

**GRULAC DRAFT STATEMENT**  
**9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CPR**  
**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

**Nairobi, 24 - 28 October 2022**

Dear Mme. Executive Director, Inger Andersen,  
Dear Chair of the CPR, Permanent Representative and Ambassador of Finland, H.E.  
Mr. Pirkka Tapiola  
Excellencies,  
Colleagues  
Ladies and gentlemen,

1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), Nairobi chapter.

2. GRULAC wishes to thank the Secretariat for the preparation of the working documents, as well as for all the reports of the different divisions that inform this meeting that cover many topics of interest to GRULAC. The Group wants to convey its appreciation to the ED, for the hard work carried out for a successful and meaningful meeting of the subcommittee of the CPR.

3. Dear Chair, GRULAC's first call during this 9 ASCPR is to strongly encourage member states to avoid politicizing this scenario. We shall keep the tradition and friendly Nairobi spirit that has allowed us to build milestones in the international environmental law, even in complex times. Let's try to keep this in mind while we advance in the important discussions we have ahead and towards the implementation of our environmental commitments.

4. This session is particularly important as we will have the opportunity to discuss the key issues of the Programme performance, the activities related to the UN system reform, the implementation of UNEA resolutions and the definition of a theme for the Sixth UNEA, among others.

5. On item 3, the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development presents important challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean, as inequalities between socioeconomic groups and the inability of institutions to respond to society's demands persist. GRULAC is the largest biodiverse region in the world, one of the regions with the higher rates of carbon sequestration, one of the lungs of the planet, however, the services that our ecosystems provide are forgotten for its intrinsic value and the pressures of unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are felt in the field by our communities. We highlight the importance of a balanced, holistic and integrated approach to the three dimensions of sustainable development.

6. Under agenda item 4, the Group considers that the effective implementation of the strategy for digital transformation and the UNEA monitoring and reporting portal, require adequate means of implementation, like capacity building and technology transfer, that enable member states to generate the necessary information and analyze it to inform the decision-making process. Without these elements, we are at risk of falling in the game-blame and point out in the wrong direction. The Group would like to know how many countries of the region have uploaded information to this platform, how many focal points have received trainings on its use and what is the strategy for this platform to be the source of information for decision-makers.

7. On agenda item 5, the Group recalls the importance of all the UNEA resolutions and reiterates the need to implement them all in an equal footing. GRULAC wishes to comment on the overall regional representation within the Organization. Being an underrepresented region, GRULAC requires a clear roadmap to achieve the principle of equitable geographical distribution according to resolution 5/13. On the other hand, the Group would like to draw member states attention to avoid that matters decided during the negotiations be retaken in the latter stages of implementation. In this context, we call on the Member States to keep into the scope of the specific mandates and tasks agreed upon in the content of the resolutions, as well as the language agreed in them.

8. Under agenda item 8, the Group highlights the importance of the outcome of the consensual process for review by the CPR as a useful agreement that clarifies the working methods between and within the different governance structures of the Programme and reaffirms the mandate of the CPR as stipulated in Governing Council decision 27/2 (paragraph 9), underlining its oversight role in the implementation of the Assembly's resolutions and decisions. GRULAC considers important that in order to improve the working methods we should try to abide by the agreement reached. It is important to take into account the experiences of the past Assembly in order to make more efficient and inclusive the preparatory process towards the UNEA, specially for smaller delegations. In this regard, it is important to have present the evaluation of the preparatory work for the past Assembly which is well reflected in the evaluation produced by the Secretariat in consultation with the membership.

9. Finally, on agenda item 9, the Group wants to thank the Honorable Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development of the Kingdom of Morocco as the President of the Sixth Assembly for her leadership and personal commitment with this important decision. GRULAC had its first exchange about the definition of a theme for the Sixth Assembly and we shared some initial thoughts about the three options, however at this stage we are still in consultations in order to provide a more detailed statement on this regard.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.