Kenya and Sweden’s agreed joint points for consultations on a UN High Level political meeting in Stockholm and on the commemoration of UNEP @ 50 in Nairobi

10 February, 2020

1. Kenya and Sweden see three areas in which the world community can come together and make a difference: firstly, by promoting a more systematic approach to many of the environmental challenges that the world is facing today; secondly, by further strengthening UNEP and its role in the context of the Rio+20 Outcome Document, including by enhancing and strengthening the environment in the UN-system as well as by promoting the science-policy interface; thirdly, by accelerating action and implementation to meet the ambitious goals the world has set for itself on environment and climate through multilateral agreements and in the context of Agenda 2030.

2. To advance these goals, Sweden has offered to host a UN High Level political meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, in the spring of 2022. Kenya has agreed to support this initiative and work collaboratively with Sweden. Both countries want to consult with and obtain support from all Member States to make this ambition a reality.

3. Furthermore, Kenya and Sweden support that the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of UNEP, (which both countries propose to be called UNEP @ 50), mandated in decision 4/2 of UNEA 4, be held at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

4. To this end, both countries see an opportunity to kick start UNEP @ 50 commemorations during UNEA 5 in February 2021, with the attendance of all the Ministers of the Environment and leaders of the global environmental community, and chart a course towards the UN High Level political meeting in Stockholm 2022. Both countries also recognize that such an approach for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of UNEP should be subject to consultations with Member States in accordance with decision 4/2 of UNEA 4.

5. Sweden and Kenya look favorably upon UNEP serving as the Secretariat of both the UN High Level political meeting as well as of UNEP @ 50 commemorations in order to ensure coherence and consistency.

6. Kenya and Sweden look forward to a positive and constructive discussion at the CPR on the 18th of February which is seen as an important opportunity to prepare for the next steps.

7. With regards to the preparation for the UN High Level political meeting, Kenya and Sweden, building on the consultations, feedback and inputs received from Member States in Nairobi, intend to table an enabling resolution in New York for consideration and adoption in the spring of 2020, during the current 74th session.

8. While a few practical issues are yet to be defined, both countries reaffirm their common interest to accelerate action on environment and climate, and to strengthen environment in the UN-system including UNEP headquarters in Nairobi and count on the support from all Member States to what Kenya and Sweden believe presents a positive way forward.