

**MALAWI INTERVENTION DURING 11TH ANNUAL
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CPR ON AGENDA
ITEM 3(E): CONTRIBUTION OF THE REGIONAL
FORUMS OF MINISTERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND
ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITIES TO THE UNEP MEDIUM-
TERM STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME OF WORK.**

Mr. Chair, Excellencies and all Distinguished delegates,

1. My delegation would like to thank the Secretariat for the comprehensive and useful update that has been provided on contribution of the regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities to the UNEP Medium-term Strategy and Programme of Work, as contained in document UNEP/CPR/ASC/11/3.

2. From the outset, Malawi, would like to express our appreciation to the Executive director and the Secretariat for implementing a request by UNEA 6 as read in operative paragraph 1 (a) of UNEA resolution 6/3 to include on the agenda of annual subcommittee meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme an item on the contribution of the regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities to the UNEP Medium-term Strategy and programme of work.

Mr. Chair,

3. As we meet today, we strive to discuss and reflect upon the crucial contributions made by the Regional Forums of Ministers of Environment and Environment Authorities to the UNEP Medium-Term Strategy and Program of Work. This collaboration stands as a beacon of hope and progress in our collective efforts towards environmental sustainability and resilience. Wisdom, however, lies in how to enhance such efforts.

4. From the Secretariat's presentation, Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates, you would clearly note that the Regional Forums have served as instrumental platforms, fostering dialogue, cooperation, and actionable commitments towards the environment based on diverse geographical and political landscapes. They have provided a vital space for stakeholders such as policymakers and experts, to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and forge partnerships that transcend borders and forms a basis of global action through UNEA.

5. Through these forums, we have witnessed the power of multilateralism in action where nations come together, recognizing that environmental challenges know no boundaries and demand unified responses. The insights gained from these discussions have enriched the formulation of UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy and Program of Work, ensuring they are not only comprehensive but also rooted in the realities and priorities of regions worldwide.

Mr. Chair

6. Going forward, the Regional Forums will continue to be indispensable. They will remain catalysts for transformative action, driving progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and various global frameworks. They will facilitate the scaling up of ambitious initiatives, mobilize resources, and strengthen capacities at the regional and national levels.

7. The spirit of resolution UNEA 6/3 is manifested in the summary of inputs from Regional Forums to the UNEA processes. In this regard, Malawi would like to support the notion that Regional Forums should increase awareness of UNEA processes and provide a platform for regional engagement and further contribute to consensus-building and ensure smoother negotiations at UNEA by addressing regional differences in advance. Therefore, we would like to encourage UNEP regional offices, as secretariats for regional forums, to organise regular engagements, at the technical and ministerial levels, in the regions to negotiations to enhance achievement of impactful and meaningful actions.

Mr. Chair,

8. As I conclude, it will be remiss of me not to mention the critical role undertaken by a regional forum for ministers of the environment towards adoption of UNEA resolution 6/3. The contributions by Regional Forums of Ministers of Environment and Environment Authorities to the UNEP Medium-Term Strategy and Program of Work are a testament to what can be achieved when deliberate efforts are

undertaken to harness regional diversities.

9. I thank you for your kind attention.

