

Major Group for Children and Youth

Intervention on Agenda Item 10 - Consideration of a draft Chair's summary of the meeting

CLOSING INTERVENTION

Thank you Mr. Chair for the floor.

My name is Anne Faith from Kenya speaking on behalf of Children and Youth Major groups. It is an honor to speak and present our closing intervention on behalf of the Children and Youth Major Group. Over the last week, 13 of us have participated here in-person and several more online, because the discussions and decisions here directly impact our future. We are here bringing to you the **#Power in Youth**.

We recognize the interventions from the member states who advocated for youth participation since. **We urge them to maintain their position and call upon all member states to advocate for intergenerational equity.** We all have a common understanding that climate change and environment chronicles affect the youth, their future and their descendants. We must work together to achieve Agenda 2030.

We welcome the progress on implementation of the CPR based review. In line with the provisions of the CPR based review, we ask for the Bureau of CPR to invite representatives from the Major Group Facilitating Committee to periodically join the Bureau meetings of the CPR. Major Groups engagement is essential for intersectionality in all processes and stages of implementation.

We appreciate that steps are being taken to call upon countries to pay their full share. The youth constituency works with informal and grassroots groups globally. At the same time, the engagement of youth can be enhanced by better adjusting to the administrative and support infrastructure needs of youth organizations. We call upon UNEP and member states to enhance funding support to the children and youth constituency so we can meaningfully prepare and engage in the processes leading up to UNEA 6. **Support the #Power in Youth.**

It is not enough to “**engage**” those from grassroots and minorities. We need frontline communities in leadership. Collective success depends on collective co-operation. **When peaceful environmental advocates are silenced, our communities, our causes, and our futures are silenced with them. Protect young people and environmental defenders. Protect the #PowerInYouth**

The Emissions Gap Report launched yesterday is clear. Only an urgent system-wide transformation can deliver the enormous cuts needed to limit greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The window is already closed for several frontline communities worldwide who are bearing the impacts of the triple planetary crisis.

The UN system has **stood by** while extractive industries and consumerism have become the yardstick for development, an excuse to roll back on environmental and social safeguards. **But who will pay for the harm to human health and rights? The polluter or the most vulnerable? How will you incentivize**

fundern to invest now or risk the future? We call upon UNEP to divest immediately from taking funding or close partnerships with hydrocarbon, fossil fuel and polluting industries responsible for planetary destruction. Stand with the #PowerinYouth

We call for a green post-Covid recovery where states urgently adapt to sustainable consumption and production. Start considering unused natural resources as valuable ecosystems instead of missed opportunity costs.

We cannot meet yearly **to discuss what we refuse to change.**

Put People and Planet before Profits.
Shared prosperity follows planetary health.

The Children and Youth of the world expect leadership and action from UNEA and we stand ready to support and engage with all member states and the secretariat on the road to UNEA 6.

People Power. Power in Youth.

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