

**Malawi intervention during 9th Annual subcommittee meeting
on Agenda item 9: Consultation on the theme for the sixth
session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.**

1. I have the honour of delivering this statement on behalf Malawi.
2. Allow me firstly, to thank the President of UNEA 6 together with the UNEA Bureau members, the Chair of CPR and the Bureau members as well as the Secretariat for the foresight and hard work that has resulted in the development of the three options for a theme for UNEA 6. We also thank them for developing a roadmap, that while remaining result-oriented will also be flexible;
3. From the outset, Malawi places importance on the development of a theme that is inclusive mainly in terms of process and focus. An inclusive process is one that ensures - in terms of information sharing, engagement and feedback – that the Committee of Permanent Representatives based in Nairobi plays its necessary and critical role as UNEA’s intersessional body. An inclusively focused theme is one whose intent and thrust ensures easy consensus rather than prolonged polarisation.
4. Malawi has taken note that three options are recognising and acknowledging specific key words or concepts namely multilateralism/international cooperation, healthy/sustainable,

human rights and a planet under crisis. All these are very pertinent issues requiring attention, no doubt. They can serve as rallying points for progressive action. However, based on national circumstances and priorities, and indeed precedence, these ideas also have the potential to be a source of polar positions and stalemates.

5. Malawi finds the options presented today as useful and a sufficient basis for consideration and engagement going forward. We believe that the options touch on matters that are aligned to firstly Malawi's own Vision 2063 one of whose goals is a safe, clean, secure and sustainable environment; secondly the options reflect the aspirations the SADC Vision 2050 which seeks strengthened climate change, adaptation, and mitigation; improved disaster risk management and sustainable utilisation and conservation of natural resources and effective management of the environment.

6. We find also that elements of the options speak to aspirations of the African Union Agenda 2063 of environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities; and also, to the achievement of the United Nations 2030 Agenda

7. In conclusion, as indicated at the start of our statement, while appreciating the proposed timelines, and mindful of the requirements of paragraph 9 of UNEA decision 5/4, Malawi would like to repeat its position that the roadmap should be result-oriented in a flexible manner.

8. The foregoing notwithstanding, Malawi remains committed to engaging constructively with other parties, and will support effective, open, inclusive and transparent dialogue going forward.