

The Third Informal Consultations on the Second Draft Ministerial Declaration held in November 09, 2023

Paras 1 to 10

Comments from Saudi Arabia

Second Draft	Clean Alternatives text by Saudi Arabia
<p>1. We, the world’s ministers for the environment, have gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, from 26 February to 1 March 2024, together with representatives of international organizations, major groups and other stakeholders at the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, with the urgent aim of taking effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral action to tackle the [SAU DEL: three planetary] environmental [SAU DEL:crises] [KSA REP: challenges] [SAU DEL: of] [SAU ADD: such as] climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution [KSA ADD: and others]</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i> We, the world’s ministers for the environment, have gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, from 26 February to 1 March 2024, together with representatives of international organizations, major groups and other stakeholders at the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, with the urgent aim of taking effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral action to tackle environmental challenges, such as climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and other challenges</p>
<p>2. We reaffirm our commitment to all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and [KSA DEL: we welcome] [KSA REP: we take note of] the recommendations of the Secretary General in his report Our Common Agenda and the Stockholm+50 International Meeting</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i> We reaffirm our commitment to all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and we take note of the recommendations of the Secretary General in his report Our Common Agenda and the Stockholm+50 International Meeting</p>
<p>3. We acknowledge with great urgency the systemic threats posed by the [KSA DEL: three planetary] [KSA ADD: the] environmental crises [KSA DEL:of] [KSA ADD: including] climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution to sustainable development and their impacts on human health, environment, [KSA DEL: and security], [KSA DEL: that are further aggravated by persistent levels of poverty, inequality and food insecurity]</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i> We acknowledge with great urgency the systemic threats posed by the environmental challenges, such as climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and other challenges to sustainable development and their impacts on human health.</p>

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<p>4. We emphasize the importance of advancing integrated, science-based approaches [SAU ADD: in a balanced and integrated manner], informed by the latest and best available [KSA ADD: scientific] evidence [SAU ADD: takes into account national circumstances], [KSA ADD: as well as environmental, social and economic aspects], [KSA DEL:as well as] the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities, to strengthen resilience to present and future emerging challenges, promote global solidarity and [KSA DEL: endeavour towards the realization of] [KSA REP: underscore] the UN General Assembly's resolution 76/300 on the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i></p> <p>We emphasize the importance of advancing integrated, science-based approaches in a balanced and integrated manner, informed by the latest and best available scientific evidence, takes into account national circumstances as well as environmental, social and economic aspects, the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities, to strengthen resilience to present and future emerging challenges, promote global solidarity and underscore the UN General Assembly's resolution 76/300 on the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.</p>
<p>5. We welcome the important outcomes of the twenty-seventh and twenty-eight sessions of the conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP27 [KSA DEL:and COP 28]), including the decision to establish new funding arrangements [KSA DEL: for responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change] [KSA REP: for assisting developing countries which are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change], including a focus on addressing loss and damage; as well as the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan [KSA ADD: which includes the decision to create the Work Programme on Just Transition Pathways] and XXX; the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its adoption of the historic Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and the fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the Abidjan Call to act on drought,</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i></p> <p>We welcome the important outcomes of the twenty-seventh and twenty-eight sessions of the conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP27), including the decision to establish new funding arrangements for assisting developing countries which are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, including a focus on addressing loss and damage; as well as the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan which includes the decision to create the Work Programme on Just Transition Pathways and XXX; the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its adoption of the historic Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and the fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the Abidjan Call to act on drought, desertification and land degradation; as well as taking note of the Fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-5) including the Global Framework on Chemicals in a voluntary basis</p>

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<p>desertification and land degradation; as well as [KSA ADD: taking note of] the Fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-5) including the Global Framework on Chemicals [KSA ADD: in a voluntary basis]</p>	
<p>6. We also welcome with appreciation other recent, important multilateral achievements, including the adoption of the agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), the outcomes of 2022 UN Ocean Conference, the 2023 UN Water Conference, the adoption by the General Assembly of Resolution 77/334 convening the next United Nations Water Conference in 2026 “to Accelerate the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6”, the high-level meeting on the midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the 2023 meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, [KSA ADD: and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury]</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i> We also welcome with appreciation other recent, important multilateral achievements, including the adoption of the agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), the outcomes of 2022 UN Ocean Conference, the 2023 UN Water Conference, the adoption by the General Assembly of Resolution 77/334 convening the next United Nations Water Conference in 2026 “to Accelerate the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6”, the high-level meeting on the midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the 2023 meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury</p>
<p>7. We note with great concern the main findings of the Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) recognizing that, to limit global warming to 1.5°C, net global greenhouse gas emissions must be rapidly and deeply reduced by 43% below 2019 levels by 2030 to 60% by 2035 before ultimately reaching net zero</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i> We note with great concern the main findings of the Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) recognizing that, to limit global warming to 1.5°C, net global greenhouse gas emissions must be rapidly and deeply reduced by 43% below 2019 levels by</p>

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<p>CO2 by 2050. [KSA DEL:By the current trajectory, it is likely that warming will exceed the 1.5°C target during the 21st century, which calls for deep, rapid and sustained emissions reductions in all sectors, especially those with large share and growth in gross GHG emissions, and for enhanced support provided and mobilized for developing countries and vulnerable regions to mitigate and adapt to climate change.] [KSA REP: Implementing accelerated and equitable action in mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts is critical for sustainable development to ensure addressing the socio-economic impacts of climate policies, particularly in developing countries]</p> <p>[KSA DEL:bis We also note with concern, the new report by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), recognizing that more than 3,500 out of the 37,000 alien species that have been introduced by many human activities to regions and biomes around the world pose major global threats to nature, economy, food security and human health. Invasive alien species (IAS) play a key role in 60% of global plant and animal extinctions, and cost humanity more than \$400 billion a year – an amount that has quadrupled every decade since 1970.]</p>	<p>2030 to 60% by 2035 before ultimately reaching net zero CO2 by 2050. Implementing accelerated and equitable action in mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts is critical for sustainable development to ensure addressing the socio-economic impacts of climate policies, particularly in developing countries.</p>
<p>8. We are aware that in order to revitalize the multilateral system and inspire decisive and collective action to tackle [KSA DEL: the three planetary] [KSA ADD: such as] environmental [KSA DEL: crises] [KSA REP: challenges] of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, as well as other related [KSA DEL:crises] [KSA REP: challenges] of desertification, land and soil degradation and drought, we urgently need to reinforce global inclusiveness and solidarity [KSA DEL: and provide new,</p>	<p><u>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</u> We are aware that in order to revitalize the multilateral system and inspire decisive and collective action to tackle environmental challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, as well as other related challenges of desertification, land and soil degradation and drought, we urgently need to reinforce global inclusiveness and solidarity</p>

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<p>additional, predictable and adequate means of implementation]</p>	
<p>9. We are strongly committed to urgently address the challenges before us through effective, inclusive sustainable transformative, [KSA DEL: intra- and inter-generational] and science- and knowledge-based actions together with [KSA ADD: the support of developed countries and the engagement with] all [KSA DEL: relevant actors and partners including civil society, academia and philanthropies Indigenous Peoples and local communities, the private and public sectors, as well women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities and those at risk of being left furthest behind] [KSA REP: Major Groups]</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue and note some words are deleted based on the left column)</i> We are strongly committed to urgently address the challenges before us through effective, inclusive sustainable transformative and science- and knowledge-based actions together with the support of developed countries and the engagement with all Major Groups.</p>
<p>10. We therefore decide to take the following actions [KSA ADD: based on [KSA ADD: the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities, historical responsibility], [KSA DEL:taking into account Respective Capabilities], as well as the special needs and circumstances of [KSA DEL: vulnerable regions] and the specific challenges faced by developing countries, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) [KSA ADD: Arab States] and Small Island Developing States (SIDS):</p>	<p><i>The following clean text can be an alternative text (Amendment is highlighted in Blue)</i> We therefore decide to take the following actions based on the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities, historical responsibility, as well as the special needs and circumstances of and the specific challenges faced by developing countries, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Arab States and Small Island Developing States (SIDS):</p>

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10. We therefore decide to take the following actions [KSA ADD: the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities, historical responsibility], [KSA DEL: taking into account Respective Capabilities], as well as the special needs and circumstances of [KSA DEL: vulnerable regions] and the specific challenges faced by developing countries, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) [KSA ADD: Arab States] and Small Island Developing States (SIDS):

C. [KSA DEL: Cooperate for a just and sustainable energy transition that seeks to achieve an energy-secure future for all, while respecting local, national and regional needs and priorities, and define clear actions to address climate change, including a progressive phase-out of fossil fuels, considering the social and economic opportunities of climate action, avoiding negative impacts on the environment and natural resources and promoting effective social dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders.]

D. Deploy greater efforts, including mobilizing and allocating adequate resources, to enhance the environmental sustainability of minerals and metals, [KSA DEL: and address challenges associated with sand mining and tailings management worldwide].

E. [KSA DEL: Accelerate] [KSA: Encourage countries to] the negotiation of an international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, [KSA DEL: including in the marine environment], as resolved in UNEA resolution 5/14. We call on all Member States to continue to engage constructively in the ongoing negotiations with a sense of urgency and seek to reach common ground for a fair, effective and ambitious legally binding outcome of the INC by the end of 2024.

11. We will leverage digital transformations as an enabling tool to support sustainable economies and societies through bridging existing digital divides, improving research, innovation and [KSA DEL: equal] [KSA REP: appropriate] access to environmental information [KSA ADD: as appropriate] and harnessing emerging technologies for environmental sustainability, while ensuring that digitalization remains inclusive, equitable and sustainable.

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12. [KSA DEL: We note with great concern the findings of the Global Resource Outlook 2024] and commit to continue to advocate for a whole-of-society approach that can effectively empower societies at large, and particularly people in vulnerable situations, to accelerate research, innovation, education and behavioural change, facilitate [KSA DEL: their just transition] to sustainable consumption and production [KSA ADD: in line with national circumstances] and move towards the implementation of economic policies and models, including along value chains, resource efficiency and other related [KSA ADD: circular economy] approaches [KSA DEL: such as sustainable and circular bioeconomy, and sustainable lifestyles], in line with the 10 YFP Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023- 2030
13. We call upon Member States, International Financial Institutions, international development banks, private foundations, philanthropies, funds and other actors to promote further synergies and coherence in financing action to address the [KSA DEL: three] environmental [KSA DEL: planetary] crises [KSA DEL: of] [KSA ADD: including] climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution,[KSA DEL: aligning relevant policy and regulatory measures with international goals and targets] to provide incentives and an enabling fiscal and policy framework for resource mobilization [KSA ADD: means of implementation], as echoed at the International Monetary Fund and World Bank 2023 annual meeting held in Marrakech. We will engage domestic, international, and private sector actors towards a rapid mobilization and scaling of accessible means of implementation, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development [KSA DEL: ,while welcoming ongoing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, including reshaping economic governance models and decision making to better account for the environment in measuring progress beyond]. [KSA ADD: in addition to concessional finance to support developing countries, including low- and middle-income countries tackle and adapt to climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.]
14. We reiterate our recognition of UNEP's role in strengthening the science-policy interface [KSA DEL: and to undertake strategic foresight and horizon scanning,] in collaboration with existing science-policy platforms to improve the capacities of [KSA DEL: Member States and] stakeholders [KSA ADD: and developing countries] at all levels to prioritize scientific research and stimulate and encourage decision making and actions that can anticipate trends and risks, and prevent and respond to emerging and future environmental issues.
15. We note the increasing necessity and catalytic role of UNEP and its Regional Offices in strengthening regional cooperation, including through the Regional Ministerial fora, to tackle context-specific environmental challenges. We also recognize the increasing demand for synergetic environmental support at the country level and UNEP's engagement with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams to support mainstreaming of environmental issues into planning, programming and operations, and including the environmental dimension of sustainable development in Common Country Analyses and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, and invite the strengthening of UNEP's role within the UN Development System at the regional and country level, with increase in resources, including from the regular budget.

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16. We call on UNEP, as the leading environmental authority within the United Nations, and echoing the UNEP@50 Ministerial Declaration, to intensify its support and assistance to Member States, including at the country level, in the implementation of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the UNEA outcomes.

17. [KSA DEL: We look forward to the adoption of a Pact for the Future at the Summit of the Future in September 2024, as an opportunity to further advance our collective environmental commitments, urge all Member States as well as relevant NGOs, Major Groups and stakeholders, UNEP, MEAs and other relevant international organisations to advocate for the implementation of the relevant actions set out in this, Ministerial Declaration and to ensure an ambitious outcome that will reinvigorate environmental multilateralism, stimulate the implementation of existing commitments, strengthen synergies and complementarities between the work and implementation of the MEAs and agree on concrete solutions for a better tomorrow with greater effectiveness, inclusiveness and confidence. We therefore request the President of the UN Environment Assembly to transmit this Ministerial Declaration as the UN Environment Assembly's contribution to the General Assembly for consideration at the Summit of the Future]

18. We invite the governing bodies of multilateral environmental agreements and relevant international organisations to work with the United Nations Environment Assembly, as appropriate, to promote an effective and inclusive implementation of the commitments contained in this Declaration.