

SUMMARY NOTE ON STATES STATEMENTS DURING THE SESSION ON THE 21- 23RD OF JULY 2020

Group 77 + China, represented by Palestine

General remarks

- The group insists on the need to implement existing covenants, with a special attention on means of implementation for developing countries.
- The declaration must reaffirm the Stockholm declaration of 1972, the Johannesburg declaration of 2002 and the principles of the Rio Declaration of 1992.
- The declaration will be an opportunity to accelerate the environmental agenda without creating new obligations

Opinion on principles: **Rather favourable**

- The declaration must reaffirm Rio principles
- And it must highlight the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities

Africa Group

General remarks

- Discussions must focus on means of implementation of existing multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially in developing countries.
- The group wants an action-oriented declaration.

Opinion on principles: **Unfavourable**

- The issues related to International Environmental law don't come from the lack of principles.
- The group highlights the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities

Group of Latin America and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC)

General remarks

- The group calls for an action-oriented declaration, that would reinforce the implementation of International Environmental law.
- This declaration should not undermine existing frameworks.
- It is the only group of States to refer to the term "nature".

Opinion on principles: **Rather favourable**

- The GRULAC wants a declaration that reminds the idea that living beings must live in harmony. This idea should be the guide for resolving environmental issues.
- Recalls the Rio principles.
- And the GRULAC emphasizes the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Algeria

General remarks

- Algeria declares that this process should not be eternally postpone. Algeria argues that it is urgent to reach the environmental objectives.
- Algeria wants a clear and efficient implementation of existing frameworks.

Opinion on principles: **Did not address this matter**

- Algeria highlights the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Australia

General remarks

- Australia is concerned on both the direction and practicality of the consultation process.

Opinion on principles: **Did not address this matter**

- Australia wants a non-legally-binding political declaration.

Brazil

General remarks

- Brazil recalls that **sustainable development itself will not be reached unless poverty is eradicated.**
- A political declaration must strengthen international cooperation and solidarity towards the implementation of the existing texts.

Opinion on principles: **Did not address this matter**

- The declaration must focus on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- Brazil highlights the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities: developing countries should be able to receive larger assistance.

China

General remarks

- China would be favourable to a declaration during the COP 15 (Convention on Biological diversity) in China in 2021.
- Developing countries should receive larger assistance.

Opinion on principles: **Rather favourable**

- China recalls the principle of harmonization between economy, social development and environmental protection.
- China insists on the common but differentiated responsibilities, and on the State sovereignty principles.

Chile

General remarks

- Chile affirms the need to encourage and to promote the work of organization and existing MEAs.
- Chile wants a consensual political declaration, which takes as its inspiring source the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Opinion on principles: **Rather unfavourable**

- Chile asserts that it is not advisable to reopen the discussion on a global pact for the environment to strengthen the principles of international environmental law.

Colombia

General remarks

- Colombia wants to strengthen environment governance.
- Colombia calls for a strong political declaration that supports the implementation of international environment law and the success of sustainable development.

Opinion on principles: **Favourable**

- The future declaration will be the occasion to reinforce the existing principles, and to promote coherence between existing environmental instruments.

Egypt

General remarks

- Virtual meetings modalities are not inclusive enough and do not permit transparency in the process.
- Existing agreements must be implemented in a better way.
- Synergy and complementarity between the MEAs is necessary.

Opinion on principles: **Rather favourable**

- Egypt highlights the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities.
- Egypt emphasizes on the equity principle, the right to sustainable development and poverty eradication.

European Union and Member States

General remarks

- The EU wants an ambitious political declaration that reinforces the implementation between governance and international environment law.
- This political declaration must encourage coordination and cooperation between MEAs.

Opinion on principles: **Favourable**

- EU and member States insist on the fact that principles lead to a better implementation of international environment law.

Ethiopia

General remarks

- The political declaration must reflect the progress in the conceptualisation and the practice of sustainable development by the international community.
- The political declaration must renew the efforts on all levels to increase the implementation of existing MEAs.

Opinion on principles: Did not address this matter

- Ethiopia asserts the need for an action-oriented declaration.

Kenya

General remarks

- The declaration must be adopted during the 50 years' anniversary of the UNEP.

Opinion on principles: Did not address this matter

- Kenya wants a declaration that implements the 2030 Agenda.

Japan

General remarks

- The political declaration must be the opportunity for States to show their strong political will to reinforce international environment law and governance in order to face environmental issues.
- This consultation must be the occasion to implement concrete actions and how these actions can be formulated in the political declaration.

Opinion on principles: Did not address this matter

- Japan wants a political declaration that focuses on the established recommendations in the resolution.

India

General remarks

- The political declaration must demonstrate the needed political will for the international community for international cooperation towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
- India calls for a strong political declaration

Opinion on principles: Did not address this matter

- India wants a declaration that implements the 2030 Agenda
- The implementation of existing MEAs is the main issue.

New-Zealand

General remarks

- Discussions must focus on the content of the future political declaration
- The political declaration must recognize and support the existing framework of international environmental law

Opinion on principles: Favourable

- New Zealand states that the political declaration is a good opportunity to implement international environmental law principles

Switzerland

General remarks

- Switzerland calls for a concise and light process
- Switzerland wants a draft political declaration during the next informal meeting

Opinion on principles: **Did not address this matter**

- Wants a consensual declaration

Turkey

General remarks

- Wants a draft project during the next meeting
- The declaration must adhere to a right-based approach on development, sustainability and resilience

Opinion on principles: **Did not address this matter**

- Turkey wants a general and concise political declaration. It must avoid technical details and be accessible to the public

United Kingdom

General remarks

- It must provide the opportunity for Heads of State and International Organizations to demonstrate the necessary political will
- It must Provide an urgently needed springboard for greater international collaboration
- It must have a long-lasting impact
- It must encourage a larger implementation of existing international obligations, and agree on a wider cooperation between states and institutions.

Opinion on principles: **Did not address this matter**