Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sweden aligns itself with the statement made yesterday on behalf of the European Union and its member states.

As many others have pointed out it is essential to make sure that all three dimensions of sustainability are truly integrated into the post-2015 framework and relevant SDGs. We must make sure that we do not repeat the mistake of the MDGs where environment was not properly addressed.

Sweden’s main priority areas in terms of the environmental dimension are sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems and sustainable water use.

The Swedish Government has just presented a comprehensive national strategy for biodiversity and ecosystem services with ten ambitious national targets. This strategy also present ways forward for the Swedish national work against wildlife crime. Yesterday’s discussion clearly shows that more action is needed in this important area that is closely linked to sustainable development.

Sustainable production and consumption including chemicals and waste are also important issues that should be mainstreamed under relevant SDGs. Sound management of chemicals and waste is highly
relevant for all three dimensions of sustainable development since it brings environmental, social and economical benefits.

Sweden also attaches high priority to sustainable management of marine and coastal eco-systems, oceans and fisheries. These issues need to be given a prominent place in the Post 2015 agenda.

Lastly it is of great importance that climate change is strongly integrated throughout the new framework.

Thank you Mr chair