

Statement by the Permanent Representative

Thank you Chair for giving me the floor.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the Secretariat for comprehensive and highly informative reports presented to the member states in the last five days. I would like to particularly mention the presentations on seven sub-programs which in many ways provided the insight to the heart and soul of the UNEP. These presentations have been extremely valuable during our discussions. I would also like to thank the Chair for excellent handling of the proceedings.

Chair,

The agenda items discussed have not only explained important issues related UNEA Resolutions, private partnership and UN development reform process but also provided insight as to how we can progress further based on the discussions.

We have had an extensive debate on the three proposed options for the purpose of improving the overall reporting of implementation of resolutions to member states and by member states. All three options are very interesting at first sight. However, at a closer look, each one appears to fall short of the balance that we are seeking while trying to improve the reporting mechanism. While we are flexible and open to further discussion on these options, the balance between “to member states and by member states” is very, very important and we should not rush the things. We need to engage in further deliberations.

Chair,

Kenya and Sweden both are interested in hosting the commemorations. We are glad that both are in consultations and both are open to suggestions from the other member states. We have sought instructions from our HQ in this regard and we shall soon state our position accordingly.

The commemoration of 50 years of UNEP is very close to our heart no matter where it is held and we are looking forward to be there with full vigour and zeal. Many fellow colleagues have already spoken about it at length and we share many thoughts with them. The commemorations will provide an opportunity to take stock of the past 50 years; as my Chinese colleague rightly said, a snapshot of 50 years of UNEA.

Here I would like to spell out some specific proposals regarding the outcome; The outcome document should have a political component, Plan of action and commitments. Political declaration will show the commitment of the leadership in all

member countries: a plan of action giving parameters of what has to be achieved in the next 50 years based on UNEP's achievement trajectory will provide the future roadmap: setting the highest possible level of commitments to be achieved by UNEP based on the vision of UNEP to be achieved till the centenary will further strengthen the plan of action. All these can form the basis resolutions of the following UNEAs.

Of course, Here I would also like to add that on the occasion, the member states should also have the opportunity to showcase their individual achievements in the field of environment in the last 50 years—a kind of side event perhaps.

Thank you Chair