Under Section III Eswatini welcomes the recommendation of the need to consider the adoption of an international instrument for this mandate. However we note that this session concludes the mandate as given by the UN General Assembly. We therefore recommend that the co-chairs request for an extension of this process. We believe further deliberations will help us to decide on whether or not to proceed to develop an international instrument as well as the legal nature and status of the instrument proposed. We believe that there is need to engage in discussions until we have consensus on the nature and elements of the Global Pact as it is apparent that currently there is no consensus on it.

We believe that the outcome of this process can improve the level of compliance with and enforcement of international environmental laws generally.

Lastly the Kingdom of Eswatini pledges its willingness to actively engage and participate in issues discussed throughout the process of this mandate until its finality.

Thank you