KENYA’S INTERVENTIONS ON LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE 3 ON “ACCELERATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DECADE OF ACTION AND DELIVERY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”

DURING THE ONE-DAY PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE STOCKHOLM+50 INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON 28 MARCH 2022

United Nations, New York
Interventions.

Your Excellencies,

1. On Scaling up finance
The background paper should clearly highlight issues such as climate change financing on adaptation financing and energy transition, ocean action, which require urgent financing to be realized. Developing countries are keenly following the fulfillment of the agreed provisions on financing global actions, which are perturbed by slow pace of honoring these pledges, by developed countries.

For instance the 100 billion dollars Copenhagen agreement still remains a mirage while damage by changing climate is still escalating rapidly. The dialogues should call on Member States to expedite their commitments in honoring these Multilateral Environmental Agreement pledges to make the global decade of action and hence attainment of SDGs a reality. The background paper should enhance these discussions while remaining cognizant of the common but differentiated factors experienced by different Member States.
Equitability of financial resources needs to be upheld including by financial institutions for full realization of the SDGs to be achieved.

2. Governance and institutional reform
Kenya appreciates that UNEP forms the backbone of the MEAs and hence the need to promote policy coherence and effectiveness during implementation and ensure environmental sustainability in the pursuit of sustainable development.

The dialogues to therefore call for continued engagement to enhance international cooperation and strengthen global environmental governance to ensure a global transition to climate neutral, resilient societies that can absorb external shocks in future. In so doing, there will be no further hindrance to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

You recall that in RIO +20 Outcome document the future we want, there was a call to strengthen and upgrade UNEP so that it can fulfill its role as the leading global environmental authority, in order to uphold strengthened international environmental governance. Significant progress has been achieved including the establishment of universal membership for UNEP’s governing body, then known as the Governing Council to a United Nation Environment Assembly UNEA.
In this regard, the background paper should clearly outline and call for the need for strengthening UNEP and consolidation of UNEP’s functions at the headquarter in Nairobi to be completed, to enable it to carry out its functions.

3. Digital transformations and effective partnerships

It is important for the document to articulate clear pathways to be undertaken for the digital transformation to be achieved and to be inclusive and multistakeholder oriented.

Digital transformation has brought new opportunities and networks which promise to engage youth some of which provide employment ventures. However, capacity building of the youth is needed to enable them harness emerging opportunities in sustainable production and consumption. In this regard, developing countries need all manner of support and partnerships to bridge the technical expertise to foster this digital transition for sustainable development. It will therefore be important for all voices to be incorporated in this transformative journey.

4. Collective actions and strengthened cooperation

Kenya proposes for this item to make reference on the recently adopted resolutions such as the establishment of a Science Policy Panel for sound management of chemical and the plastic pollution resolution, which calls for establishment of an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an International Legally Binding instrument on plastic pollution. In an effort to enhance collective action and strengthened cooperation the dialogues to call on establishment of an all inclusive panels and committees that have a multi-stakeholder constitution and bring on board both member states, private sector and other relevant stakeholders for purposeful output to be achieved and the spirit of global governance to be amplified.