

Excellences,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Seychelles Government, I would like to express our gratitude to UNEP for organising UNEA 6 and the warm hospitality by the Government of Kenya.

Seychelles cannot agree more to the theme chosen for UNEA 6, which is "*effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution*".

We believe that multilateral actions can help us to address the triple planetary crisis. But actions and the commitment need to start with us.

As a small island state with a passion for environment, we have made tremendous progress in understanding our environment since UNEA 5.2.

We have put in place the institutional framework for the implementation of a Marine spatial plan.

Two months ago, we completed some deep-sea research in collaboration with Ocean X. For the first time we have explored the deepest point of the Amirantes Trench which goes as deep as 5km.

Madam President, I am happy to announce that Seychelles completed the mapping of the mangroves and seagrasses in our EEZ and works are underway to quantify the amount of Carbon in storage. We are on track and remain committed to the protection of the 100% of the mangroves and sea grasses by 2030.

Let me take this opportunity today to call on member states to commit to some key items being considered here at UNEA 6. All of these decisions are within reach. They only require us to have a deep appreciation for life on earth, with human beings a part of this global system, and a willingness to boldly and urgently address the crises we face today.

Let us sign of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement to protect from pillage our shared global resources.

Let us inscribe into our national plans positive action to “halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030 and undertake action to reduce pressures on forests.

Let us commit to making INC4 and 5 a success, such that the global effort to have a Legally Binding Instrument to end plastic pollution can become a reality.

Let’s commit to the Sound Management of chemicals and waste, especially those have cross boundaries and persist in the environment.

Let’s incorporate low carbon development and renewable energy in our national plans for energy and climate action. Geo engineering is

Seychelles values this opportunity to work with all partners through UNEA, an appropriate forum where countries, irrespective of size, can come together and influence the global environment agenda, and appreciates the support of organizations like GEF towards program implementation. We encourage further exploration and reinforcement of mechanisms to enable all countries to reach their goals faster.

Let us work together to safeguard our planet for generations to come. Seychelles stands ready to contribute, collaborate, and champion the cause for a healthier and more resilient world.

Thank you.