

8th Annual subcommittee of the CPR

Morocco's intervention

on Agenda item 4 (b): Announcements of draft resolutions

Draft resolutions introduced by the African group

Thank you M. Chair for giving my delegation the floor.

Since this is the first time it is addressing this subcommittee, I would like to congratulate you for a brilliant chairmanship of this session and for the smooth running of this meeting.

May I also address my delegations thanks to the secretariat for all the valuable working document that were made available to us ahead of this meeting, and for the substantial presentations.

My delegation aligns itself fully with the statement made earlier by the african group, and would like also to underline the effectiveness that the african group is showing throughout the preparations of our work that will lead us to UNEA5.2, by exerting efforts to limit itself **to 3 draft resolutions on 3 crucial thematic areas, that of green recovery, circular economy, and biodiversity and health.**

These 3 thematics are reflective of priorities of the continent and it must be recognised that they touch upon critic areas that are at the core of the global environment agenda.

My delegation would like to seize this opportunity to share with member states some of the elements in relation with the 3 draft resolutions introduced by the African group:

- **First and on green recovery:**

My delegation would like to underline that Morocco has voluntarily adopted an integrated, participatory and comprehensive approach reflecting the issues and objectives of the national strategy for sustainable development that it has adopted and which carries the country towards a green transition of its economy and a green recovery.

My delegation would like to recall that the Paris Climate Agreement, and the 2030 SDG Agenda are two key points in strengthening global climate action, transitioning to low-gas emissions and consolidating the culture of mainstreaming sustainability in key sectors of the national economy.

Morocco has developed the 2020-2030 National Climate Plan, which aims to adapt and accelerate the transformation to a low-emission economy, the implementation of national climate policies at the local level, as well as encouraging innovation and increasing awareness to better respond to the challenges arising from climate change.

And that includes the use of nature-based solutions, the production of clean energy and the development of green industry. Morocco has, also, revised upwards its ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from 42% TO 45.5% by 2030.

As part of its contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the Paris Agreement, the Kingdom has developed an integrated strategy for low-carbon by 2050, which sets broad guidelines for economic sectors

to reduce their carbon footprint through renewable energy. Morocco has, also, established the 2020-2027 national program for the supply of drinking water and irrigation for a total cost of 11 billion dirhams.

Mr Chair,

The resolution on green recovery that will be tabled by the African group, will be aiming to ensure transition to green economy in line with international efforts, and the Sustainable Development Goals. With this strong resolve towards green recovery, Africa is attached to the achievement of green recovery through green approaches, financing innovations, technologies and cooperative arrangements that will help transition not only Africa but the whole world.

We hope that the draft resolution on green recovery will get the full support of the wider membership during UNEA 5.2;

- **Second, on Circular Economy :**

My delegation would like to state that while Morocco is committed to work in favour of the circular economy, the concept is fairly new. It is then very important that the call in the draft resolution that will be presented by the African group for UNEP to scale up existing circular economy good practises, sharing information and enhancing partnerships and cooperation, many countries which are new to the concept will be able to strengthen their own regulations for transition to circular economy. My delegation do hope that **substantial discussions on this draft resolution will lead to its adoption as one of the most concrete strong outcome for UNEA5.2.**

- **Third, on Biodiversity :**

Biodiversity, which is part of our multilateral agenda, and we also must recognise that it is high time that this issue found its equivalent in the context of concerted collective action, solidarity cooperation and a sustainable human way of life that could stop the current haemorrhage, specifically when humankind survival and that of future generations are at stake. The current context marked by Covid-19 has reminded us to what extent human health and nature are intrinsically linked. "The protection of ecosystems through the preservation of biodiversity constitutes, in fact, a means of prevention and fight against pandemics. Morocco, under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI has adopted a pioneering national policy on biodiversity. AND it is within this framework that the Strategy and the National Action Plan for Biological Diversity, as well as the National Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services were adopted.

Morocco also launched in February 2020, two new strategies called "Green Generation 2020-2030" and "Forests of Morocco", aiming, among other things, to consolidate achievements and involve all stakeholders in the preservation of biodiversity. And in the same perspective, a flagship project consisting in planting 10,000 ha of Argan tree over a period of 6 years has started, with a total budget of 49.2 million dollars, co-financed by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Green Climate Fund.

Morocco had also presented to the United Nations General Assembly a resolution that had proclaimed the 10th of May as an international day of the Argan tree, and has introduced among its priorities, the establishment of good governance, the promotion of partnerships, the development of an intelligent mapping of biodiversity, as well as a control and prevention system.

Aware that biodiversity is an indivisible universal heritage, Morocco has joined other African countries in placing its preservation at the heart of the operationalization of the three Climate Commissions, resulting from the African Action Summit in favor of a co-continental emergence, held at the initiative of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, in November 2016, on the sidelines of the COP22 in Marrakech.

The African continent, whose ecosystems are of global importance, does not receive all of the dividends arising from its natural capital and that signifies that Africa's biodiversity is experiencing an alarming decline.

Finally, Morocco, is hoping that the 3 draft resolutions will get a strong support from other regional groups who are invited to engage constructively in the discussions later.

I thank you.