

STATEMENT BY HON SAM M CHEPTORIS, MINISTER  
FOR WATER AND ENVIRONMENT, REPUBLIC OF  
UGANDA, AT THE UNEA 6 HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT,  
29<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2024, NAIROBI

Thank you Madam President,

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and  
Gentlemen.

The Republic of Uganda extends warm congratulations to  
you Madam President, UNEP Leadership and the  
Government of Kenya on successful organisation of  
UNEA6.

As a nation committed to sustainable development and  
environmental stewardship, Uganda recognizes the critical  
importance of collective action in addressing global  
environmental challenges.

Uganda continues to strive in advancement of solutions to  
the three planetary crises of Climate Change, Biodiversity  
Loss and Pollution.

Our government remains steadfast in protecting the  
forests, wetlands, water resources and control of pollution.  
The country has 16% of her land surface dedicated to  
Protected Areas for conservation of biodiversity.

We continue to focus on manufacturing electric and  
emission free buses, saloons cars, motorcycles and boats  
for the domestic and regional market in order to address  
the challenge of pollution. In order to address the  
problems of plastic pollution, the country is championing  
Extended Producer Responsibility to address product life  
cycle management as enshrined in our laws.

UNEA 6 presents us an opportunity to reaffirm our collective resolve to safeguard our planet and secure a sustainable future for humanity. We call upon all Nations to embrace green and circular economy approaches while taking full responsibility for protecting the planet. The World must stop being blinded by greed to amass more wealth at the cost of nature. When nature fights back as its already doing, no amount of wealth can save humanity.

As we come towards the end of UNEA6, Uganda urges all delegates to remain steadfast in promoting nature based solutions to environment challenges.

While we must remain open to technology and science in solving environment problems, we must not forget that every technology and innovation has its potential negative impacts on the environment. Restoring Nature must therefore remain the cornerstone for addressing environment challenges of our time.

Uganda remains committed to global efforts for building a resilient and harmonious relationship between humanity and the environment.

I thank you.