

OPENING REMARKS OF CHILE FOR THE FIRST INFORMAL SUBSTANTIVE CONSULTATION PURSUANT TO UNGA RESOLUTION 73/333

Thank you madame co-chair, ladies and gentlemen, and distinguished colleagues.

- Chile has actively participated in the discussion on how to strengthen the implementation of international environmental law and international environmental governance, recognizing the existence of gaps related to implementation and synergy between MEAs.
- In order to avoid reopening already settled discussions that complicate the discussions among Member States and to facilitate agreements in relation to the mandate established by resolution 73/333, Chile believes it necessary to focus efforts on drafting of the high-level political declaration in a way that fosters consensus and the success of this process.
- In this sense, Chile considers it is not advisable to reopen the discussion on the adoption of a new instrument or “global pact” that seeks to consolidate the principles of international environmental law. On the contrary, Chile expects a discussion in order to analyze, exchange points of view and reach an agreement regarding the content of said political declaration, which takes as its inspiring source: the Sustainable Development Goals and seeks to reaffirm the role of UNEP as the global environmental authority, as the group G77+China expressed.
- Likewise, and fully in line with GRULAC, we believe it is necessary to encourage and promote the work of already existing organizations and their different platforms, as well as the implementation and fulfillment of existing commitments under international environmental law and MEAs, aiming at the ambition related to closing gaps and improving means of implementation.

Madame co-chair.

- Chile is convinced about the transversal nature of environmental issues, and about the importance of promoting scientific and technical work and decision-making based on evidence.
- Regarding the document of the co-facilitators for this first session of informal substantive consultations, Chile acknowledges and appreciates the efforts in preparing a questionnaire in order to guide the discussion to the recommendations. However, we believe it is relevant to emphasize that, what is sought, is to agree on a document of a political nature and not an action plan.

Finally, in line with GRULAC, Chile would like to express its strong support to the multilateral system, which has been questioned in these difficult times of the COVID-19 pandemic and, in this case, this first substantive consultation is a valuable contribution in that direction.

Many thanks.