Intervention by Minister of Environment Dr Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya

INC-4 Opening Plenary

Excellencies.

Good afternoon.

I would like to thank Minister Guilbeault and the people of Canada for your warm hospitality here in Ottawa.

We are at a critical point in the negotiations and I would like to encourage all Member States to bring the same spirit of ambition present when Resolution 5/14 was adopted at UNEA 5.2.

Rwanda would like to thank the Chair for his proposal on the organisation of work and we support this approach. We have no time to waste, and need to move forward collaboratively and collectively.

I would also like to add Rwanda’s voice to the African Statement, and emphasise that the vast majority of African Member States support a reduction in plastic production to sustainable levels.

I would also like to echo the statement made by Malawi on behalf of the High Ambition Coalition. More than 60 countries of the Coalition want to see the most ambitious treaty possible.

Our task here in Ottawa is to make progress on the items where we have significant consensus, including problematic and avoidable plastics.

The treaty will only be effective if we have global, legally binding and time bound targets.

In Rwanda, we sign performance contracts, known as Imihigo, as a promise to citizens to achieve the goals we have set together.

Let us do the same through this treaty and end plastic pollution together - once and for all.

Finally, I would like to humbly request your support for Rwanda and Peru’s joint candidature to host the Diplomatic Conference in Kigali and an Early Action Conference in Lima.

The KigaLima submission is a collaboration that signifies more than just a combination of our capitals. It embodies a shared spirit and dedication to drive substantive progress in environmental multilateralism. We welcome your support.

Thank you Chair.