At the outset, allow me to commend you for the active engagement with Member States in the preparation of this meeting and making with the help of the Secretariat, the working documents, available in a timely manner. We also believe that making available resources for the participation of delegates from capitals of Least Developed Countries is a very positive step and should contribute to more constructive outputs.

The Group of 77 and China also commends the efforts of the Executive Director of UNEP in effectively and closely engaging in consultations with Member States/Regional Groups, that aimed at harmonizing her vision for the upcoming period. The Group of 77 and China emphasizes that, any approach that will be adopted in the upcoming UNEP Medium-Term Strategy, should continue to take into consideration the needs of Developing Countries for Financial Resources, Knowledge Transfer, Capacity Building and the Transfer of Technology.

The Group of 77 and China commends the high level of implementation as reflected in the indicator targets of the UNEP Programme of Work for January 2018-June 2019, and believes that we should be aiming, in the future, for more ambitious performance targets
and take into consideration the obstacles and challenges that need to be tackled while achieving these ambitious goals.

The Group of 77 and China will continue engaging with the Chairman of the CPR regarding the way forward on the UNEP plus 50 commemoration’s activities, which we believe should be in harmony with the implementation of the Global Agenda on Sustainable Development and further enhances international environmental governance, strengths UNEP, and make it more effective and reflect the actual challenges and priorities of Member States.

The Group of 77 and China welcomes the efforts of the Subcommittee in relation to the implementation of and the follow up of UNEA resolutions as well as the implementation of the Subprograms. In this context the Group reiterates, the importance that the regional dimension of implementation should be included and properly reflected in the reporting process.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.