

## Finland statement for 3a, Q&A Session 4: Foundational Subprogrammes

- Thank you Mr Chair for giving me the floor. Thank you to UNEP for this presentation.
- Finland considers that both Science-Policy and Environmental Governance subprogrammes have important enabling roles in supporting the implementation of the whole UNEP's Programme of Work. We especially commend UNEP for its work in strengthening the environmental governance, and its support to MEA's.
- Finland has been happy to support the organization of the high profile course on MEAs, namely on international environmental law-making and diplomacy, organized jointly by UNEP and the University of Eastern Finland. We thank UNEP for this cooperation.
- During the two decades this course has been organized, we have trained already more than 500 participants from 130 countries. The course was organized in Helsinki this spring and we are welcoming participants also for the future courses taking place coming years.
- We are also very pleased to have been able to provide some financial support through the Ministry of the Environment to UNEP for capacity building for biodiversity and chemicals and waste convention focal points in Africa.
- The focus of this capacity building has been strengthening coordination and collaboration between biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters. Very successful workshops have been held in Rwanda last year. With our support, this year a workshop is planned for Western Africa.
- We would like to hear UNEP's views on how this cross-clusteral capacity building – as well as enhancing synergies between MEAs in general - could be further strengthened in the upcoming MTS and POW?
- Thank you.