

UNEP Annual Subcommittee 24-28 October 2022 Agenda Item 5

Statement by NL

Agenda item 5

- Align with EU;
- Thank secretariat for the presentations and responding to the questions raised earlier.
- recognizing that the most important purpose of this agenda item is to provide guidance to the secretariat on the status of implementation of the PoW and UNEA resolutions.
- We would like to share the following observations and recommendations:
 - First of all, on the monitoring and reporting tool, we would like to recommend the secretariat to consider to enable an easy to find entry point to access the portal and to ensure public access to the information in the portal.
 - On the status of implementation of resolutions, we acknowledge that all resolutions need to be treated equally, however, we also recognize they are different in nature and require different types of follow up action by UNEP in order to deliver to the next UNEAs, as we had indicated in our introductory remarks and was also confirmed by the ED, furthermore echo what was said by SWI and the US in this regards;
 - we take note that for some resolutions funding is still being sought, we also heard the suggestion of the ED on how to approach the funding gap, besides the letters that have been send to MS.
 - However, before we consider this as a solution, we believe there are other ways to address this, including looking critically to the way we prepare for the resolutions to be adopted at UNEA.
 - we realize that part of the issue related to the funding gaps reported to this meeting is also related to our own discipline in the negotiations and in taking into account the POW/B, when we table and discuss the draft resolutions, as well as the potential extrabudgetary implications.
 - We therefore align with those MS and the secretariat that reiterated the need for further reflections, including the importance of the secretariat technical note when we are negotiating resolutions. And the usefulness of the estimated program budget indications, though we may want to consider on how we do this in a way more useful to the process.
 - we emphasize that many resolutions contain elements that provide opportunity to be integrated to the POW/B, as illustrated by our colleague from SWI, and like our colleague from SWI we would have appreciated a more comprehensive overview on what elements of the resolutions are integrated in and contribute to the delivery of the PoW and other work UNEP is engaged with,
 - we are concerned that it seems that all resolutions seem to be treated as new – add on – projects/activities, while it was envisioned that they should contribute to UNEPs POW to the extend possible, and that the POW approved should provide the flexibility to do so.
 - Furthermore, we note that for the sake of this discussion, we would have benefited from a comprehensive overarching note, that would identify key

issues to discuss, following an analyses of challenges, opportunities, lessons learned identified, as well as – where relevant – recommendations on how to move forward.

- We therefor recommend that the secretariat is requested, in its endeavor to further monitor and implement all relevant UNEA outcomes to:
 - a) further streamline them as much as possible in the POW;
 - b) making use of the expertise and activities, as well as availability of funding in different parts of the organization;
 - c) update this information in the monitoring and reporting tool;
 - d) making sure that the monitoring and reporting tool is publicly accessible
 - e) for future briefings on the status of implementation to identify key issues for discussion and recommendation, following analysis of challenges, opportunities and lessons learned.
 - This in our view would also provide an opportunity to address some of the funding gaps that have been highlighted to the meeting.
 - We are happy to work with colleagues to ensure that these recommendations and those by other MS are reflected as outcomes of this meeting.
- To provide some examples of areas and elements of resolutions, where we see that linkages between resolutions and other activities by UNEP can be better made:

On the Circular Economy resolution and its link with the 10YFP:

We welcome the decision of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns to approve the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023–2030, that followed a consultative process involving Member States and stakeholders, [and calls upon Member States, United Nations entities and stakeholders to support its implementation and resource mobilization as part of the international efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of the multilateral environmental agreements]

We would like to recommend inviting the Executive Director to support the efforts of implementation, noting that the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption is aligned with UNEA Resolution 5/11 on Circular Economy, UNEP's MTS and its delivery model, including its four priority actions:

- to position sustainable consumption and production as an essential requirement and means to achieve global commitments for sustainable development, climate, biodiversity and pollution;
- to, enable changes through circularity, transformative multistakeholder and public-private partnerships, tools and solutions across high-impact sectors;
- to support MS, in particular developing countries, in collaboration with other UN agencies and IFIs, and stakeholders for mainstreaming and implementing sustainable consumption and production patterns;

- and to foster a global movement and commitments for action based on a coherent, science-based narrative;

On the Future of GEO, to ensure that the scientific work that is relevant in the different divisions and that the GEO process can benefit from relevant expertise available in the organization at large. Furthermore we would like to request that due attention be paid to provide capacity building within the GEO process on monitoring, data management and analysis, in line with the resolution UNEA 4/23. In this regard, we also see scope to ensure that the data strategy and the WESR can benefit at large from the GEO process and vice versa and we recommend to request the secretariat to make sure that these different processes are well streamlined/optimized with a view to deliver .

On the resolution on sustainable nitrogen management, to make a link with the GPA and its GPML, as well as ensuring that the scientific work is embedded in the ongoing processes of the relevant processes and assessments, including the SPP and GEO, where relevant.