

Committee of Permanent Representatives

8th Annual Subcommittee Meeting

25th to 29th October 2021

ARGENTINA

5) Preparations for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the creation of UNEP

Thank you, Madam Chair,

The Argentinean Delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Delegation of Brazil on behalf of GRULAC.

We would like to thank the efforts of the Secretariat for having the rev 1 version of the Secretariat's Note for this meeting. Nevertheless, as it was uploaded last Monday, we would like to reserve our right to make additional or written comments in the future, as we will need more time to evaluate the document properly.

Madam Chair,

In our national capacity, we would like to recall some concepts that we have conveyed in the 155th meeting of the CPR and in the Sub-Committee meeting of 15 October. On those occasions we have shared some ideas and also raised some questions and concerns about the Secretariat's note.

From a first reading of the rev1 document, we note that several of these questions and concerns are still open.

Madam Chair,

From our perspective, it is relevant to highlight the importance for UNEP to maintain a balanced vision of sustainable development in its three dimensions, and to take into consideration the relevance of all the principles of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

It should also be borne in mind that greater environmental ambition must necessarily be accompanied by greater ambition in its means of implementation.

In this context, we emphasise the importance of thinking about the UNEP we want in the future and the role it can play in assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, in the implementation of international environmental commitments.

Madam Chair,

The multilateral environmental system does not need, at this stage, to be "transformed" or "revamp". The challenge ahead is not normative, but one of implementation.

And for that, it is of utmost importance to achieve full and effective implementation of existing Multilateral Environmental Agreements, especially concerning the enhanced mobilization and provision of means of implementation, in particular of financial resources, capacity building, and the transfer of technology, to make developing countries fully capable of overcoming the present and future environmental challenges.

In this regard, we believe that UNEP could help, as an example, on estimating how many financial resources would be necessary for a full implementation of MEAs, in order to map where the financial gaps are. Similarly, it could be accompanied by a survey of capacity building and technology needs that should be transferred for optimal implementation.

Madam Chair,

Not all nations have the same amount of historical responsibilities as well as national capabilities.

As we always state, the mobilization and provision of means of implementation should be based on the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities, and in line with the commitments assumed in a timely manner by developed countries within the framework of existing MEAs, as a key factor to foster the implementation of international environmental commitments and also for building back better after the current pandemic.

Thank you very much.