

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco
Nairobi



سفارة المملكة المغربية
نيروبي

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Ninth Annual Subcommittee Meeting
of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

Intervention of Morocco on agenda Item 4: “Implementation of the Programme of work and budget 2022-2023 of the United Nations Environment Programme”:

- My delegation would like to thank M.Frank Turyatunga, Director of the Regional Office for Africa, for the quality of the presentation made on this agenda item which informed us on the multiple activities and actions undertaken by the Office in the Continent;
- My delegation would like also to seize this opportunity to congratulate the director of ROA for his excellent leadership and for the impactful initiatives undertaken by the Office in the continent;
- In this regard, it is noteworthy to underline that UNEP through its Medium Term Strategy (*MTS 2022-2025*) has made of its regional **offices the anchor for delivering the organization’s strategic aspirations and securing stronger engagement at the regional and country levels;**
- This means that ROA will have to **ensure a better coherence and coordination with the United Nations Resident Coordinators and with United Nations Country Teams**, to effectively deliver UNEP’s objectives and respond to countries’ specific needs and priorities in addressing the three planetary crises;
- **My delegation welcomes in this regard the new decision of assigning environment country focal points for each of the 54 African member states which will help partially address the need in reinforcing capacities of ROA, and that of its subregional offices;**
- ROA should also be able to support the UN System at the regional and country level **in integrating environmental dimension into development cooperation frameworks and programmes** and in enhancing national capacities to address pressing environmental issues including access to financing;
- My delegation takes note with appreciation to the reference made in the presentation to south-south cooperation, to address the issue of environmental sustainability as provided

for in the MTS 2022-2025. However, we believe that within the continent of Africa, **south-south cooperation should not be limited to information sharing but rather to extend into having ROA engaging countries with the advanced knowledge and expertise to share or export their best practises to other countries** in the field of mitigation and climate adaptation activities, in addressing the health crisis (*we know the interlinkages between environment and pandemics*) and in the achievement of SDGs;

- ROA, across UNEP's policy, programming and partnership activities, at the regional level, can also contribute to the strengthening of regional engagement and inter-agency linkages;
- My delegation would be grateful if the Director of ROA, can elaborate on the projects implemented to provide scientific and legal expertise on environmental challenges facing African countries?
- Building on the previous remarks made by the Moroccan delegation, yesterday, during the discussion of agenda Item 3, Morocco would like to put forward the following questions:
 1. How does ROA provide guidance to national governments at the country level?
 2. How does it engage with national governments and stakeholders at the country level?
 3. What kind of possible solutions to address the existing deficiencies in the coordination of ROA with UN country teams in order to improve the efficacy of the work of UNEP and its subprograms at the country level. (Such a strong coordination will help assess the major developments made in relation to the objectives of reaching SDGs linked with environment targets, and take stock of the weaknesses that countries are facing in addressing those challenges);
- Finally, my delegation who listened attentively to the briefings provided yesterday from the other Regional Offices, found it pertinent **that all Regional Offices learn from each other on their success stories.**
- For instance, the experience of the Regional Office of North America who worked efficiently in engaging regional stakeholders manage initiatives such as the **“Mississippi River Cities and towns Initiative”**, where Mayors in partnership with UNEP have mobilised their communities to combat plastic pollution, **could be a good experience that Africa could inspire from.**

Thank you.