



**STATEMENT BY HEAD OF DELEGATION
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER MALAYSIA**

**MALAYSIA FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION ON
UNEP@50
NAIROBI, KENYA ON 3 – 4 MARCH 2022**

Thank you, Mr. President for giving the floor to Malaysia.

Your excellencies and distinguished delegates,

We wish to congratulate UNEP for its 50th anniversary and applaud UNEP's excellent work in coordinating efforts to address global environmental challenges.

2. UNEP has played a leading role in environmental governance. The fact that we are still gathered here today

under UNEP's leadership is a proof that UNEP is still relevant and has stood the test of time. As we move forward, UNEP must continue to stand tall and adapt to the emerging environmental challenges, especially those posed by the recent Covid-19 pandemic. We fear that the pandemic has halted or reversed progress in our collective environmental agendas. Thus, we fully support the notion of building back better or greener post Covid-19. This calls for science-policy interface, which is very important in charting the pathway towards sustainable development. This requires corparative actions between the policy-makers and the scientific communities for the betterment of global environmental governance.

3. As the world is now facing three global crises – climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste, we need to take holistic, continuous and concrete actions to address these challenges. This comes together with not only the implementation plans, harmonised performance monitoring and reporting mechanism but also adequate means of implementation including financial and technical assistance

and capacity building, to ensure that actions are taken in a timely manner. We welcome the move towards establishing a global instrument to address plastic pollution. Malaysia is happy to share that we have adopted two policy documents to tackle plastic pollution through a life cycle approach and circular economy model, namely the Malaysia Plastic Sustainability Roadmap and the Marine Litter Policy and Action Plan, 2021-2030. We hope that the future agreement will further support countries in our actions against plastic pollution.

4. We believe that UNEP is the right organisation to steer us towards collective actions on achieving a resilient and safe environment. 50 years has passed since UNEP inception and we trust that UNEP has matured and will continue to evolve by responding to the demands of current environmental challenges. Once again, congratulations to UNEP for your success and 50th anniversary. We trust that you will continue to lead us to achieve sustainable development. Wishing you all the best for next 50 years.

I thank you for your attention.