The Office of the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic presents its compliments to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, and with reference to the UNEP’s note dated 1st June pertaining to the draft Ministerial Declaration to be presented during the 2017 United Nations Environment Assembly (Nairobi, 4 to 6 December 2017) has the honour to propose the following:

1. Under the Subsection “Vision” there should be a reference to the importance of combating terrorism as it constitutes one of the main factors undermining the achievement of sustainable development and causing dire consequences to the environment. Member states should be supported, also, in their efforts to address the damages, the environmental pollution, and the destruction of infrastructure and services assets resulting from the terrorist acts.

2. Under the subsection “transformative steps and actions” there should be a reference to the necessity of lifting the unilateral economic coercive measures imposed on developing countries as these have so many negative impacts on their capacities as well as their national plans of action aiming at achieving sustainable development and reducing the environmental pollution.

The Office of the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi the assurances of its highest considerations.