New Zealand views on the draft outline of the Ministerial Outcome Document for UNEA-4

New Zealand thanks UNEP for preparing the draft outline of the Ministerial Outcome document for UNEA-4. The draft identifies a number of important areas and is a good basis for input from Parties.

We would like to make the following suggestions.

We believe that the document could benefit from more emphasis on the need to engage the private sector, so suggest a new bullet point be added under “Main priority 2” along the lines of:

- Work with the private sector to develop new ways to encourage private, as well as public, investment in, and contributions to, environmental solutions.

We also believe that environmental issues should be addressed in trade agreements and suggest that a further bullet point be added under “Main priority 2” along the lines of:

- Promote the inclusion of environment chapters in international trade agreements that encourage sustainable consumption and production.

Environmentally harmful subsidies remain a significant issue for the environment and one that needs to be explicitly mentioned. New Zealand suggests that the following bullet point be added under “Main priority 2”:

- Accelerate progress towards ending environmentally harmful fossil fuel, fisheries and agriculture subsidies.

Climate change and agricultural technologies are another topic worth flagging in this declaration. We suggest the following bullet point be added under “Main priority 2”:

- Promote new technologies and innovations that enable climate-friendly agricultural practices and policies.

We suggest that the third bullet point under “Main priority 2” be added to in order to more fully recognise the importance connections with the SDGs:

- Fully implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, in conjunction with Agenda 2030 and the
**Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 12, Responsible Consumption and Production**

New Zealand holds that the range of stakeholders listed under “Main priority 3” should be more detailed. We suggest the following text:

- Main priority 3: Support robust engagement of civil society, **indigenous peoples, business, citizens (particularly women and youth)** and academia in promoting innovative approaches for meeting global environmental challenges and sustainable production and consumption.

We would like to suggest some slight changes to the final bullet point under “Main priority 2” to better reflect the work under way in the Convention on Biological Diversity:

- Commit to accelerate the implementation of the Aichi Targets and consider a new time frame going beyond 2020, to improve the health of the world’s ecosystems and to participate in the preparatory process for the development of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Finally, under the 4th bullet point under “Main priority 1” we suggest the following minor addition:

- Engage regions, countries and municipalities to collect and analyze environmental data, and develop technologies and apps and make scientific discoveries including through citizen science.