

Malaysia' statement at GPE, 18/3/2019 @11.35am

Thank you co – chair,

We would like to thank Govt and people of Kenya as well as UNEP for hosting this meeting. We too on the onset would like to extend our condolences to the Govt of NZ and Ethiopia as well as the families of the recent 2 tragedies that we have faced in a very short period of time.

Chair, while we underscore that natural resource is the sovereign right of each countries but we do highlight it is important that global environmental issues need a more inclusive cooperation and welcome the report presented to GA resolution 72/277. Malaysia supports the need to strengthen the overall governance of environmental issues given many science based reports that show the severity of environment, biodiversity and climate issues that we are facing that have far reaching ramification especially to the developing world.

While we acknowledge the gaps highlighted in the report, but we are at the moment keeping our options open to the way forward on the process as well as tangible possible instruments and its nature. Hence, we underscore as highlighted by some delegation we need to have a more common understanding on the gaps as well as operational issues of MEAs.

Chair, we would like to underscore in our work that a few principles adopted at the Rio Declaration must be upheld such as CBDR- RC and principle of equity incorporated in this process.

In this regard, we too recognize that the current process should not undermine all the current ongoing process of MEAs and this initiative should also look at gaps especially on the capacity for developing countries in implementing many of the MEAs due inadequate new and additional funding as well as technology transfer.

We too feel in our deliberations, while we need to address macro issues, but we too must look at specific emerging issues that need urgent actions -such as marine debris and plastic pollutions that had some concrete outcomes from UNEA 4.

Chair, Malaysia is ready to work with you and with all in the spirit of census - in moving this this process forward and address specific issues in later sessions guided by the questions listed by the co-chairs.

We will constructively so that our work leads to better global environmental governance on the many environmental challenges that we are facing.