



## UNEP CPR subcommittee meeting of 27 April

### Swiss statement

#### **Agenda Item 4: Briefing on the UNEP Solar Radiation Modification Report**

I would like to thank UNEP, and in particular Ms. Hinwood, for this informative presentation of the report.

The key element of UNEP's mandate is to keep the environment under review. Examining new technologies that could have impacts on the environment and could affect the livelihood, human health and natural ecosystems, falls into this mandate.

Recent events have made us aware, once more, that research on SRM technologies is happening. Still it is obvious to us, that the international focus needs to remain on the reduction of greenhouse gases and SRM is not an alternative to it. We fully share the finding that SRM does not solve the problem of climate change.

Yet, as governments' representatives, we cannot ignore these developments. We need an enabled discussion on them, in particular on potential risks and gaps in the current environmental governance systems.

The report is not a comprehensive report that covers all the aspects of SRM and potential risk and impacts. But it highlights certain issues and points out the need for further discussions, for example the need for governance to regulate research on SRM. We very much support the recommendation that a globally inclusive conversation on SRM, including on its governance, has to happen. This discussion should start rather sooner than later.

We share the concern that currently stakeholders from the Global South aren't sufficiently engaged in SRM discussions. And we support strongly the call for more work on this topic to get a better understanding of the potential risks and impacts.

Given UNEP's environmental expertise and credibility, its trans-sectorial approach and its capacity to reach the global north and the global south, UNEP is well placed to prepare a further comprehensive assessment that will inform decision makers and serve as the basis for further deliberations on the topic.

We look forward to further discussions with colleagues from other member states, from UNEP and other international organizations, scientist and representatives from the civil society to consider the outcome of this and other reports and jointly think on the next step that are required to enable a comprehensive discussion on SRM and its governance.

Mr. Chair

I would like to conclude with two questions to the presenter:

As the report touches on a very important topic and is very timely, what has UNEP planned to promote the report and contribute to a substantive discussion on SRM and its governance?

Apart from SRM, Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) is practiced today. It is an expanding business model. Does UNEP plan a report on CDR, or certain CDR technologies?