

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco
Nairobi



سفارة المملكة المغربية
نيروبي

Statement of the Kingdom of Morocco on Agenda Item 3: Briefing on the global foresight report on planetary health and wellbeing:

- First of all, many thanks to the secretariat for the presentation;
- Morocco takes note of the report on the Global Foresight on planetary health and wellbeing and thanks the secretariat of UNEP for both the summary and key messages of the report, which makes the reading of the lengthy report easier for delegations, and also thanks to the secretariat for making the documents available in all UN languages.

Mr Chair,

- **The report carries a multitude of signs and facts on future changes that can have a direct impact on the wellbeing of our planet and on the peoples.** It aims at helping UNEP anticipate the identification of actions to respond to the demands of a more fragile and uncertain world, at a time where global crisis caused by increasing environmental global challenges are feeding into human crisis.
- In this regard, Morocco considers the report as a catalytical tool that should help UNEP and member states to think differently to face the new context triggered by the pressing and alarming environmental crisis.
- The report being now at the hands of governments, national environment scientists and experts, who will judge of its use to inform their internal policies or political decisions and choices, such as the use of new technologies for instance, AI. **It is however important to underline that the existing differences in the level of development between the rich and the developing countries cautions some of the findings of the report:**
- As an example, the critics in the report on the extraction of minerals for energy transition and its bad consequences on the environment, could have been better addressed if the report underlined **that the current extractive models are predominantly benefitting developed nations**, often leaving the rich resources countries from the developing world , with very minimal gains.
- Indeed, and in order to create a **shift in the behaviour that the report is talking about, there's a need in the view of my delegation to focus on the promotion of sustainable development and on the empowerment of those resource rich countries, mainly in Africa, to foster their sustainable growth.**

- Another example, reflected in the report is the rapid growth in space activity, and the potential deployment of Solar Radiation Modification (SRM) technologies. This is an issue that many countries are not comfortable with, mainly because of the potential risks that it could entail for the environment and the planet, **specifically that this kind of technology needs to be understood more clearly and certainly needs more discussions among member States.**
- Finally, My delegation, while considering foresight as an important tool to enable adaptation to new changes that will affect societies in their globality, **it is however important to underline that such foresight should complement or improve the transformation of existing social and economic models in order to achieve sustainable development goals.** Placing a new global emphasis on wellbeing metrics, **should not be a substitute to economic growth, but rather, should be part of it,** in order to achieve the transformation needed.
- Last but not least, my delegation shares the view that UNEP needs to develop a systemic wide approach to address emerging issues that will impact its future program of work, **However, such approach has to be in line with the intergovernmental dynamics that surround some areas that are still not enjoying a universal consensus.** Certainly, as it has been raised by other distinguished delegations, Morocco, **questions on how this report will be incorporated in the next MTS?**
- **In this regard, my delegation will be looking forward to engage in the discussions that will take place to shape the new Medium-Term strategy of UNEP.**
- I Thank you.