

INTERVENTION BY HER EXCELLENCE MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA AT UNEA-6

29TH FEBRUARY 2024

Excellencies Ministers,

Excellency Madam Leila Benali, President of the United Nations Assembly for the Environment,

Excellency Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP,

Dear Heads of Delegation,

Ladies and gentlemen,

All protocol observed.

First, allow me, on behalf of the government of Angola and his ExcellencyPresident of the Republic, João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, to congratulate and thank UNEP for organizing the Sixth Assembly of the United Nations for the Environment and thank the government of Kenya, for the warm welcome from our delegations to which we have been used to.

Also, allow me to congratulate Her Excellency Leila Benali, President of UNEA 6, for the wise way in which she is conducting the work of UNEA 6. Distinguished delegates,

The great environmental challenges that affect humanity lead us all to reflect whether the efforts we have been undertaking both at the national level and at the level of multilateralism are enough to solve these challenges.

The national development plan of the Republic of Angola, a fiveyear development planning instrument, incorporates actions to overcome these challenges. We make efforts at all levels to implement solutions that preserve nature for current and future generations.

We approved the National Climate Change Strategy that identifies actions to adapt the Country to the effects of climate change, adopt a low-carbon development model, mobilize resources and promote the strengthening of institutional capacity and the adoption of environmental technologies.

To reduce the pace of biodiversity loss and to reverse the current scene, Angola has implemented the actions provided in the national biodiversity strategy. Our goal is the recovery and restoration of degraded ecosystems, increasing the surface of conservation areas, from 13% to 16%, and we are working towards creating the first marine conservation area, which will be part of the fan of four new conservation areas that the republic of Angola will create, always considering the integration and empowerment of local communities.

Regarding pollution, Angola has been implementing the national environmental quality program, whose focus is on water, air, and soil pollution.

Considering the mode of production and use of single-use plastic, which has concerned governments and various international and local bodies to identify coordinated solutions for the adoption of policies and legislative measures. To address environmental degradation caused by plastic, Angola constituted a multidisciplinary working group to prepare the national plan for a gradual ban of plastic.

Distinguished delegates,

We believe that UNEA 6 will allow us to reach consensus on how to confront the environmental crises facing the planet and provide a quicker response to the sustainable development of our nations.

We welcome the efforts of the intergovernmental negotiation committee, and reiterate the need for the provisions of the agreement to be in compliance with the principles of the Rio Declaration, particularly the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and according to national circumstances and appropriate means of implementation.

Distinguished delegates,

I finish believing that the declaration of the Sixth United NationsAssembly on the environment will reaffirm the engagement of all, towards sustainable development reiterating our commitment to contribute at the national level to the resolution of the main environmental challenges facing the planet.

Thank you very much!