

Opening Statement

Thank you Co Chairs

My delegations aligns with the statement made by the representative of Belize on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).

We applaud the convening of the second substantive session of the Ad Hoc Open ended working group and thank you for your leadership in this process.

With respect to the discussions on possible options to address possible gaps in international environmental law and environment related instruments, we wish to stress the need to address in a comprehensive and coherent manner the challenges posed by environmental degradation in the context of sustainable development.

Accordingly, permit me to make three points

First: My delegation considers that an open, inclusive, constructive and transparent process is necessary for our deliberations.

Second: My country believes that these discussions are timely and notes that it is necessary to take account of the large body of work, agreements and deliberations on matters relevant to our work. It is in this vein that my delegation stresses that this process should not undermine existing agreements and legal frameworks but rather add value in terms of cohesion, coherence, synergies and effectiveness.

Third: Finally my delegation places great importance on the protection of the environment and the sustainable use of its resources. It is to this end that we acknowledge that our deliberations here constitute a significant undertaking that should be characterized by flexibility, good will and open minds.

We assure you of our full engagement and support in this process.

I thank you.

Intervention on Questions

Question 3 – Option that can be considered to address possible gaps or challenges relating to the implementation of existing rules and principles of international law

Question 4 – Options that can be considered to address possible gaps related to specific regulatory regimes or environment related instruments with a few to strengthening the implementation of international environment law.

Thank you Co chair

Permit me to go directly to the matters at hand

I will be very short as my intervention is consistent with my of the countries that spoke before me

Co -Chair, my delegation considers full implementation of Multilateral Environment Agreements are very important issue. Consistent with this view my delegation believes that a fundamental consideration in addressing the implementation gaps is enhanced access to means of implementation, namely finance, capacity building and technology transfer. As well as improved arrangements for compliance and enforcement.

These are particularly important for small developing countries who are in many instances will to implement but weak as they lack the necessary capacity to effectively do so.

Further my country believes that generation increased political will is imperative for addressing gaps in the implementation of MEAs.

We also posit that there is a need for the promotion of greater consolidation, interlinkages and synergies across regimes. As well as harmonization and simplification of reporting procedures and meaningful inclusion of all relevant stakeholders.

Accordingly, my delegation believes that targeted measures consistent with the points outlined would be useful in addressing gaps in implementation.

Question 4

In keeping with my country's position that this process should not undermine or duplicate existing agreements.

We believe that the pool of regulatory regimes are broad, wide ranging and relatively comprehensive. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we recognize the leading role of UNEP relative to the MEAs and the need for greater regime interactions.

We also caution against the tendency of greater fragmentation or consolidation of silo approaches especially in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

I thank you.