



## **Second informal substantive consultation meeting under the auspices of the CPR on UNGA Resolution 73/333**

17-19 November 2021

### **Opening remarks by Brazil**

as delivered by Ms. Lucianara Andrade Fonseca  
Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to UNEP

Madam Co-Facilitator, / Mr. Co-Facilitator,

Thank you for giving me the floor. Brazil aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of G77+China and of GRULAC. At the outset, my delegation wishes to echo the expectation that this meeting should allow for a line-by-line negotiation, so that the entire membership can build on the draft prepared by the co-facilitators. Brazil is ready to present textual amendments and encourages all other delegations to do so. Now that we have resumed meetings with in-person attendance here in Gigiri, let us make the best possible use of this opportunity to advance on the preparation of this important outcome of UNEA-5.2.

At this point, as a general remark, my delegation wishes to recall the long process that brought us here. As underscored by G77+China and GRULAC, as well as [...], Resolution 73/333 set out the substantive framework for the political declaration that we are now preparing. My delegation will not be in a position to support initiatives that fall beyond our mandate, which - as was noted by GRULAC - would be the case with the suggestion to establish a periodic performance review mechanism. The same can be said of references to UNEA that are not in line with Paragraph 88 of the FWW, in particular those assuming a verticality between the Assembly and the MEAs.

We expect this political declaration to be adopted at UNEP@50, and that special session should be, from the vantage point of the Global South, an occasion to strengthen UNEP by improving its ability to assist developing countries in the achievement of their environmental commitments. The most pressing gap in international environmental law is not a normative one, but rather an operational one.

The political declaration should bring us to a world where developing countries can count with increased assistance - in resources, in technology, in capacity - to leapfrog towards sustainable development, and where they can count with UNEP also as a one-stop service center to access cooperation to implement their environmental commitments, overcoming the operational hurdles that are inherent to the fragmented landscape of international environmental governance. This is a critical dimension of UNEP's coordination mandate, as recognized in Paragraph 88 of FWW and in a number of recommendations in Resolution 73/333. In its statement, GRULAC indicated how such a clearinghouse role could look like, and my delegation will articulate this idea in detail as we reach the relevant paragraphs.

The political declaration should also bring us to a world where developed countries comply with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, a centerpiece of international law, and ensure adequate, sufficient and predictable means of implementation for developing countries, including by abiding by their commitments in this regard in each MEA. Those who developed for longer times unimpeded by environmental considerations now need to take on their fair share of responsibility for environmental degradation. We aim at nothing different than equity, since there is nothing more unequal than equal treatment of unequal people.

Thank you.