

Interventions of the United Republic of Tanzania during the 9th Annual Sub Committee Meeting, 24th to 28th October 2022

Agenda No. 7: Financial Outlook and Funding Challenges for UNEP

Thank you Chair for giving me this opportunity to make interventions on this ever important agenda

Mr Chair,

The United Republic of Tanzania aligns itself to the statement issues by the Ambassador of Algeria on behalf of the Africa Group.

On the outset, would like to thank the Secretariat for the report on financial outlook and for the innovative way in which they have organized the agenda – through the informative and thought-provoking panel discussion.

Tanzania is appreciative of the generous, continuous and fruitful support by member states towards UNEP. The agenda items we have discussed the past two days cement the fact that, these contributions are what have enabled UNEP to continue doing its work successfully.

Mr. Chairperson

Recent events have shown us that no country or continent can solve these global crises alone. Since these crises don't know borders or boundaries, each nation has a crucial role to play in addressing them.

It is therefore paramount to have unified efforts within the spirit of multilateralism in environmental matters, which looking at the trends, it requires not only the invention of new ways and means to tackle them, but also expedited action. The need for financial resources to address these matters cannot be over-emphasized.

For this reason my delegation encourages other member states to continue honoring their annual contributions to the Fund as determined by the VISC.

My delegation further calls for more flexibility in financing UNEP as opposed to the growing trend towards earmarked and tightly earmarked funding witnessed today.

We are of the view that with an adequate Environmental Fund coupled by flexible other contributions, UNEP will be better positioned to deliver on the need for means of implementation and adhere to the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and capabilities. This will allow UNEP to serve us all equitably.

Mr Chairperson,

Allow me to draw a few observations from the UNEP financial report shared recently. From the report the voluntary contribution to the Environment Fund for the 54 African countries for the year 2022 as determined by the VISC amounts USD 1,205,490.

Perhaps if compared to others, one might be quick to think that this amount has no impact. However, When these contributions are honored, they can cover the budget of at least half of the activities in the UNEP program of work for 2022-2023 as provided for in the Program of Work and Budget presented during the UNEA 5.

Tanzania believes that regional platforms such as the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and the Africa Union Heads of States Summit together with its Specialized committees, provide invaluable opportunities for engagement between the UNEP Secretariat and the environment docket holders and national leaders in the continent.

UNEP can use these platforms to share its successes and challenges - such as the lack of adequate finance; and therefore stimulate policy actions towards addressing them, for now and the future.

We encourage the Secretariat, at the highest level of leadership possible, not to miss out on these opportunities.

I thank you Chair for the opportunity,