



*Thank you for the floor, Chair!*

*I am Megi Marku from Albania, representing the Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP. In relation to the agenda item 4, our inputs are as follows:*

*We at the Children and Youth Major Group recognise the importance of the theme of UNEA-6, i.e., "Effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution." It clearly emphasises the urgency and the gravity of the environmental challenges we are currently facing.*

*In this regard, I want to draw your attention to the crucial role of meaningful youth engagement in all the preparatory processes leading up to UNEA-6. To encourage a more effective involvement of youth towards the process of UNEA-6, our constituency is undertaking several projects.*

*The Children and Youth Major Group has been working towards the Global Youth Environment Assembly that is proposed to be held on the 17th and 18th of February 2024. In this regard, we would like to welcome financial support that the member states may decide to offer for the successful organization. As part of the Global Youth Environment Assembly, youth from all over the world will assemble in Nairobi to discuss inputs towards the various resolutions that are being presented by the member states towards UNEA-6. Building upon the importance of youth engagement in the environmental agenda of UNEP, I would like to further stress the need for vocal and tangible support and the formal recognition of the Youth Environment Assembly.*

*We believe it is of great importance that we formally recognize the Global Youth Environment Assembly, and to facilitate the same, we commit to sharing its outcome documents with the secretariat and the interested member states. These outcomes include a Global Youth Declaration highlighting our concerns with the aim to strengthen the bridge between the aspirations of our youth and our collective decision-making processes.*

*Additionally, we would also like to highlight that the constituency is undertaking research on youth engagements in Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and the Science-Policy Interface (SPI). This research will culminate into a policy brief, providing actionable recommendations for enhancing youth involvement in these crucial environmental frameworks. We request the secretariat and the member states to extend their support in inclusive and effective youth engagement under all MEAs, so as to facilitate inter-generational equity.*

*The Children and Youth Major Group would also like to express our gratitude to Sri Lanka for their commendable commitment to funding two young individuals from their nation to be a part of the national delegation for UNEA-6 as declared at the fifth forum of ministers and*



*environment authorities in Colombo earlier this month and encourage the other member states to follow this example.*

*To conclude, we would like to reiterate our support for online participation in the UNEA-6 proceedings so as to make the Assembly more inclusive.*