



**United Nations Environment Programme
Committee of Permanent Representatives
8th Annual Subcommittee Meeting**

27 October 2021

**Remarks by Brazil on item 4(b)
Preparations for the resumed session of UNEA-5: Consideration of
draft resolutions relating to marine litter and plastic pollution**

as delivered by Mr. Patrick Luna,
Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to UNEP

Mr. Chairman,

The issue of marine litter and plastic pollution is of those where an action by UNEA-5.2 is expected - not only due to the urgency of the matter, but also because there is a clear mandate from UNEA-4.

Today, I wish to reiterate the message that Brazil delivered in the Ministerial Conference held in Geneva last September. Brazil is ready to negotiate a new global agreement on marine litter and plastics. And we firmly uphold that the future agreement needs to be built on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, a notion supported earlier by Argentina, Egypt and Indonesia.

Its ambitious goals must be coupled with equally ambitious means of implementation in terms of financial assistance, capacity building and transfer of technology. Let me be clear: ensuring such a balance is not something that should be left to the negotiation of the global agreement itself, it must rather be at the basis of the mandate to be issued by UNEA-5.2.

My delegation is seriously concerned with the number of actions expected to be taken by UNEA-5.2, whose outcomes will be prepared in a hybrid format. As we heard

yesterday, this list of proposed actions already amounts to 24, a figure that matches those of UNEA-4 - when we did not face the logistical limitations imposed by a pandemic. We must be extremely cautious so as not to overburden the Assembly, lest we jeopardize the ambitious outcomes that we all expect, including on this critical issue. Let me reiterate, in this context, that if UNEA-5.2 decides to call for the immediate start of negotiations, it will have been the most ambitious UNEA to date.

Brazil took note of the draft resolution tabled by Peru and Rwanda, as well as of Japan's intention to submit its own draft. At this stage, we would encourage all proponents to talk with each other to find ways to merge their proposals into one text. This would be a wise use of the intersessional period. Based on the negotiating experience acquired at UNEA-4, such an effort will be critical to ensure the effectiveness we will certainly need in the lead-up to UNEA-5.2.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman
