

USA draft intervention

CPR 1 Feb

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Wish the DED best of luck in her new assignment.

Thank you, Madame Chair. We are now a mere 20 days away from the start of the OECPR.

Member States have spent many hours in meetings talking about the draft resolutions and decisions, but it's fair to say that little actual progress has been made.

It is very hard for my delegation to see a path forward that leads us to a successful UNEA 5.2 unless the quantity of work before us is reduced.

As we have said for months, it's very clear that the most important issue for 5.2 IS to resolve the matter of marine litter.

Global attention will be on UNEA and our Ministers, and together we must deliver meaningful outcomes, despite the pandemic.

If Member States fail at 5.2, it will have negative repercussions on Nairobi, UNEP, and the global environment.

We are disappointed that more delegations have not heeded the call of the Presidency, Secretariat and delegations such as ours to reduce the number of resolutions on the table.

We sincerely thank Costa Rica and the EU for their early decisions to withhold additional proposals. We implore all delegations, including the Indian Delegation, not to introduce new texts but rather work with the texts that have already been tabled.

We also urge our colleagues from Japan, Rwanda, and Peru to find a way to merge your draft resolutions as many delegations called for at the January 20 CPR meeting.

Excellencies, the power to make this a successful UNEA is in our collective hands. We must put aside national pride for the greater good and know that future UNEAs will offer the opportunity to undertake more work on a wider range of issues.

The United States has carefully analyzed all of the draft resolutions and listened to the input to-date, and based on this information, we ask the respective proponents of the following four resolutions to withdraw their resolutions:

Sustainable Nitrogen Management: Mr. Chairman, UNEA Resolution 4/14 on Sustainable Nitrogen Management already established UNEA-6 as the appropriate forum to report on progress for this issue. We therefore ask that the proponents of Sustainable Nitrogen Management to postpone this resolution until UNEA 6, as agreed at UNEA 4.

Animal Welfare: Many delegations have the same concern about this resolution: UNEP has no mandate to work on animal welfare, it duplicates the work of other organizations, and there are no funds to do the work proposed. We ask the proponents

of this resolution to refine the text to make it consistent with UNEP's mandate for consideration at UNEA 6.

Circular Economy: As currently drafted, the resolution does not call for significant new action in the circular economy space, nor does it adequately build on existing circularity efforts, including those conducted by UNEP, such as the 10 Year Framework Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production. We ask the proponents to postpone this resolution and refine the text to be more forward looking and action-oriented for UNEA 6.

Sustainable Lake Management: We see this resolution as one with potential but also one that would benefit from additional time to refine it and work with more countries to draft it. We respectfully ask the proponents to postpone this resolution and refine the text, with the input of interested countries, for UNEA 6.

Madame Chair, my delegation realizes that postponing these four resolutions isn't an ideal option. However, the alternative is to unnecessarily risk unea 5.2 collapsing under its own weight.

Postponement is a prudent action for the greater good of UN Nairobi, UNEP and the environment.

Thank you, Madame Chair.