

NGO MG speaking slot  
Leida Rijnhout chair MG NGO/ Co-chair MGFC  
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Thank you chair, dear delegates,

On this last day we would like to give you our thoughts on how this UNEA3 went. And we want to be honest with you, to express our concerns about the direction UNEA is going. We have a strong feeling that governments are losing hope in finding the right solution in the mandate they have in establishing strong policies, effective financial instruments, proper regulations and legal frameworks. More and more we see that governments and UN institutions, give their mandate away to the bigger corporations so they can develop their own rules of the game.

At the leadership dialogues, there were no seats for Major Groups, except for some banks and corporations.

During this UNEA, we saw a citizens-science leadership dialogue, without citizens! We experienced a science-policy Forum, with the main aim to serve the business opportunities. New approaches to combat pollution such as circular economy must be developed in a close collaboration with the civil society, yet the side event on this subject didn't include any representative of NGOs in the panel. Technological innovation is important, but achieving our goals will not be done without social innovation.

Some may see us as anti business, but be sure we are not! We are very happy that someone takes care of producing our laptops, shoes and coffee. But we only demand that all business activities are fair, equitable, accountable and sustainable, also with more emphasis on cooperatives, SMEs, start ups and the real green and fair trade enterprises.

Therefore we will continue to demand the leadership of those that truly and accountably represent the peoples, and those who give voice to the ones that cannot sit at the negotiation tables.

However, we remain concerned that, while some efforts are being made to address and improve the implementation of UNEA decisions by UNEP, the same is not the case for their implementation by states. Between now and UNEA-4 we would like to see discussion on the modalities for a transparent accountability mechanism that would encourage the effective delivery of the many commitments made by governments in this forum since 2012.

We, thousands of local organisations, stand ready to work with you, to mobilise citizens, to build bridges, and to lead and make the changes the planet and its peoples urgently need. A study last year stated that more than 70% of the implementation of the resolutions was done by civil society organisations.

And finally, let's hope that all the resolutions adopted here in Nairobi, will lead to revolutions in the field !