

STATEMENT Colombia

Committee of the Permanent Representatives Subcommittee meeting
Nairobi, 4 December 2023

Agenda item 3) Briefing on the Global Resources Outlook 2024 report

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving me the floor.

Our delegation appreciates the new version of the Global Resources Outlook - 2024 - prepared by the International Resource Panel, which will be launched at UNEA-6 in February 2024. It is concerning that despite efforts, the world's demand for these materials and the intensity of their use in the economy are still increasing.

The Global Resources Outlook – 2019 stated: “It is the story of unequal distribution of the benefits of resource use and increasingly global and severe impacts on human well-being and ecosystem health.”

This is associated with high inequalities in the costs and benefits of natural resource extraction, often harming the environment in the countries with these resources and mainly affecting groups facing historical discrimination.

-For our country, this is of great concern since the areas of natural resource extraction often overlap with fragile regions of rich biodiversity and, above all, are inhabited by Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants, and local communities with cultures and knowledge that co-evolve with the landscapes they inhabit.

Destroying these areas means losing this cultural heritage and threatening these communities' survival, as their lives are closely connected to their territories. So, their land, environmental, and cultural rights are deeply linked.

Therefore, the report's policy recommendations and summary for policymakers should look at how environmental, climate, and racial justice are connected. These areas are closely related and should be considered together to address the global environmental crisis, focusing on rights and considering different ethnic, land, and gender perspectives. According to the Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, on the ecological crisis, climate justice and racial justice A/77/549 (25 October 2022) and the Sustainable Development Goals and the fight against racial discrimination A HRC 50/60 (17 de June de 2022)

-On the other hand, the panel's website indicates that the International Resource Panel (IRP) research will connect this understanding to knowledge from other scientific bodies and the goals of Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

In this regard, we would like to know more about how the work of this panel can achieve synergies with other panels and platforms on the interface between science and policy, such as IPCC, IPBES, GEO7 process, and SPP once operational.

Also, how they have coordinated with the indicator process related to decision 15/4 that adopt the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly, targets 15 and 16 connected to the promotion and actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production and consumption and to reduce the global footprint of consumption equitably.

Finally, the European Union has proposed an important resolution on the circular economy transition to be approved at UNEA 6. This is a central theme of the report from IRP. Therefore, it is essential to know if their results can support this approval process, although its launch is scheduled right for UNEA 6.

Thank you.