

## **UK COMMENTS FOR TE 151<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES**

### ***Report by the Executive Director.***

- I would like to thank UNEP for the summary of the implementation of its programme of work and key impacts.
- This highlights its integrity of the organisation in addressing global environmental challenges in a broad range of fields.
- Critically, we would like to thank UNEP for its response to Covid-19, in terms of messaging and evidence; support of member states and; adaptation to virtual functioning.

### ***Consultation on the Medium-Term Strategy 2021- 2025 and Programme of Work and Budget 2022-2023.***

The UK welcomes this next iteration of the strategy document for the MTS as an important step in producing an effecting and cohesive strategy.

- Again, the situational analysis highlights the need for UNEP's critical functions and the need of a multilateral system.
- We strongly support UNEP's approach to take on board lessons learned from the implementation of its previous MTS cycles:
  - The priority of aligning with UN system-wide imperatives, including the Secretary General's prevention agenda to ensure that, in increasingly complex contexts around the world UNEP contributes to the prevention and reduction of significant risks, is critical in the era of Covid. UNEP will have a key role in galvanising a green and resilient recovery from Covid.
  - On the 'UNEP transition to results-based management', it is important that UNEP is able to effectively communicate its results and impacts, to all actors: member states; citizens; civil society etc. It is also key to demonstrate and communicate value for money, especially given the financial impacts of Covid globally.
- We will follow up with written comments in relation to the draft document after this meeting.

### ***Progress update on the consultation process under the UN General Assembly resolution 73/333.***

- While UNEA-5 has been requested to prepare the foundations for a political declaration at its 5th session, the Environmental Assembly will have other important business to attend to. It will be important to ensure that this process does not overwhelm the 5th session.
- Negotiations on resolution 73/333 should not go beyond our expectations for a political declaration as part of the Stockholm +50 celebrations in 2022.
- The political declaration should:
  - Provide the opportunity for Heads of State and International Organizations to demonstrate the necessary political will;
  - Provide an urgently needed springboard for greater international collaboration;
  - Build on, and not duplicate or replace, existing structures and agreements;
  - Promote long lasting impact which can be monitored; and
  - Encourage greater implementation of existing international obligations, and agree greater cooperation between both countries and institutions to meet the challenge