

## Children and Youth Major Group - *Inputs for UNEA - CPR Joint Bureau Retreat 24 June 2021*

### Agenda Item 2. Assessment of the online UNEA-5 (UNEA-5.1)

- We congratulate the Executive Director and the UNEP Secretariat, together with UNEA-5 and CPR Bureau for leading by example and delivering a fully virtual first session of UNEA. This has been a milestone. We emphasize that while we tackle COVID crisis, we cannot postpone tackling the environmental and climate crisis and impacts world-wide.
- We would invite the UNEA Bureau to consult among member states and major groups and stakeholders to analyse how hybrid meetings can be improved in order to meet the needs of various groups and assure much needed progress despite the circumstances. We are happy to develop and share scenarios on the same.
- Engage with inter-agency groups and processes which are holding hybrid or in-person meetings with health protocols.
- Also ask the UNEP Secretariat to support the Major Groups and Stakeholders in understanding engagement opportunities, timeslot allocation, adjustments and proceedings as they change during the session.

### Agenda Item 3. Preparations for the resumed meeting of the fifth session of UNEA (UNEA 5.2)

- In Person/hybrid participation: Ensure in-person participation of member states and major groups and stakeholders in case the UNEA 5.2 should be in hybrid format
- Side-events: Side events and exhibits for accredited organisations to UNEP should be enabled and continued
- Improve communication around UNEA: Ramp up communication efforts around UNEA to happen year-round. UNEA is the highest decision-making body on the environment and still awareness about it remains low when compared to COPs or even non UN meetings. We request the Bureau to ask UNEP to amplify messaging and virtual communication around UNEA similar to UNEP campaigns, and other successful communication work
- Global Youth Environment Assembly: We organised a global youth environment assembly virtually in 2020 and in 2021 in lead-up to UNEA 5.1. We would like to request venue space at the UNEA, for a 3 to 4 day long in-person self-organised Youth Environment Assembly in Nairobi.
  - In spirit of intergenerational co-leadership, we request for a youth and environmental ministers dialogue to be co-organised by UNEP civil society unit and Children and Youth Major Group
- Resolution on Youth: During UNEA 5.1, we asked for a resolution on youth and environment to be tabled at UNEA 5.2. We request the member states and political groups to support this request. We are happy to also help in building blocks for such a resolution.
- UNEA to address evolving issues and multilateralism: enable space during UNEA to discuss new and emerging issues as well. These can be thematic roundtables or sessions, in the spirit of reflecting current and new challenges.

### Agenda Item 4. Outcomes of UNGA res 73/333

- We urge delegations to acknowledge that an ambitious, binding nature and concrete quantification of mechanisms e.g. in relation to the GDP of member states is crucial for effective implementation and monitoring.
- We emphasize the needs of stakeholders in terms of transparency, accountability, engagement, and justice, affirming the rights of indigenous, marginalized and disadvantaged groups, including children and youth.
- We emphasize that continuous accountability reporting on pollution control should be included in the country's environmental law. This is in order to communicate and monitor the fulfillment of reporting requirements. We urge member states to mainstream environmental law implementation across all aspects of public procurement.
- We emphasize the importance of the involvement of stakeholders in the preparation on the national level as well as the monitoring process of compliance.
- We urge delegates to drive development using citizen-friendly technologies that promote better monitoring and evaluation. And strengthen cooperative solutions for information sharing and member state collaboration in the enforcement of environmental law.

### Agenda Item 5. Preparations for the commemoration of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP@50)

- Work is being done by the UNEP@50 Task force led by Science and Technology and Children and Youth Major Group to produce the "UNEP We Want" report before the end of 2021. Process includes various regional consultations, surveys, etc. We welcome a dialogue and engagement with political groups for expert perspectives and contributions to report.
- We request *in-session* components in the UNEA Special Session (SS) to have sessions with Major Groups and Stakeholders and youth to be part of the special session itself. We encourage early dialogue with the incoming UNEA-6 Presidency for engaging on session design.

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