Anglais 1-1

Réunion : 50è anniversaire du PNUE

Date: février 2022

<u>Durée</u> : 7.58

Orateur : M. Kenyatta, Président du Kenya

Difficulté : niveau 1

<u>Introduction</u>: Au premier semestre 2022 le Président du Kenya intervient au cours d'un sommet consacré à l'environnement. Il y évoque le cinquantenaire du PNUE (Programme de Nations Unies pour l'Environnement, UNEP en anglais) et la lutte contre les changements climatiques.

Eléments à fournir (vocabulaire) :

UNEP	PNUE
United Nations Environment Program	Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

Today, we honor the foresight of our pioneer leaders, whose desire was to pass on an unbroken chain that binds us, one generation to another.

Almost 50 years ago, they converged at the United Nations Human Environmental Conference of 1972, which we refer to as the Stockholm Conference.

Their noble act then was inspired by their recognition that every action we take alters the earth that future generations will inherit. They were determined to

respond to the need of multilateral cooperation and usher in collective action for addressing the global environmental crisis.

That conference, and those that followed, leading to today's meeting, proved to be a turning point in how the community of nations views sustainable development. They have impacted significantly on the international environmental matters discourse and set us on the path upon which we find ourselves today.

On the 15th of December 1972, our shared goal of protecting the environment gave rise to the United Nations Environmental Program. And today, we have congregated here at the kickoff of the event commemorating 50 years of the existence of UNEP.

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

This commemoration event is important. It affords us an opportunity for both celebration as well as reflection.

The reality that we face today is sobering. We mark this event at a time when the world is striving to find ways to address record levels of environmental degradation, food insecurity, poverty, as well as unemployment.

Indeed, projections for future generations are bleak, demanding urgent and decisive action from us today. It is increasingly evident that environmental crises

are part of the journey ahead. Wildfires, hurricanes, high temperature records, unprecedented winter chills, plagues of locusts, floods, and droughts have become so commonplace, and they do not always make our news headlines.

These increasing adverse weather and climatic occurrences sound a warning bell that calls on all of us to attend to the three planetary crises that threaten our collective future, and that is: the climate crisis, the biodiversity and nature crisis, and the pollution and waste crisis.

This commemoration therefore is an opportunity for introspection, as well as correction. We should take transformative remedial actions, make correct financial, as well as social decisions, and change course when necessary.

In promoting our social and economic development agenda, we must strictly adopt the principles of sustainable development and protecting biodiversity.

This commemoration allows us to once again take stock.

We reaffirm the relevance of UNEP's global environmental mandate and its multilateral agenda. We also give due recognition to the demonstrated science, knowledge, expertise, and innovation that has been provided by UNEP in the past, in the present, and indeed in the future.

The role UNEP plays in offering global leadership in the management of international environmental matters is fundamental. And it must be fundamental if we are to realize our aspirations for the environment and sustainable development.

Through UNEP, we collectively address the environmental challenges facing humankind. Indeed, the strides taken so far towards safeguarding the environment are testament to UNEP's work. UNEP has had a lasting impact on how we care for our environment, nature, as well as our livelihoods.

So, excellencies, distinguished guests, distinguished delegates,

As a country, Kenya' commitment to the environment is unwavering. We acknowledge the sustainable development goals and our agenda 2030, and we also acknowledge that these cannot be realized if we leave our environment out of the equation.

The environment holds and can provide solutions to most of the challenges we face as humanity.

Kenya is the world's environmental capital, and we are proud to host the United Nations environmental program headquarters in our country.

I also wish to take this opportunity to call upon all the people and nations of the world to increase their commitments and actions towards safeguarding our environment. Join me today in pledging support to strengthen UNEP and its activities.

Thank you for your kind attention