

Committee of Permanent Representatives

8th Annual Subcommittee Meeting

25th to 29th October 2021

ARGENTINA

4) Preparations for the resumed session of UNEA-5:

b. - Considerations of draft resolutions relating to plastic pollution and marine litter

At the outset allow me to thank the Delegations of Perú and Rwanda for the early submission of the Draft Resolution. Our Delegation is studying this proposal, so we will not make specific comments on the text in this occasion.

We also take note of Japan's announcement and intentions. We will be expecting to have their document also, in order to study as well their proposal.

Allow me now to share some general remarks on this issue.

Marine litter and plastic pollution is a serious environmental problem, with impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity, and with economic and social implications that need to be addressed at national and international levels.

We understand that any strategy and any planned action to address the problem of marine litter and plastic pollution must be based on sufficient scientific evidence and framed within the common vision of achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions - economic, social and environmental – as it is in the 2030 Agenda.

We consider it central that any international instrument or mechanism duly takes into account all the Rio principles on Environment and Development

Present and historical asymmetries between countries in terms of national development and capacities, should be taken into account.

For developing countries it is vital that the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities is reflected.

Also, the level of ambition must be consistent with the means of implementation available.

In this sense, a "global agreement", must contemplate from the outset the provision of means of implementation, in the form of financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building that will allow for a just transition to sustainable development. Otherwise, we run the risk that global solutions to address a real problem will end up further deepening development gaps.

We look forward to a constructive exchange that brings us together to reach an ambitious, realistic and balanced outcome.

Thank you very much.