

**Side Event: Towards a UN Roadmap for Sustainable Nitrogen Management, 2020-2022**

7 October 2019, Conference Room 9, UNEP HQs, Nairobi, Kenya



**Background:**

The side event was organized on the margins of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Subcommittee meeting of UNEP's Committee of Permanent Representatives, as a follow-up to the Resolution on Sustainable Nitrogen Management adopted by the Fourth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) in March 2019.

**Discussions:**

- **Ms Monika MacDevette**, Deputy Director, Ecosystems Division, UNEP welcomed the participants to the side event and provided a background of the side event with reference to the UNEA4 resolution;
- **Prof. Mark Sutton**, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology highlighted the urgent need for improved nitrogen science and policy coordination. He raised the potential to #HalveNitrogenWaste by 2050, which could lead to business opportunities for circular economy innovation;
- **H.E. Mr. Rahul Chabbra**, High Commissioner & Permanent Representative to UNEP, India reiterated the leadership of the Government of India on Sustainable Nitrogen Management with the adoption of the UNEA4 Resolution. He shared an interesting example of encouraging six million farming households in Andhra Pradesh, a state in India, to adopt natural farming by 2022-2024;
- **H.E. Mr. Sunil de Silva**, High Commissioner and Permanent Representative High to UNEP, Sri Lanka highlighted the upcoming launch of the UN Global Campaign Launch on Nitrogen Management on 23 – 24 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, under the patronage of H.E. **Maithripala Sirisena**, President of Sri Lanka. He shared a draft of the Colombo Declaration on Sustainable Nitrogen Management;
- **Mr. Javier Arribas-Quintana**, European Commission referred to the pollution abatement policy under the upcoming new Green Deal for Europe, and the need to create awareness among practitioners and policy makers on managing nutrients correctly as a win-win option for farms and the environment. He referred to the upcoming EU/ECE guidance document on integrated sustainable nitrogen management, including outcomes of a recent workshop in Brussels on the guidance document;
- **Mr. Mahesh Pradhan**, Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM), UNEP provided an update on the Roadmap for Action on Sustainable Nitrogen Management 2020-2022 comprising of 4 focus areas: Coordination of nitrogen policies and evidence; Options for better nitrogen management; Coordination of assessment for nitrogen; Training, capacity building & awareness raising.