

Statement by H.E. Mr. Hazem Shabat, Ambassador of the State of Palestine to the Republic of Kenya, and Permanent Representative to UNEP, UN-Habitat and UNON, Chairperson of the Group of 77 and China, Nairobi Chapter, at the first Joint Preparatory Retreat of the Bureaux of the UN Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives (UNON, Nairobi 9-10 June 2020)

Thank you, Mr. President, and I assure you the Group of 77 and China's full cooperation and without doubt my country Palestine. Thank you, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador Coimbra. Congratulations to Minister Rodriguez. Greetings to the excellencies, distinguished members of the Bureaux. As I said earlier UNEA 5 is taking place at a very critical timing, and the members of the Group of 77 and China will engage very actively to ensure that the aspiration outcomes are to the expectations from such central fora.

Thank you, Executive Director and your team, for the preparation of this important revised note, which am sure shall be given extensive consideration by the upcoming Committee of Permanent Representatives. As you know, the Group of 77 and China have been united on a number of fundamental positions that we believe are key in our collective endeavors addressing all global challenges that we tackle under the Sustainable Development Goals, in this context; the environment, climate change, and poverty eradication, and as highlighted in this note "Strengthening Actions for Nature". The unfortunate reality of the Covid-19 pandemic has proven beyond doubt that we always need to move forward together and leave no one behind when we thrive for global results.

The financial support to a number of developing countries coupled with technical aid that we have witnessed over the past months in an attempt to mitigate the unfortunate health and economic impacts and improve the capacity in tackling the challenges is a proof of the necessity of the Group of 77 and china's perspective in relation to the provision of means of implementation , technology transfer and funding.

We strongly believe that, on way forward, whether that may be in the context of the preparations for UNEA 5 and its resolutions or the MTS 2022-2025, should not lose sight of this important approach.

And while we recognize that the concept note has referred to the issue of means of implementation, we still believe it needs to be given a more central consideration in this exercise through out the action areas.

Thank you, Mr. President