

The Opening statement of H.E. Abdallah bin Ali Al-Amri, the Chairman of the Environment Authority in the Sultanate of Oman, at the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)

Friday, 1st March 2024,
About 3 to 3.5 minutes,

Excellency, dear sister Leila Ben Ali, Chairperson of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)

Excellency Inger Anderson, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (Unep)

Excellencies,
Dear friends from various Member States,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu Alaikum.

Let me begin by extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to my dear friend, Her Excellency Dr. Leila Ben Ali, Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the great efforts and good endeavors during her presidency, bringing point of views closer and enhancing communication to develop the environmental work and come up with decisions that will have a profound and positive impact on the environmental system.

Thanks a lot to Your Excellency and your wonderful teamwork

My thanks also go to the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Madame Inger Andersen, the Executive Director of UNEP and her team, and all the staff who worked so hard to make the ambitions come true.

Excellencies,

Dear friends from various delegations.

We, in the Sultanate of Oman, are grateful to all of you for the great trust you have bestowed on us to lead the next stage of the journey of defending the environment. With this trust comes along a great responsibility, we are fully aware of it, but, it is also a

great motivation for us to make efforts to achieve your ambitions, and the ambitions of the people of the world, who desire to live in a stable and sustainable environment, now and in the future

The Sultanate of Oman has and continues to prioritize the environment in its development plans. In 1974, two years after the Stockholm Environment Summit, the first government agency for environment preservation was established in the Sultanate of Oman, the first environmental law was issued, and the first natural reserve for mangrove trees was declared, and it remains the lung of the capital, Muscat, to this day. The Sultanate also announced the Sultan Qaboos Award for Environmental Conservation in 1989, and worked to protect many endangered species, and has pioneering success stories in this regard, including the propagation of the Arabian Oryx and the Arabian leopard. It also recently announced its national plan for zero neutrality and announced 2050 as the date for achieving it. We have also issued a resolution to ban the use of single-use plastic bags, and we are working hard to promote the production of renewable energy, solar, wind, and green hydrogen.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen

In our quest to confront the monumental environmental challenges of our time—climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution—there is but one path forward: teamwork. We share one Earth, bask under the same sun, and we must recognize that there is no backup plan. There's no other planet waiting for us to escape to. Hence, it's imperative that we unite our efforts with urgency and determination to safeguard our precious planet and protect its natural splendor. Together, let's embark on this crucial journey to secure a sustainable future for generations to come.

We promise you that we will work diligently to enhance cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and to support indigenous communities, island states, and fragile systems, to access environmental support and financing faster and easier, to confront challenges, achieve goals, and raise the level of global environmental performance.

We also call upon everyone to renouncing violence and stop the war machine, and promote constructive dialogue aimed at resolving the dispute and rejecting violence, because it has a great impact on humanity and the environment. Let our efforts and funds be directed towards saving the ecosystem, as future generations expect a lot from us, and they have the right on us to hand over to them a safe and sustainable planet, so that they can enjoy a healthy and safe life.

Thank you all again
Wa Assalamu Alaikum