



**Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine during
the 6th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly
(01.03.2024, Nairobi)**

Madam President, Madam Executive Director, Your Excellencies, Distinguished participants,
Good morning!

First of all, let me express my deepest gratitude to Madam Executive Director and the entire UNEP team for the excellent organization of the Sixth Session of the UN Environment Assembly, as well as to the Government and people of Kenya for their hospitality. I am convinced that this year's session of the Assembly, which is addressing important issues on the international environmental agenda, will contribute to achieving our common goal of preserving our planet's environment for future generations.

As you know, the world is currently experiencing three global crises related to the environment, namely climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, which requires urgent concerted international action to overcome these problems.

I hope that the decisions to be taken during this session will significantly contribute to addressing these pressing global environmental issues.

Unfortunately, wars and armed conflicts, which occur periodically in different parts of the world and lead to numerous human casualties, destruction, uncontrolled pollution and emissions of pollutants as a result of shelling and bombing, are negatively affecting the environment as well.

The unprovoked and unjustified aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine has already caused irreparable damage to the environment, destruction of biodiversity, deterioration of soil quality and air pollution, with losses estimated at hundreds of billions US dollars.

However, despite the war, Ukraine continues to work on implementing environmental reforms aimed at launching eco-modernization of the largest polluters, reducing the negative impact of industry on the environment, in particular, reducing air pollutant emissions to the level of environmentally safe European standards. The key principles of Ukraine's reconstruction are "Build Back Better" and "Build Back Greener". And we understand that the issue of reconstruction is not only about what we need to do after the victory, but also what we need to do right now.

We aim to achieve climate neutrality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 65% by 2030 in line with our Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement.

Ukraine is consistently implementing a policy on the protection and restoration of wildlife, including the development of the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and the Action Plan, taking into account the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The Strategy for Biosafety and Biological Protection was approved, which includes the creation of a system for dealing with alien species, which are considered one of the main threats to wild fauna and flora.

Ukraine welcomes the ambitious draft Ministerial Declaration and expresses its sincere gratitude to Member States for submitting important resolutions and decisions to the Assembly aimed at promoting our joint efforts to preserve the environment.

This year, Ukraine submitted for the consideration of the Assembly a draft resolution titled "Environmental assistance and recovery in areas affected by armed conflicts". The resolution is intended to strengthen the role of UNEP in addressing the negative environmental impacts of armed conflicts. We are deeply grateful to the Member States for their wise advice and willingness to work together with Ukraine on the draft of this important document.

I would like to wish all UNEA-6 participants fruitful work and express my hope that the results of today's meeting will give a new impetus to solving global environmental problems and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Thank you!
