

## **UNEP ASC-7, Agenda Item 5(i) – Australia intervention**

Australia would like to thank the co-facilitators for their excellent work and highly consultative approach to undertaking the review.

We have been particularly appreciative of the pragmatic approaches taken by the co-facilitators to overcome the logistical challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic in undertaking the review process.

We welcome the co-facilitators' paper, and believe it provides a promising basis for real and practical improvements that reflect the interests of Member States in ensuring a more effective, robust and high-performing organisation.

We are pleased to see that consensus has been found on suggested improvements to UNEA and its subsidiary bodies. In particular, Australia welcomes proposals to:

- Clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of the UNEA and CPR Bureaux;
- Boost linkages between UNEA and the Multilateral Environment Agreements; and
- Capitalise on remote participation technologies in the CPR, in order to boost participation from Member States without representation in Nairobi.

These proposed actions, along with many others identified in the paper, are much needed, and we believe they will enhance the capacity of UNEA and its subsidiary bodies to effectively establish and deliver on global environmental priorities.

As other colleagues have raised, we believe the process will now benefit from clarity and constructive dialogue for how to act on outstanding concerns in order to successfully finalise the review.

Australia stands ready to work with the co-facilitators, as well as the broader CPR membership, to consolidate the progress that has been made to date, and bring about practical, consensus-based actions to benefit UNEA and its subsidiary bodies.