

Benin is confronted with many environmental problems such as deforestation, marine ecosystems degradation, and bad management of solid and toxic material. To protect the natural ecosystems, our Government has elaborated and implemented policies, plans, programs and strategies. Many challenges still remain.

According to the Action Program of Benin Government, the preservation of the natural resources and the well-being of the populations constitute a major priority. This vision is in accordance with the Assembly's overarching theme: **Innovative Solutions for Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Consumption and Production.**

We thank UN-Environment for its assistance in the context of the sustainable management of the environmental resources. We went through the draft outline. It is an honor for us to send you our inputs which we think, will assist you in developing a zero draft ministerial outcome document.

### Comment

**MAIN PRIORITY 1: ensure the transparency, accountability and comparability of global environmental data and develop science-policy-business partnerships on innovative data technologies and digital solutions.**

This priority is very important. In fact, many policies, plans and programs are elaborated but do not integrate the questions linked to the management of environmental data. The Weak national capacity on environmental data management, impacts negatively the sound management of the environment and achievement of the SDG. **So Benin welcomes all the points of this priority.**

In matter of environmental data management, all environment resources must be taken into account. That is why we would like you to put "**marine ecosystems deterioration**", "**marine species habitats degradation**" just after "**deforestation**" (first point of the priority 1)

**MAIN PRIORITY 2: Foster sustainable and efficient resource management by promoting decarbonisation, detoxification, *deacidification* and decoupling of resource use, to enhance ecosystems resilience and protection of the planet's natural systems.**

Put, just after "**decarbonisation and detoxification**", "***deacidification***"

Moreover, it is very important to add the following points to the **priority 2:**

- 1- *Promote integrated management of the marine and coastal zones through the Marine Spatial Plan and to combat ocean pollution and coastal erosion.***
- 2- *Promote sustainable cities.***
- 3- *As far as SAICM development is concerned, Benin has elaborated in accordance with the global SAICM, its national SAICM in the environmental, agricultural and industrial sector. The strategies elaborated are poorly implemented because of the limited means/resources. So it will be appropriate to engage and assist Benin in accelerating the implementation and the follow-up of the strategies.***
- 4- *It is also necessary to assist our country in evaluating the implementation of SAICM).***

Benin welcomes the last point of this priority. *In this way, the countries must be assisted to accelerate the implementation of the AICHI target. Engage for instance, the countries in organizing the national consultations to this effect. (Identify an action plan).*

**MAIN PRIORITY 3:** support robust engagement of civil society, *(NGO)* citizens and academia in promoting innovative approaches for meeting global environmental challenges and sustainable production and consumption.

**ADD THE FOLLOWING POINTS:**

- 1- Reinforce the capacities of the municipalities on the sustainable tourism*
- 2- Ensure access to basic and Environmental Education (formal and informal) Worldwide and promote sustainable lifestyle through a wider uptake of innovative approaches in education*
- 3- Promote and raise awareness for Sustainable Development Education*