

Opening Remarks
H.E. Susana Muhamad Gonzalez, Minister of Environment of Colombia
UNEA-6
Nairobi, 26 february 2024

In Colombia, we recognize that solving one issue shouldn't exacerbate the challenges of others or perpetuate inequalities. This principle guides our quest for effective solutions and the improvement of our environmental crisis.

Remaining firmly grounded, we believe that UNEA bears a significant responsibility. It is perhaps the assembly with the utmost duty to clearly articulate environmental limits and facilitate decisions that enable the economy to align itself with these limits. We reject the notion that advancing further toward an economy with boundless resources will solve a crisis rooted in such thinking.

Our approach to nature-based solutions centers on enhancing nature's ability to self-regenerate. If nature can navigate the climate crisis, so can we. Every solution involving nature aligns with the overarching principle of preserving life on Earth.

Moreover, we value the pivotal role of the best solutions presented in this assembly, shaping synergistic approaches to tackle the interconnected global crisis. We emphasize the importance of effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions as the key solution, and acknowledge that recovering from conflicts is integral to this situation. We advocate for discussions on a multilateral fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty for a just transition. We support statements on reimagining financial architecture and creating fiscal space for a comprehensive crisis response, and also call for a thorough study on the tension between minerals for the energy transition and biodiversity.

Lastly, we extend a warm welcome to all in 2024 to join us in Colombia to celebrate the COP16 of the CBD, as we strive for peace in nature. We agree that addressing conflicts and halting genocide is imperative so that we can collectively focus on these critical issues. Let's chart a course towards a sustainable nature destination.

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