

## Algeria's inputs

**153<sup>rd</sup> CPR Meeting  
27/01/2021**

First of all, our delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the G77+China and the African Group's.

We thank the Secretariat for providing the documentation and commend its work done so far in this regard, hoping that our comments and today's discussions will feed into refining it, especially as we are heading towards the 5<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

### **On the preparation of 5<sup>th</sup> Assembly (1<sup>st</sup> part/virtual session)**

Our delegation recalls that the will to restrict this segment to discussing procedural matters, namely the MTS and the administrative and budgetary issues, is mainly due to limitations posed by connectivity challenges and others. We recognize the collective efforts to carry out UNEP's activities and maintain its flow, as well as the widely shared sentiment to leave negotiations on substantive matters to the second part of UNEA-5, especially in the specific context of the current health crisis.

However, with the presidency proposing to **deliver a political message**, so as not to miss the chance for the Assembly to pronounce itself on such an important occasion, we believe this endeavor has the merit to be discussed further in an open and transparent disposition. With the view to decide upon the matter, we think that, as long as it would not preempt the opportunity for Member States to adopt a ministerial declaration which shall be negotiated during the second in-person segment in 2022, room may be left to this **proposal which should in no way contain controversial issues, thus sticking to agreed language**, and prevent it from being some sort of a parallel document. And this our understanding from the presentation made by the Ambassador of Norway. Bearing in mind that it will, by no means, be a substitute for a ministerial declaration, **specification of the legal implications, as well as identification of the proponents of the political message may be of great help to the conclusion of the latter.**

## **On the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of UNEP**

It should be recognized that fruitful discussions on this question have taken place early on, though some differentiations regarding the approach to be adopted were noted all along that process. We welcome the roadmap called “draft strategic plan for the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of UNEP”. In this regard, we reiterate our engagement to see the **role of UNEP’s headquarters strengthened**, as it is the lead organization for the environment, and we believe that one way of doing so is to insist on having the celebrations taking place in Nairobi. With all due consideration to the wish of Sweden to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm+50), a stress should be put on the fact that these are clearly distinct events. At this stage of our debate, and as Member States have already agreed to launch celebrations at the online session of the 5<sup>th</sup> session of UNEA, and in order to come up with a truly impactful UNEP@50 - within the proposed concept of “broader ownership”, what should be highlighted, though, **is to seek clarity on what the next step regarding the exact format the “kick-off” would epitomize in terms of the contents serving the communication initiatives?**

In addition, Algeria is of the view that the overall celebration of UNEP@50 should culminate in 2022 by the adoption of a dedicated outcome.

Thank you