



**7th meeting
of the Annual Subcommittee of the
Committee of Permanent Representatives of UNEP
12-16 October 2020**

*Closing statement on behalf of
the European Union and its Member States*

- Chair, Madam Executive Director, distinguished colleagues. I am honoured to deliver this statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.
- The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Executive Director and the UNEP Secretariat for the preparation of the 7th Annual Subcommittee meeting. We greatly appreciate the successful proceeding of the meeting, which thanks to the skilful leadership of the Chair and the Bureau of the CPR and the engagement of Member States and Stakeholders, has led to a significant progress in setting strategic directions for UNEP and advanced the preparations for the 5th meeting of the Environment Assembly. We are all the more pleased that we achieved this despite the challenges caused by the ongoing pandemic and the limitations of the virtual format.
- The EU and its Member States are fully supportive of the main directions of the draft Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2025, which will provide UNEP with a clear way forward in addressing the key global environmental challenges by setting actions for climate, nature and a pollution-free planet based on

sustainable consumption and production patterns. We are convinced that with the feedback received, the Secretariat will further improve the document to allow the CPR to conclude its work, so that the MTS, together with the Programme of Work and Budget, can be adopted at UNEA-5 in February next year.

- The EU and its Member States also welcome the convergence around the organisational aspects of UNEA-5. We would like to thank the UNEA Presidency for its constructive approach to tackle the pandemic-related obstacles while maintain the high level of ambition for the outcomes of UNEA-5. In that regard, the EU and its Member States express its full support to the Presidency for its inclusive and transparent process of preparing a Ministerial Declaration that we hope can be adopted in the February 2021 session of UNEA.
- The EU and its Member States also welcome that there seems to be a consensus and strong support for UNEP@50 being hold back- to-back with UNEA-5. We also welcome and thank delegations for expressing support to the Stockholm+50 meeting in the first semester of 2022.
- We would like to thank all parties actively participating in the CPR-based review, notably the co-facilitators, as well as the CPR Chair for leading us to a converging and consensual outcome. We are very pleased with the progress achieved, which will result in a substantial improvement of the effectiveness and efficiency of our work, notably during the inter-sessional period and contributing to even better sessions of UNEA. We look forward to sort out the remaining issue of names the meetings of the CPR in a timely manner and to conclude the process at UNEA-5, as mandated by the UNEA-4 decision 4/2.

- Mr Chair allow me to thank you and your team as well as the UNEP Secretariat assisting you in your very important duties and congratulate on the very adequate summary of this meeting.
- The EU and its Member States thank all the participants in the 7th Annual Subcommittee meeting for their engagement. We look forward to further constructive cooperation leading to a successful UNEA-5.

I thank you.