



Statement from the Children and Youth Major Group Committee of Permanent Representatives Subcommittee meeting on 27th April 2023

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

I'm Aishwarya from India speaking on behalf of the Children & Youth Major Group to UNEP. As this is the first we are taking the floor, we would like to start by extending our solidarity to the common people of Sudan who are affected by the political unrest in the country. As witnessed, the already vulnerable groups including women, children and youth continue to shoulder disproportionate pain of the conflict. We would like to urge the world leaders to extend their solidarity by providing their cooperation and adequate resources for the people of Sudan to live a peaceful life. On agenda item number four, our inputs are as follows:

One. We understand that the UNEP and other UN agencies are laying the groundwork for a full-scale global review of SRM, including preparing an assessment framework. In this regard, we submit the following:

- 1.1. We highly stress that this review and the preparation of the assessment framework should be a transparent process.
- 1.2. The review and framework preparation should include equally, both young people and the global south countries.
- 1.3. We believe that the conflict of interest of the people also needs to be clarified to be on the panel.
- 1.4. To ensure credibility details of the panel including age, gender, nationality, and intergenerational representation, should be made public.

Two, we would like to stress upon the possible geopolitical stress that may be caused by the implementation of the SRM. We believe that in addition to researching SRM as a purely environmental solution, various studies should be conducted on the political consequences of this system, both locally and globally.

Three, That discussions on possible implementation of SRM technologies does not hamper, or in any way affect the progress of the current systems working towards climate change solutions, specifically the ones that address loss and damage.



Finally, we believe that the deployment of SRM technologies should not be done without analyzing their cost-benefit analysis. We believe the role that youth can play in shaping the discourse on this topic is significant. The economic feasibility of the deployment of SRM technologies and the potential social, cultural and geopolitical costs incurred, as a system independently and in comparison to other solutions like the nature-based solutions discussed in UNEA 5.2 must be considered. Considering the limited resources we have in hand, this analysis will help throw light on the safest and most adequate systems that will bring about the most efficient change to help protect our planet.

We all see the same stars and share ONE sky.

Thank you chair for the floor.

Delivered by:

Aishwarya (India)

Agenda Item 6. Briefing on the preparation of the 2023 World Environment Day

Excellencies, distinguished colleagues,

I am Henrietta from Ghana, speaking on behalf of the Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP. In relation to agenda number 6 on World Environment Day, our inputs are as follows:

One, we acknowledge the efforts of the UN in celebration of World Environment Day. We believe that the thematic focus on solutions to plastic pollution that has been chosen is indeed important to be addressed by the UN member states in the status quo. In times where microplastics and the other related toxins are increasingly undermining the planetary health in general and human health in particular as their association with cancer and infertility, it is imperative for all the member states to take measures to address the harmful effects of plastic pollution, both in the short and long run using the opportunities presented by the WED and the ongoing INC process.

Children and Youth Major Group congratulates the government of Côte d'Ivoire, in partnership with the Netherlands for their leadership on hosting this year's upcoming WED and requests that member states involve young people from their countries in the planning of events and other activities around WED. We are glad that the UNEP Africa regional office together with the UNEP Kenya country coordinator is already leading way on this regard by convening a series of dialogues starting with the Youth and Women dialogues leading up to



the WED that will bring here at UNON 100+ youths on 16th next month. We further invite the states parties to make resources available for youth to host national dialogue/consultation on WED.

We cannot stress the importance of environmental education enough. We do hope that the World Environment day this year sows seeds of education, innovation and awareness. Since recognising the problem is the first step towards solving it, we believe that active education and awareness should be undertaken in all communities to highlight the triplet planetary crisis and in particular the plastic pollution on an individual as well community level. Plastics should be addressed as a material that contains toxins detrimental to human and planetary health, not as a product that is convenient in market connotations.

Thank you chair, for giving us the floor.

Delivered by:

Henrietta (Ghana)

Submitted on behalf of the constituency by:

Gyubin Hwang & Zuhair Ahmed Kowshik

Children and Youth Major Group Focal Points

zakowshik@gmail.com, gyubin.hwang@youthenvironment.org