



## REPUBLIC OF KENYA

### MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE and FORESTRY

#### State Department for Environment and Climate Change

#### Kenya Statement at Cop 11, Antananarivo Madagascar

- Ms Elizabeth Mrema-United Nations Assistant Secretary General, Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- His Excellency Max Andonirina Fontaine- Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Republic of Madagascar
- Excellency Ministers from the Republic of Mauritius; Seychelles; Somalia; Tanzania
- Excellency Ministers Representatives from the Republic of Comoros; France; Mozambique and South Africa
- Susan Gardener- Ecosystems Division's Director, UNEP
- National Focal Points
- Head of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat
- Partners
- Distinguished Delegates

#### Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of Kenya. I thank the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development of Madagascar for this opportunity.
2. Kenya would like to thank the Government of Madagascar for the warm welcome and the Nairobi Convention Secretariat for the preparations in making this COP 11 successful.

3. The last two days have been extremely busy and demanding on all. We have had very tenacious yet productive negotiations where decisions of regional import have been agreed upon.
4. While I recognize that it was not easy, we managed to collectively build consensus on the resolutions.

### **Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates**

5. Kenya commits to play its role as a member of the Contracting Parties to make the achievement of the Nairobi Convention a reality.
6. Kenya is pleased to report that it has ratified the Amended Nairobi Convention and the Protocol for the Protection of Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Sources and Activities and is fast tracking the process of depositing the same to the relevant repository and thereafter communicating the same to the Convention and on the BBNJ, Kenya would like to report that it is in the process of signing and ratification.
7. Further, Kenya is actively participating in the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment and aligns with the position advanced by the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and reiterates that the treaty text gives adequate priority to implications of plastic pollution on marine pollution and biodiversity loss as further emphasized by the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The treaty should prioritize interventions related to prevention, reduction, and working towards eliminating plastic Pollution.
8. Kenya appreciates the gravity of the impact of primary plastic polymers and the dire need to address it urgently in the plastics pollution treaty and we urge Contracting Parties to exercise extreme flexibility while negotiating on this critical aspect.
9. Kenya also notes that most plastics pollution within the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region emanates from poor waste management including legacy plastics, and hence this remains a key area of intervention within the African region. These aspects are unique to

- all developing countries and is a key area that should be agreed upon in the ongoing negotiations in the global plastics pollution treaty.
10. Kenya also reiterates the resolution by the AMCEN 2023 meeting in Addis Ababa on hosting of Plastics Secretariat at UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi and requests the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention to support the AMCEN position.

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11. With regard to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Kenya is undertaking a rigorous process of aligning its National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) to the KM GBF and setting National targets including targets on marine and coastal biodiversity.
12. Further, we have submitted our National NBSAP targets to the CBD Secretariat and will be part of the consideration in the report for the COP 16 in Colombia in October 2024 and further Kenya will submit its completed National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) with a clear implementation and monitoring plan by the CBD COP 16.
13. Kenya notes that the WIO Regional Climate Change Strategy is in line with Kenya's broader environmental and climate change policies, which prioritize regional cooperation and the mainstreaming of climate concerns into all aspects of environmental and marine biodiversity protection. Kenya is in the process of developing its strategy in line with the regional strategy.

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14. Kenya has been actively involved in shaping the continent's climate agenda. The African Union Climate Change Strategy is a crucial framework for coordinating climate action across Africa, and Kenya's support for this decision reflects its commitment to regional cooperation in addressing climate change.
15. The Africa Climate Summit, hosted by Kenya in 2023, was a landmark event that set the stage for increased climate action across

- the continent. The outcomes of the summit, along with the 2023 Moroni Declaration, emphasize the need for collective action on climate change, with a focus on finance, adaptation, and resilience.
16. Kenya, therefore supports the engagement at the level of the African Union Climate Change Strategy implementation and uphold the outcomes of the 2023 Africa Climate Summit and the 2023 Moroni Declaration. This position reflects Kenya's leadership in regional and global climate initiatives and its commitment to ensuring that climate action is effective, inclusive, and aligned with the continent's development goals.
  17. Kenya pledges its continuous support to the Nairobi Convention which is also reflected in its payment of the annual contribution which has been surpassed.
  18. We would like to thank all the Partners for their support in the implementation of programmes and contributing to the objectives of the Convention and look forward to continued collaboration and engagement.
  19. I wish all of us fruitful deliberations today even as we discuss and adopt decisions that will make the Regional collaboration stronger.

Thank You