

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Silvio Albuquerque, Permanent Representative to UNEP

Mr. Chairman

Dear Ambassadors and colleagues

Brazil aligns itself with the statement delivered by Chile on behalf of GRULAC. In our national capacity, we would like to add that we are proud of the outcomes of UNEA-5.2 and UNEP@50. We also would like to thank the Secretariat for the efforts that allowed for successful meetings during very challenging times. It is important to emphasize that those efforts were noticed and very much appreciated.

We also wanted to note that improvements are necessary for achieving adequate conditions for negotiations and that those are dependent on our collective responsibility as Member States.

UNEA-5.2 presented us with a great number of resolutions, which resulted in multiple parallel meetings impossible to be adequately followed by smaller delegations. Even with the multiple parallel meetings, we observed many substantive negotiations being severely affected by time constraints.

We are concerned that this scenario, which severely affects meaningful debates, if repeated over the years, might compromise the very relevance and, more importantly, the legitimacy of UNEA outcomes.

Allow me to state clearly that Brazil's assessment is that continuing to maintain business as usual, holding meetings to negotiate draft resolutions at parallel times, and, above all, at times that advance into the early hours of the morning, is a measure that significantly compromises the legitimacy of the negotiation process itself. By making it difficult and sometimes actually preventing the full participation of countless small delegations, it makes the diplomatic exercise not very representative of an Environmental Assembly that is intended to be global.

As previously affirmed, it is upon us to avoid such scenarios. Careful thought and analysis should be exercised when proposing new resolutions - and even a limit of proposals per country or region should be seriously considered.

The intersessional period should also be better used by delegations, and, here again, we should exercise our collective responsibility and start engaging in negotiations before the OECPR.

Finally, Brazil would like to reiterate what was affirmed by GRULAC on the need for a clear, transparent, and inclusive process on the plastics negotiations - one that makes justice to the recent victory achieved here, at UNEP's headquarters in Nairobi. The Secretariat should not ignore that this is a Member-State driven process. Permanent Representations in Nairobi need to be periodically and systematically informed about each significant step taken by the Secretariat concerning the negotiating process. It would be a mistake to take for granted the

interest of the Brazilian delegation at any stage of the diplomatic process that will somehow affect the final outcome of the negotiations.

Thank you very much