

Joint MGS Statement - UNEA-3 Closing Plenary - December 6, 2017

*Delivered by: Lily Tanui, Kenya*

Thank you chair.

Dear excellencies, distinguished delegates.

I am 18-year old Lily Tanui from Kenya.

We welcome the developments achieved in Nairobi including the first ever Ministerial Declaration. We thank the UNEA-3 Presidency, the Member States, and the UN Environment.

We commit to supporting the implementation through collaboration. However, between now and UNEA-4, we call for sustained efforts towards transparent reporting and accountability mechanisms.

The impunity in the cases of environmentalists murdered across the world is disturbing. We welcome the Strategy on the protection of Environmental Defenders and strongly demand for continued solidarity. Distinguished delegates, the world cannot remain silent while our communities and peoples continue to suffer.

Finally, we call upon the member states to provide necessary financial support to UN Environment - to help them achieve the ambitious targets and create a viable link to the HLPF.

Distinguished delegates, progress is a long and continuing process. The system is not perfect – and it might never be. But it is our obligation to ensure that tomorrow's system is better than today's.

Pamoja twaweza - Together we can.

I thank you.