Comments of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to UNEP regarding the "Note from the Secretariat for the consultation meeting on the CPR-based review: Options under subparagraph 10 (c)

Turkey welcomes ongoing discussions in the framework of CPR-Based Review Process. We would like to express general satisfaction with the direction taken so far to identify consensual elements that will help improve our preparations for future UNEA sessions.

Still, there remains a large room for improvement in tabling, consolidating, negotiating and finalizing resolutions for UNEAs.

Note prepared by Secretariat provides a good number of options to rationalize and streamline the resolution process. In this regard, we particularly consider following options viable;

9.1. Rethink current practice of having only the member States table the resolutions; the UNEA Bureau could be entrusted with the task of presenting omnibus resolutions on specific topics. (UNEA Bureau could engage in the preparation of these omnibus resolutions in light of the expectations to be expressed by the MSs during the last Annual Sub-Committee Meeting before each UNEA session. Therefore, a specific item that will allow such a discussion could be included in the agenda of the Annual Sub-Committee Meeting. Building on these discussions, scope of the possible omnibus resolutions could be agreed by MSs at the following CPR meeting. Based on this decision, CPR Bureau can engage in drafting the omnibus resolutions).

9.5. The UNEA or CPR Bureau, or another intergovernmental committee appointed by the CPR, could be mandated to enforce agreed procedures for tabling resolutions and review and express opinions on draft resolutions.

9.7. Consider practices to ensure that resolutions and the programme of work are mutually reinforcing.

9.10. The Secretariat could be requested to develop a comprehensive guidance manual for Member States on resolution preparation, negotiation and follow-up, as well as a separate manual for co-facilitators of the working groups would be useful, possibly based on an ex-post meeting with UNEA co-facilitators to identify common challenges and identify lessons-learned.

9.14 Consider developing a mechanism through which to filter proposed resolutions/decisions that seek to address issues previously captured in the past resolutions, to ensure that only priority issues could be adopted as new resolutions. This would in parallel require rigorous resolution implementation and monitoring.

Although these measures could be useful to rationalize the resolutions, we believe it still could be inevitable to face a substantial number of resolutions to be negotiated. As expressed multiple times during the CPR-Based Review Process discussions, it will be important to allow equitable time for all delegations to contribute to the negotiation process. We believe current practice of compressing whole negotiation process within the OECPR is cumbersome, especially for small delegations.

Therefore, we agree with the need to use intersessional time more efficiently to consider resolutions. In this vein, following approach could also be considered:

- At the last CPR meeting to be held before the OECPR (first CPR meeting of the year), informal consultation groups could be established. CPR could also elect co-facilitators for these groups upon the recommendations of the CPR Bureau.

- These groups shall be tasked to do the first reading of the resolutions submitted until the agreed deadline for submissions.

- These consultations shall be conducted in a manner to create general awareness among delegations about points of divergence and identify points of convergence.

- If time permits, a second round of consultations could be held prior to the OECPR meeting to minimize points of divergence to the extent possible.

- At the end of this initial consultation process, co-facilitators could provide a report that gives an overview of the comments collected from MSs.

- In line with the current practice, final stages of the negotiations could be held during the OECPR.