



**11th meeting
of the Annual Subcommittee of the
Committee of Permanent Representatives of UNEP
8 – 12 July 2024**

*Opening statement on behalf of
the European Union and its 27 Member States*

- Chair, Madam Executive Director, distinguished colleagues, I am privileged to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
- The eleventh meeting of the Annual Subcommittee of the CPR offers us a propitious opportunity to provide guidance to UNEP with the fresh Annual report and the Biennial Evaluation Synthesis Report in our hands, complimented with other informative documents. We hope this session will conclude with concrete recommendations that support UNEP in remaining a fit-for-purpose agency within the UN System.
- The EU and its Member States welcome the progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Work, and commend that over 80 percent of the indicators have been reached. In particular, we value UNEP's support to Member States on the implementation of the MEAs, which helps the MS in tackling the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and achieve the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.
- We appreciate UNEP's efforts to draw strategic lessons learned from the implementation of the 7 sub-programmes, but we are also interested to hear during this meeting, from Member States, which benefit from UNEP's support, on the pathways and priorities to further improve UNEP's support, keeping in mind the modest resources of the organization.
- The Biennial Evaluation Synthesis Report indicates an encouraging overall improvement of UNEP's performance in implementing projects, however it also points

to areas where there is scope for improvement. The EU and its MS look forward to hearing later this week, UNEPs response to the findings and recommendations of the Evaluation report.

- Most important, we emphasize the role of this report and its recommendations in guiding the development of the new Mid-term Strategy for UNEP, also taking into account the lessons learned from the strengthened delivery model and from implementation.
- Chair, Executive Director, we look forward to discussing the roadmap for the development of the new MTS, but allow me to stress already now the importance of an inclusive MTS development, allowing MS and stakeholders, including youth, to offer their views along the whole development process.
- Equally, we express our readiness to discuss the theme for UNEA 7, based on the proposals made by UNEP. We emphasize at the outset the view of the EU and its MS that UNEA 7 should deliver substantive and progressive outcomes, guided by a robust theme. The theme should build upon experiences gained from UNEA 6 as well as on the outcomes of the Summit of the Future, taking into account the HLPF theme.
- Starting our preparations for the seventh UNEA, we should use all previous experience, be ready to innovate, to create the right context for a strong outcome of UNEA 7, including through the intersessional period.
- The positive trend of the increasing number of MS contributing their full share to the Environment fund has not gone unnoticed. The EU and its Member States take pride in remaining among the biggest donors of UNEP, and we sincerely thank all UN MS for their contributions to the Environment Fund, because every contribution helps UNEP to implement its mandate.
- We also express our appreciation to the Secretariat for preparing the rich agenda and all the background documents for this meeting, which we hope will guide our deep and fruitful discussions throughout this week.
- We trust that our deliberations will lead to substantive conclusions on how to further collectively guide UNEP in the implementation of its PoW and the MTS, as we embark on preparation of the new strategy.
- I thank you Chair and wish all of us a successful meeting.

