



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**MR KERIAKO TOBIKO EGH, SC**

**CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND  
FORESTRY**

**DURING**

**THE ONE-DAY PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE STOCKHOLM+50  
INTERNATIONAL MEETING, GENERAL ASSEMBLY HALL**

**ON**

**28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

**United Nations, New York**

**Please check against delivery**



**Your Excellency Ms. Anika Strandhall, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Sweden,**

**Your Excellency, Abdulla Shahid, President of the General Assembly,**

**Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme,  
Ms. Inger Andersen,**

**Honorable Co-Chairs of Stockholm+50**

**Distinguished delegates**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

1. It is my pleasure to join you all in the discussions geared towards the preparations for Stockholm+50. Kenya is honored to co-host the commemoration of the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, as the conference that put environmental issues on the global Agenda.
2. This meeting is timely, as it gives us the opportunity to urgently address the state of our planet and to address the call by the Secretary General when he warns that nature needs a bailout if we are to avert climate cataclysm and restore our planet.
3. Due to the transboundary nature and global scope of environmental concerns, we can only succeed through international cooperation. As we prepare to have this conversation in Stockholm, we must agree on how to effectively address the environmental problems that confront us and arrive at possible solutions together.



4. This meeting comes soon after the conclusion of Cop26 on addressing climate change and the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA5.2) and also the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UNEP Commemoration (UNEP@50). We appreciate the great milestones we have achieved so far such as the commencement of negotiations for a global agreement on plastics and establishment of an expert panel to guide on chemicals management among others.
  
5. We therefore have the opportunity to define our responsibility and the opportunity to consolidate the outcomes of the environmental discourses that we have recently undertaken towards their implementation to restore our planet. We should seize this opportunity and reaffirm this call through concrete actions and tangible commitments that will crystalize from the discussions.

### **Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen**

6. The Leadership Dialogues of Stockholm+50, offer an opportunity to further our engagements and collective responsibility and contribution to the environmental dimension of sustainable development to galvanize the implementation of commitments in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.



7. Issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental pollution, energy and oceans matters, environmental financing, innovative technology and science policy interface need to be clearly articulated in the documents as a means for post-Covid-19 recovery and transitional measures for attaining the Sustainable Development Goals.
8. We must also ensure that the background papers call for inclusivity in the implementation frameworks as cooperation from private-public sectors, youth, women, civil society groups and financial institutions will be required for effective actions to be attained.
9. Our engagements today should therefore be able to highlight the urgent environmental issues that require a whole global implementation approach within the thematic dialogues and as guided by the theme of the International Meeting.

### **Distinguished delegates**

10. The theme of **“Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity,”** is well anchored in the United Nations decade of Action 2020-2030 and resonates with the UNEA 5.2 theme of **Strengthening UNEP for the implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”**.



11. This therefore not only signals the urgent need for action towards the environmental issues but also calls for accelerated action on the governing body tasked with the mandate of executing, coordinating and implementing matters of the environmental law and governance.
12. As we endeavor to reflect on the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) during Stockholm+50 we must remain cognizant of the delivery role bestowed on UNEP through the adopted political declaration during UNEP@50, that called for strengthening of UNEP and its mandate.
13. In this regard we reiterate the complementarity and synergy between the outcomes of UNEA 5.2 and UNEP@50 and endeavor that preparations for Stockholm+50 international meeting should build on these achievements.
14. Concerted approach by the Multilateral Environmental Agreements is paramount for them to address the growing alarming crises, as the inextricable nature of environmental issues showcases that, none of the MEAs will be able to fully deliver on their mandate without the other. It is therefore prudent to call for cohesion to ensure that all the MEAs deliver as one with UNEP playing its governing and coordinating roles effectively.



## **Ladies and gentlemen**

15. As I conclude, I wish to reaffirm Kenya's commitment to supporting Sweden in ensuring that Stockholm+50 is a success and the Chairs Summary, and the outcome documents of the leadership dialogues will propose actionable solutions for immediate implementation.
  
16. I look forward to your active engagement and wish you all fruitful deliberations.

**I thank you.**

