

**Singapore's Statement for Subcommittee UNEP CPR Meeting, 17 Nov 2016,
9.30am to 12.30pm (Nairobi time)**

[As delivered]

Thank you for the floor, Mr Chair.

Good morning colleagues, greetings from Singapore.

- At the outset, Singapore thanks the Bureau of the CPR and the Bureau of the Assembly for their joint efforts to further develop the three short-listed themes for UNEA-3.
- Singapore welcomes all three themes.
- These themes are relevant to the 2030 Agenda, have actionable outcomes, and are significant in both scope and substance.

- However, we understand that it has been decided that there can be only one theme for UNEA-3.
- **This being the case, Singapore's preference is Theme Number 1.**
- We have three reasons for this.

- First, this is the only theme that smoothly transitions from the theme "Healthy Environment, Healthy People", which was what Ministers discussed at UNEA-2.
- So this would be an excellent opportunity to build upon UNEA-2 instead of reinventing the wheel.
- This is considering that Ministers, at UNEA-2, had limited time and barely scratched the surface when exchanging views on the connection between health and the environment.

- Second, we strongly believe that a theme which revolves around environmental pollution is best placed to raise UNEA's profile, and thereby enhance UNEA's outreach and impact.
- Specifically, we like the proposed UNEA outcome, in this theme, for a global action plan to address pertinent environmental issues, such as air quality, and marine litter.
- We believe that such a global action plan is a concrete and actionable outcome, and therefore relevant and useful to the global community.

- Third, addressing environmental pollution is a very substantive topic and therefore deserving of discussion.
 - Studies have shown the significant and real impact that environmental pollution has on human health and livelihood, as well as wildlife and biodiversity, amongst other things.
 - It is also clear that more can be done to address environmental pollution.
 - Therefore, discussing the theme of a “Pollution free planet” is something that UNEA can meaningfully contribute towards.
-
- Going forward, Singapore is happy to work with like-minded partners who are also supportive of Theme number 1.
 - We would also like to work together with others to fine-tune the possible approaches and outcomes for this theme, as well as to narrow down the options for the theme.
-
- While we still have the floor, Singapore would also like to make an observation on the process thus far.
 - As many are aware, Singapore does not have a Mission in Nairobi.
 - Nonetheless, we have been closely following the various CPR meetings via video conference, including this one now.
 - Having followed the discussions, we are reasonably confident that UNEA-3 can be more successful than UNEA-2, as long as that the process remains inclusive, transparent and fair to all.
 - This would provide a good foundation to build consensus at UNEA-3.
-
- We will forward, to the Secretariat, our statement today, to be posted on the CPR website.
 - Thank you, Mr Chair.