

NV: 025/17

The Embassy of the Republic of Cuba presents its compliments to the UN Environment Office in Nairobi, and has the honor to provide its inputs towards the building up of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3).

The Embassy kindly request for the following comments to be included in the draft minutes and other documents of the Fourth Annual Sub-committee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and in this regards the support from the UN Environment Secretariat and the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP will be highly appreciated.

The comments from Cuba are as follows.

- a) Cuba wishes to express its concern over the implementation of the Special Program on Chemicals and Waste of the Rotterdam Convention and calls for the establishment of a mechanism accessible to all countries. Cuba reiterates its willingness to work together with UNEP in the pursuit of more ambitious and challenging objectives based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.
- b) Cuba appreciates that the UN Environment Subprograms' reports obviate the importance of technologies transfer and minimize the problems for access to financial resources to be able to undertake projects and goals set out in previous UNEA resolutions.
- c) To meet the objective of building resilient economies with low emissions and to connect them with the Sustainable Development Objectives, Cuba considers that three essential elements are needed: 1. Capacity building: 2. The channeling of necessary financial resources. 3. The transfer of technologies.

- d) Regarding the environmental consequences of disasters and conflicts. Cuba believes that resolutions on this issue should avoid particularizing countries that could contaminate the debate and cause a rupture of existing consensus regarding the environmental consequences of conflicts.
- e) There are institutions in Cuba in charge of disaster risk reduction as well as the implementation of policies and legal instruments that allow minimizing the climatic impact of natural disasters and industrial accidents, based on its experience and effectiveness in handling these issues. Cuban experiences would be available for any country all over the world.
- f) Cuba strongly believes that to meet the current challenges, there is no other way than to strengthen technical and financial cooperation to sustainably manage risk reduction.
- g) Based on the interconnection between each of the UN Environment Subprograms and the 2030 Agenda, Cuba would like to reiterate its high commitment to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Objectives, which are already incorporated into its Development Plan until 2030.
- h) Cuba is convinced that UNEA III should defend the need for an adequate framework to allow the transfer of environmentally friendly technologies to developing countries.

The Embassy of the Republic of Cuba avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the UN Environment Office in Nairobi the assurances of its highest consideration.

March 8th, 2017