

**Intervention on agenda item 5¹ by Mr. Mapopa C. Kaunda, Deputy
Permanent Representative (DPR) to UNEP during the 153rd meeting of the
Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held on 26th January
2021**

Let me begin by thanking you Chair for this opportunity to intervene on this very important matter regarding draft decisions on administrative and budgetary matters. And take note that we are late into the day.

Before I continue let me state that my delegation aligns itself with the statement just delivered by the African Group and delivered earlier on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Malawi would like to categorically recall and reiterate the spirit within which the membership on UNEP CPR has discussed and engaged on decision-making during these unprecedented times of covid-19, including that of deciding to have only administrative and budgetary outcomes during the virtual session of UNEA in February 2021.

My delegations view is that such a decision must be understood, appreciated and respected in its most basic sense(s). That one, while trusting the Secretariat to propose the best financial and human resource framework to carry out the programme of work, there will be no instances which would require contestation and controversy amongst the membership. Two, therefore that the outline of the programme of work and budget is such that it ensures geographical distribution and spread, as well as achieving gender parity. It is one thing to emphasise on results-based management. It is another to achieve fair outcomes. Three, that the programme of work and budget must be implemented in a context where the

¹ **Agenda 7:** Consideration of Draft Decisions on Administrative and Budgetary Matters for the virtual session of UNEA-5 in February 2021.

Secretariat, should upon request and with minimal delays, provide accurate and verifiable information.

Furthermore, and once again, taking cognizance of the spirit under which, the membership has agreed to a two phased UNEA 5, Malawi highly anticipates the resumed in-person Session in 2022. This part of UNEA 5 is critical, at least in Malawi's perspective, because, the membership will deal with key policy, governance and political issues regarding the environment. In this regard, hopefully by that time key milestones will have been achieved in biodiversity, climate change and pollution and waste management, so as to inform and form the main outcomes of UNEA 5. Malawi therefore looks forward to the various Conference of Parties (COPs) meetings, that are currently scheduled to take place in 2021, spread across the world.

Let me take this opportunity to acknowledge some information that has been shared by Sweden regarding the Stockholm +50 process, including consultations done in New York as well as preparation of a draft resolution. We welcome the development.

Having said the foregoing, my delegation is keen to engage further in the draft decisions on administrative and budgetary matters, at the appropriate time.

I thank you all for your kind attention.