Remarks by the Asia Pacific Group Chair, H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah for 159th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representative

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Dear Madam, Executive Director,
Dear Chair of CPR, Permanent Representatives,
Ambassador of Finland H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola,
Excellencies, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to deliver statement on behalf of the Asia Pacific Group (APG). APG would like to thank the Chair for his tireless efforts. The Group also welcomes the new Permanent Representatives and Deputy Permanent Representative who have recently joined Nairobi.

2. The APG wants to thank the Executive Director for briefing on the Quarterly report for the period of April to June.

3. APG likes to highlight that all the Resolutions adopted in UNEA 5.2 shall be implemented in letter in spirit. A balanced approach towards all resolutions would encourage trust building. APG would further take note and highlight that certain Resolutions have been given importance and the Group has seen communications originating from the Secretariat while for other Resolutions communications are still awaited.

4. APG requests the secretariat to adopt similar approach towards implementation of all the resolutions. In order to closely follow up and keep track of the implementation of UNEP resolution in the Asia Pacific region, the Group

calls upon the executive director to provide timely updates on the implementation of such resolutions on the UNEP resolutions platform.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. APG notes with concern that the Quarterly Report was made available only nine days prior to the CPR meeting. It allows the members states little opportunity to analyze the document. The Group requests that for future meetings, documents shall be made available well in advance so that the Member states have more time to study and analyze the same.

6. APG proposes that UNEP may convene substantive briefing from the UNEP Divisions, outside the existing governing bodies' meetings. This will enable member states to have better understating about the works of each division as well as the resolutions which fall under their respective mandates.

7. The Group recognizes UNEP's efforts and drive towards the digital transformation. However, there are substantial divides between the developed and developing countries. Many Developing countries lack access to the technologies that are basic for digital transformation. The Group deems it important that digital transformation shall be accompanied with capacity building and adequate means of implementation.

8. Thank you, Mr. Chair.