



Republic of Malawi

**163rd Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) of
UNEP
31st October 2023**

**Intervention on behalf of Malawi by Mr. Mapopa C. Kaunda, Deputy
Permanent Representative (DPR) to UNEP on agenda item 4; Preparations
for UNEA 6**

1. Mr. Chair, Excellencies and Colleagues, Executive Director, good afternoon. I wish to thank you for the excellent manner in which you are leading us in today's business.
2. I am pleased to speak on behalf of Malawi during this 163rd quarterly meeting of the UNEP CPR. Therefore, I thank you Chair for according me this opportunity.
3. I want to thank the Executive Director – and meanwhile wish her a quick recovery – the Deputy Executive Director and the Director of the Governance Affairs office, for the useful, comprehensive and helpful briefing for the preparations for UNEA 6.
4. Allow me to mention at the earliest opportunity, that these briefings regarding preparations are always useful and therefore supported by a majority

of member states that we interact with. So, thank you Rhadka for the updates provided.

5. That said, in commending the Secretariat for the just mentioned notable efforts, Malawi would like to highlight the following preliminary comments, especially on the Supplementary agenda item entitled; Cooperation with multilateral environmental agreements. Let me apologise beforehand if I will be too long, noting that we are fast approaching the evening.

6. *One, request* the UNEA Bureau to ensure that the concept notes for the two high-level dialogue are prepared in good time to allow for adequate preparations by member states and other stakeholders including effective feedback and subsequent participation on the guiding questions.

7. *Two, thank* the Secretariat for proposing for the Bureau's consideration the thematic area for one of the high-level dialogues specifically on '*Strengthening cooperation between UNEA, UNEP and MEAs to enhance effective implementation at the national level including through means of implementation*'. This is an important aspect for Malawi as will be mentioned at the end.

8. *Third, - without prejudice* to the planned organisation of work regarding the MEA day - *emphasise* that the consideration of the agenda item on MEAs day, remains a member state led process, that is open, inclusive and participatory, including in determining the lists of panelists and introductory speakers.

9. *Fourth and last, note with appreciation and very much in support* of the invitations extended to the two other Rio Conventions (UNFCCC and UNCCD) and the five non-UNEP administered MEA Secretariats of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity related Conventions and others as appropriate. The participation

by the aforementioned bodies allows for a holistic approach regarding pertinent planetary environmental crises. It also allows for an all-inclusive engagement regarding the non-competing set-ups of MEAs that have been adopted by member states to deal with the various environmental challenges.

10. As I conclude, let me inform that Malawi is in the process of preparing a resolution on enhancing cooperation and collaboration between UNEA, UNEP and the MEAs in order to strengthen national actions to address the existing environmental crises. Coherence, convergence of actions and dialogue are the key ideas to be advanced by the draft resolution. We will be sharing further information in due course. Meanwhile we want to thank those member states that have already expressed interest on this matter.

11. At the very tail end, Malawi looks forward to further engaging regarding preparations for UNEA 6.

12. I thank you all for your kind attention.