



**EMBAJADA DE CHILE EN KENIA**  
Nairobi

**UNEP/Note No. 008/17**

The Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), presents its compliments to the Secretariat of Governing Bodies of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and has honor to introduce, within the period stipulated by the Presidency of the Assembly, the comments received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile about the final draft of the Ministerial Declaration of the 2017 UN Environment Assembly "Towards a Pollution-Free Planet", as follows:

- a) It would be interesting if the proponent of number 1 could make known, if it is possible, how it was obtained that detailed information. Perhaps it could be pointed out the source of the information in a footnote;
- b) Chile agrees with the proposal in number 2. We only have doubts if the subject of testing, labeling and traceability is clearly the responsibility of the ministers of the environment or some other entity of the State administration;
- c) In number 3 Chile believes that there is a certain inconsistency between the affirmation of the existence of solutions to combat pollution and the examples listed at the end of the paragraph. Ratifications of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol and the international entry into force of the Minamata Convention on Mercury could be a source for successful examples in countries, cities and private enterprise, as the wording goes; but we estimate that these are not in themselves. It would be necessary to look for a new wording that lists national initiatives, such as decontamination plans, or local ones, such as the rational elimination of waste that can be manifested, and which surely already exists;
- d) Number 4 contains a cause and effect relationship that we do not understand very well. Why, when tackling pollution, it will contribute to sustainable development on a national scale by fighting against poverty, improving health, etc.? Is it not that all these actions - including tackling pollution - will contribute to sustainable development? We believe that the wording is poor and could be improved if said that, for example, *Furthermore, we considered that that tackling pollution as well as fighting poverty, improving health, creating decent jobs, improving life below water and on land and reducing global warming will contribute to national sustainable development;*
- e) In number 8, letter j, Chile thinks it ambitious to think that the environment ministers can propose fiscal incentives, if there is not adequate coordination with the ministers of finance, as the case may be;
- f) In the case of letter m, Chile agrees that South-South cooperation is desirable, but it is not understandable why the wording of this paragraph is limited to this type of cooperation, considering that North-South cooperation is the one that currently finances the vast majority of programs and projects emanating from or related to legally binding agreements or voluntary initiatives in the field of the environment. Two good examples are: Strategic Approach on Chemicals Management (SAICM) and the Special Program on Institutional Strengthening;



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g) Finally, Chile agrees, that the declaration is extensive and that in many of the actions the minister's commitment may exceed their powers. Likewise it is believed that it would be advisable, that as far as possible, the statements contained in the document to be substantiated and that, notwithstanding the non-binding nature of the ministerial declaration, these can be constituted in documents that become debatable, in the framework of negotiations of legally binding instruments.

The Permanent Mission of Chile avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) and the Secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Nairobi, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

Secretariat of Governing Bodies  
Governance Affairs Office - UNEP

