



**United Nations Environment Programme
Committee of Permanent Representatives
8th Annual Subcommittee Meeting**

26 October 2021

**Remarks by Brazil on item 4(c)
Preparations for the resumed session of UNEA-5
Briefing on the Ministerial Declaration**

as delivered by Mr. Patrick Luna,
Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to UNEP

Mr. Chairman,

Thank you for giving me the floor. As stated earlier, I am taking this opportunity to build, from a national perspective, on the statement read on behalf of GRULAC moments ago. Brazil will engage in the consultation process presented by the Presidency, which will include a round of written comments by the end of November. We look forward to an inclusive, transparent and democratic consultation process. Given the fact that this document will not be submitted to a proper line-by-line negotiation, it might not be the most adequate vehicle for UNEA to submit its inputs to the international meeting Stockholm+50.

At this stage, I would like to share three points as Brazil's preliminary reaction to the current draft.

First, we note that the text insists on language and concepts that are well known not to be multilaterally agreed. In this regard, the draft ministerial declaration for UNEA-5.2 is not even in line with the political message we issued at UNEA-5.1.

Second, from our vantage point, the text lacks ambition regarding the most pressing real-world challenges that developing countries face: means of implementation. As we

know, the pandemic only aggravated this situation, since a significant part of the international financial resources that were flowing towards the MEAs was rerouted elsewhere. Developed countries are neither delivering on their commitments to mobilize USD 100 billion in climate finance, as enshrined in the Paris Agreement, nor are they meeting their obligations according to Article 20 of CBD. While we agree with the need to increase the participation of the private sector in resource mobilization, this effort is not a substitute for the treaty obligations of the public sector of developed countries. The need to increase the provision of means of implementation in all forms will be a critical component of any political message we adopt in 2022, be it the Ministerial Declaration of UNEA-5.2, the political declaration being prepared under GA Resolution 73/333, or any other outcome we might have for UNEP@50.

Third, while we understand that UNEA is the leading global authority on the environmental dimension of sustainable development, we would expect a text to be adopted by our Ministers not to lose sight on social and economic issues. According to the framework agreed to in Rio 1992, further developed in Rio+20 and then operationalized in the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, the three dimensions of sustainable development are all inter-related. None of them is, alone, a precondition for the other two.

In this context, Brazil wishes to recall Paragraph 2 of "The Future We Want". It reminds us that poverty eradication remains the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. This was true in 2012 and - unfortunately - remains true today, as the world grapples with the consequences of a pandemic that has been claiming lives and can reverse much of the social and economic achievements of the past years, especially for those most vulnerable. The UN estimates that 71 million people were pushed back into extreme poverty last year - the first rise in global poverty since 1998.

If I can borrow from an expression developed by UNEP, we are indeed facing triple planetary crises. But not only the one triple crisis formed by the loss of biodiversity, climate change and pollution. We also face a planetary crisis of inequality, poverty and hunger - and our only roadmap to overcome it remains Agenda 2030 and the concept of sustainable development, recognizing the interrelation and interdependence between its three dimensions.

Thank you.
