*10 December 2020*

# Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP (CPR) Nairobi, 10 December 2020

**Agenda Item 2: Consideration of UNEP Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2025 and Programme of Work 2022-2023**

***Comments by the European Union and its Member States***

* The EU and its Member States thank the ED and the UNEP Secretariat for the good work, the inclusive approach with the Discovery Sessions and the well-balanced revised MTS and PoW/B documents following the discussions at the 152nd CPR Meeting.
* The EU and its Member States support the renewed focus on climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, the central role of the transition towards sustainable consumption and production patterns (SCP), as well as the proposed foundational and enabling programs.
* We appreciate to see some of our comments reflected up in the revised version. For instance, in the MTS we welcome the explicit reference indicating the intrinsic link between heathy environment and social and economic well-being, the description of UNEP’s comparative advantages in implementing the subprograms, the more, mainstreamed use of internationally agreed language in the document and the embedded references to gender responsiveness in all subprograms.
* In the PoW/B the EU and its Member States welcome the insertion of indicators in the subprograms, which take account of sustainable consumption patterns, the insertion of an introductory paragraph on page 14, noting the link between the Theory of Change and the single indicators of the performance indicator framework. Most notably, we very much appreciate the insertion of the two columns highlighting how the different indicators are connected to the “2025 outcomes” and the “direct outcomes”. In the view of the EU and its Member States, this better illustrates the connection between the Theory of Change and the performance indicator framework. Furthermore, we positively noted the standard inclusion of a reference in the indicators, highlighting that the ultimate goal is to measure the impacts of UNEP and not of other agencies/donors performing similar activities.
* Not all our comments have been included in the revised versions of the MTS and PoW/B. However, in view of the fact that we see the main priorities mirrored in the new versions and that the relevant documents need to be submitted 6 weeks prior to the OECPR to undergo editing and translation, the EU and its Member States support the endorsement of these documents.
* On a last note, the EU and its Member States wish to highlight that with respect to the integration of the work conducted under the current subprogram on disasters and risks across the new subprogram structure, it is important to ensure continuity in the work of UNEP and across the current and the future PoW/B. The impact of the excellent work so far should be safeguarded and further work on this issue meaningfully contribute to the delivery of the subprograms it is being integrated into.