

**UNEP 143<sup>RD</sup> CPR MEETING**  
**28 September 2018**

**STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**Agenda Item: Report of the Executive Director**

Madam Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor. On the matter of the OIOS preliminary audit, the Philippines regrets its leakage to media. However, Philippines notes with serious concern the preliminary findings as has circulated in various media reports and will reserve specific comments pending the final report. As a preliminary, the Philippines would like to state that it has been diligent in ensuring payment of its voluntary contribution to the UN Environment Fund annually and, in addition, has responded positively to calls for funding assistance such as during the convening of the UNEA-3 in December 2017. This diligent and earnest disposition comes with our commitment to the advancement of the environmental agenda and, needless to say, this comes along with the highest expectations of professionalism, fullest accountability and exercise of judiciousness and prudence on the part of the UNEP Secretariat, as an authoritative advocate of the global environment, in discharging its functions and managing resources.

The Philippines welcomes the letter of the Executive Director dated 25 September, outlining concrete steps to address the preliminary findings, as well as his indication of commitment to act on all errors identified with no exceptions. As the Executive Director has pointed out the need to address the issue of trust between the management and member states, the Philippines would like to recommend that member states' inputs, suggestions and recommendations, particularly those with general consensus concerning management and pertinent decisions during CPR meetings, be summarized, circulated and continually included in the Management Action Plan, not only for the purpose of addressing the findings, but more importantly, to demonstrate that member states are listened to. Progress on its implementation should be included in the quarterly CPR meetings.

The Philippines comes with this recommendation as we have observed that many planned actions in the ED's letter, particularly, on the need to have greater transparency in travels with corresponding mission reports showing objectives, outcomes, and links to Program of Work have already been raised by many member states during various CPR meetings as early as last year.

The Philippines looks forward to the final audit report and will closely monitor developments regarding the steps referred to in the Executive Director's letter. It is our hope that these steps, together with member state inputs following the final audit report, in addition to effecting trust-building and greater efficiency and effectiveness of the organization in relation to its mandate, will also be complemented by similar improvements in UNEP's ranking in the UN Global Staff Satisfaction Survey this year and in the coming years.

Thank you.