

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco  
Nairobi



سفارة المملكة المغربية  
نيروبي

2nd May 2024

**CPR Subcommittee meeting**  
**Intervention of the Kingdom of Morocco on Agenda Item 2:**  
**Briefing on the human rights and the Environment**

- Thank you Mr Chair ,
- First of all, and on behalf of my country the Kingdom of Morocco, my delegation welcomes the discussion on this very important topic on the nexus Environment-Human Rights
- My delegation would like, also, to thank the Secretariat for the presentation and for the very valuable background document on the joint activities and collaboration between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UNEP to advance human rights and the environment;
- For the Kingdom of Morocco, the intertwined links between human rights and the environment have been established decades ago since the Stockholm declaration on the human environment of 1972. Indeed, Human rights cannot be enjoyed without a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and in the same vein, environment protection cannot be guaranteed and assured without the promotion and respect for human rights.
- The collaboration between OHCHR and UNEP as enshrined in the MoU signed in 2019 is being recognised as important because it considers multiple priority areas such as **joint research** and development of reports on HR and Environment, **Knowledge management** including through **access to best practises, support to national governments to have access to UN expertise**, and the creation of partnerships with civil society, private stakeholders, and collaboration with UN platforms and networks that are dealing with HR and Environment;
- UNEP plays a role in advancing human rights when its mandate is to preserve and protect the environment. Indeed, UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2025, supports the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, and through its subprogram on environmental governance including its efforts for gender equality, the right of indigenous peoples and local communities, the dialogues it establishes with different MEAs, are a concrete manifestation of the role of UNEP in upholding the human right to a healthy and sustainable environment.
- Many countries recognize the link between HR and Environment, in their constitutions and in their national policies. The Kingdom of Morocco has been actively dedicated to promoting, in addition to political, economic, social, and cultural, **environmental rights**, with a primary aim of ensuring equity, equality, and meaningful individual participation in sustainable development. Hence, Morocco's strong engagement in the Human rights Council with the introduction, with other countries, of the resolution 48/13 on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, that has been adopted later by the UNGA in its resolution 76/300.
- This commitment to the human right for a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, at the national level, has made the government of Morocco to its effective implementation through reformative programs and strategies across pivotal sectors, including education, health, employment, and culture. aimed at placing the human being at the heart of development.

- Such commitment has been strengthened by the adoption of a New Development Model, that has been elaborated through a participatory, inclusive approach that took into account active participation of all the components and institutions of society, including the private sector and local communities.
- Many of those commitments translated through the establishment of information systems on the risks to environment and on sustainable development, such as a database on dangerous chemicals and pesticides that are subject of international trade, the strengthening of the legal system and access to the environmental justice.
- Finally my delegation would like to ask the secretariat the following question: how does UNEP and OHCHR in concrete terms contribute to the promotion and implementation of the human right resolution at the national level, **could the secretariat give us some concrete examples on possible actions in that regard, when it comes to the implementation of projects related to the mainstreaming of Human rights in national environmental policies, capacity buildings, management of mines and minerals, waste management, pollution etc..?**
- I thank you Chair.