

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



PRIME MINISTER

Dr. Edouard Ngirente

Rwanda's Statement at the 6th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)

Nairobi, Kenya 29 February 2024

- **Your Excellency William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya and our host;**
- **Excellencies Heads of State and Government;**
- **Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);**
- **President of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA);**
- **Distinguished delegates;**

1. It is a pleasure to be back in Nairobi to attend the 6th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly representing His Excellency Paul Kagame, the President of the Republic of Rwanda.
2. I wish to thank our host, President William Ruto, the Government and people of Kenya, for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to us.

3. I also congratulate the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for successfully convening this important Assembly.

- **Excellencies,**

4. As we gather here today for this sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, it is high time to adopt effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

5. We all agree that addressing the current global environmental challenges, requires efficient and collective international cooperation.

6. It is a reminder to all of us that multilateral system, is critical to overcoming the social, economic and environmental shocks threatening life on this planet.

- 7.** It is also an opportunity to showcase the power of multilateralism to deliver timely, inclusive, science-based solutions to the planet's gravest environmental threats.
- 8.** Rwanda is a signatory to over 16 multilateral environment agreements. We have domesticated them and effectively monitor on their implementation. I am glad to mention that we comply to ALL the obligations in those agreements.
- 9.** Building on the positive impact of UNEA over many years, our task is to align our contributions. Our decisions this week will shape the legacy we leave for generations to come.
- 10.** One of the lessons we have acquired during the decades' long journey of enforcing various environmental agreements is that national efforts

alone cannot save the environment from this ever growing pollution.

11. It is in this regard that Rwanda stands with members of the High Ambition Coalition to call for a global target to reduce plastic production to sustainable levels, along with a dedicated fund to deliver the means of implementation.

- **Excellencies,**

12. We must carry forward the “Nairobi spirit” that was present at the 5th UNEA and build on the resolutions and commitments made during that critical session, including the plastics treaty resolution co-authored by Peru and Rwanda.

13. Our joint candidacy to host the diplomatic conference, known as "**KigaLima**," aims to speed up progress towards a life free from plastic pollution, and we ask for your support.

14. The future is in our hands, and therefore let's make it worthy of the hopes and aspirations of future generations, with concrete and sustainable actions.

Thank you for your kind attention.