

Interventions by the delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica during the 9th Annual Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, 2022

Agenda Item 4: Implementation of the Programme of work and budget 2022-2023 of the United Nations Environment Programme.

Thank you chair for giving me the floor,

Good evening excellencies and colleagues,

Thank you to Mr. Juan Bello for his excellent presentation,

Costa Rica gladly announces that the regional office of UNEP is working hand in hand with the Ministry of Environment of Costa Rica on a long list of priorities for the country, such as:

- National planning for adaptation to climate change, including identification of investments for nature-based adaptation
- Development of public policy and investments for the promotion of electric mobility
- Analysis of the economic, employment and climate benefits of the implementation of the National Decarbonization Plan
- Definition of standards, public policy, and financial mechanisms for energy efficiency in products and equipment
- Establishment of a national transparency system for compliance with the Paris Agreement
- Evaluation of antimicrobial resistance in the region and in the country
- Alliances with commercial banks to identify climatic risks in the banking portfolio.

Also, as you are aware, Costa Rica currently holds the Presidency of the Forum of Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean, so it has a fundamental role in the articulation of regional dialogues.

The last special session of the Forum in commemoration of its 40th anniversary took place in January in San Jose, where the Ministers reflected on the impact of this Forum and the environmental situation in the region – identifying, among others:

- The importance of promoting financial innovation in environmental matters to respond to the triple planetary crisis – in view of the enormous challenges within the fiscal situation that the region faces.
- Promote common regional initiatives and generate political consensus – for example in the Caribbean, Amazon, Mesoamerican forests, Andes, etc..., that serve to transform natural wealth into economic and social benefits. In addition to seeking common positions that strengthen the voice of the region at a global level.
- Launched new alliances with Ministers of Finance, Planning, mayors, and others... that serve to accelerate the action and centrality of the Environment Ministers in response to the triple planetary crisis.

Just this past week, under the leadership of Costa Rica's Minister of Environment, Mr. Tattenbach, the country held the meeting of the Bureau of the Forum of LAC Ministers, with:

-Agreement on the work road map for 2023 and rapprochement of regional positions on relevant issues such as combating climate change.

-Relevant issues about COP 27 of the Convention on Climate Change were discussed; first meeting of the International Negotiating Committee (INC-1) on the Global Agreement on Plastics and Marine Pollution; and COP 15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

-In addition, Costa Rica proposed the creation of a Regional Ocean Commission, with the support of the members of the Bureau.

Regarding the program to improve air quality, Costa Rica welcomes the work of UNEP and reiterates its commitment to becoming a country with net zero emissions by 2050. In this regard, the Ministry of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica, through a Monitoring Network, in alliance with the National University of Costa Rica, seeks to maintain the measurement of different contaminants of air quality, to have data and information that can be useful for the subsequent development of strategies and policies at the national level.

Costa Rica also welcomes the Gender Parity Status information within the UNEP secretariat and MEAs personnel. However, regarding the Overall Regional Representation of Staff (UNEP and MEA Secretariats), we call for a better geographical representation of the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chair

Intervention on Agenda item 5:

Costa Rica welcomes the inputs presented by madam ED and the secretariat concerning the portal and resolutions. In this regard we would like to refer to the Implementation of the outcomes of UNEA in the context of the programme of work and budget for 2022–2023. We wish to state that it is vital to recognize that unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are overburdening the Earth's resources and welcomes UNEP to continue working to strengthen the United Nations development system reform through increased access and use of environmental data and ensuring that the digital revolution helps deliver, not hinder, the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda.

Costa Rica fully supports UNEP's pursuit of collective action on environmental sustainability, resilience and environmental risk across all aspects of the Charter of the United Nations, including peace and security, human rights and sustainable development within the scope of its mandate, to develop a common and coherent approach to integrating biodiversity and nature-based solutions for sustainable development into the United Nations policy and programme planning and delivery.

Costa Rica also welcomes the work of the seven UNEP's subprogrammes, which will support, accelerate, and scale up a shift to sustainable consumption and production patterns to achieve planetary sustainability for people, prosperity, and equity. Furthermore, the implementation of these actions supported by the policies, tools and methods developed through the enabling and sectoral programmes of the 10YFP/One Planet network, the UNEP Finance Initiative, the Partnership for Action on Green Economy and other initiatives, will enable the transition to inclusive green economies.

In addition, Costa Rica's delegation enthusiastically welcomes last weeks approval of the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023–2030 by the 10YFP Board, following a consultative process involving Member States and stakeholders, and calls upon Member States,

United Nations entities and stakeholders to support its implementation and resource mobilization as part of the international efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, its SDGs and the objectives of MEAs.

In this regard, we invite the Executive Director to support the efforts of implementation noting that the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption is aligned with UNEA Resolution 5/11 on Circular Economy, UNEP's Medium Term Strategy and its delivery model. The strategy outlines four priority actions which echo many of the elements discussed in this Annual Subcommittee.

The priorities are:

- First, further position sustainable consumption and production as an essential requirement and means to achieve global commitments for sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution;
- Second, enable changes through circularity, transformative multistakeholder and public-private partnerships, and tools and solutions across high-impact sectors;
- Third, empower countries, in particular developing ones, and stakeholders to mainstream and implement sustainable consumption and production patterns, leveraging the UN Development System;
- Fourth, foster a global movement and commitments for action by growing and amplifying the LiFE Campaign for sustainable consumption and production based on a coherent, science-based narrative, to change how we think about, act on and talk about, consumption and production;

Finally, I wish to thank the excellent work carried out by the 10YFP secretariat as well as fellow board members, member states and the group of friends of SCP, which ensured the adoption of the Global Strategy of SCP for the 2023-2030 period.

Thank you Mr. Chair.