

9th Annual Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UNEP

24-28 October 2022

Intervention delivered by H.E. Mrs Selma Malika HADDADI Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Algeria to UNEP and UN-Habitat

Agenda item 4: Implementation of the Programme of work and budget 2022-2023

I thank you for giving me the floor Mr. Chair.

Algeria aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group.

My delegation would like to thank the Director of the Regional Office for Africa for the informative presentation on the activities of UNEP in our Continent and the actions undertaken to address climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. We appreciate those endeavors but further work has to be mainstreamed to tackle some of the challenges posed to the continent in a tailored manner, such as desertification and land degradation, access to technology and knowledge, capacity building, to mention a few.

To mention the most recent developments related to environment in my country, last September was the launch of the Parliamentary Network on Climate and Environment aiming to establish proposals of environmental legislative texts, to reflect on the strengthening of environmental issues in school and university programmes and curricula and to bring the idea of a "Green parliament" from theory to reality through concrete actions such as the the reduction in the use of paper and its recycling, the rational consumption of electricity and fostering of solar energy, as well as rainwater harvesting.

The adoption, in June 2022, of the African Union climate change and resilient development strategy and action plan 2022-2032 by the African Union Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) is an important outcome for a better African action.

In this vein, and given the presence, since 2001 in Addis Ababa, of a Liaison office of UNEP to, among others, the African Union Commission, it would be much appreciated receive details on the level of cooperation and coordination with the African Union, be it with the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural development, water and environment, NEPAD and other relevant African institutions? And how to harmonize the work of UNEP and AUC to better face the environmental challenges since both the 2030 sustainable goals Agenda and the AU Agenda 2063 identify the Environment in its broad dimension at the center of their priorities?

Mr Chair,

The presentation and its PowerPoint indicate that: "UNEP can partner with other UN agencies to better support countries". It also proposes as a way forward to ". Strengthen partnerships with multiple actors and stakeholders in the region, including the non-state actor"

Can the esteemed regional director enlighten us on why a variety of partnerships are envisaged except with the natural regional partner which is the African Union? In particular if we consider the opportunities such cooperation and partnerships can offer.

Mr Chair,

We heard the Regional Director suggest the idea of "Consolidation of various contributions due from Member States into one annual invoice from UNEP may be helpful for member states in budgeting funds due to UNEP ", while seeking to hear more about this, my delegation would like to indicate that such a proposal needs to be better matured and discussed with the Member States.

We also heard that the Africa Office management has assigned each African Member States a focal point among its program officers to ensure close collaboration on UNSDCFs. Are those focal points operational? since my country has not yet been contacted.

Finally, we notice that the North African region is not very visible in the activities of ROA. Can the Secretariat explain this situation?

I thank you Mr. Chair.