



**Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine during
9th Annual Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent
Representatives**

(24.10.2022, Nairobi)

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

Mr. Chair,

Madam Executive Director,

Excellencies,

Distinguished participants,

Good morning.

First of all, let me express the gratitude of the Government of Ukraine to UNEP Secretariat and personally to Madam Executive Director and Chair of the CPR, Ambassador of Finland H.E. Pirka Tapiola for brilliant work done towards the achieving of our common goal – preserving global environment for future generations.

Ukraine highly values the long-standing relations with UNEP. For many years UNEP's deep knowledge and expertise were contributing to the safeguarding and developing the environment of my unique country.

When Ukraine became a target for the unprovoked and unjustified invasion which started exactly 8 months ago, UNEP did not stay aside and from the very first day of war started to help the Government of Ukraine in overpassing horrible environmental consequences of aggression.

The response of the entire UNEP team and personally Madam Executive Director to the biggest environmental crisis in the world after the Second World War created by Russian neocolonial desires and its impudent and unprecedented breach of international law, has again proved the effectiveness and deep expertise of UNEP as well as wise leadership of Inger Andersen.

In this regard, the Government of Ukraine welcomes the rapid response and urgent assistance, provided by UNEP Secretariat to Ukraine upon the request of my Government and in accordance with the relevant mandate.

We also acknowledge the recent publication of UNEP review “The Environmental Impact of Ukraine Conflict”.

Even this preliminary review shows that substantial damage to urban and rural environments across wide geographic area has been caused by the unprovoked and unjustified invasion of the Russian Federation. It is also indicated there that the environmental damage carries risks both to Ukraine and neighboring countries.

Taking this into account, as well as transboundary impact of the Russian invasion to the environment, we would kindly request the esteemed UNEP Secretariat to schedule the comprehensive presentation of this report during one of the next Subcommittee meetings of the CPR.

During the presentation of this report, we would also like to discuss the UNEP’s further steps with regard to resolving of this horrible environmental crisis and providing additional assistance to the Government of Ukraine in restoring the environment of Ukraine, especially in already liberated areas of Kherson, Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and, of course, very soon, the unique nature of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine.

To conclude, I would also like to express our gratitude to all our partners from the US, EU, Great Britain, Canada, Japan and many other likeminded countries for their constant support and strong statements delivered today.

Thank you.