What would you, as government/organization/stakeholder, welcome as the most important elements and/or key messages from the ministers in the declaration to address the theme in an impactful manner?

We have suffered from the devastating effects of the irrational use of biological diversity through COVID-19, which originated from wildlife consumption. In the other hand, this pandemic has taught us that humanity has the ability of stopping its unreasonable races toward the exhaustion of Mother Earth’s carrying capacity. These two months of global lockdown have drastically reduced pollution levels in many megacities, and many natural ecosystems are revived by the shutdown of economic activities. Nevertheless, we have to prepare ourselves with a new socio-economic model, in order to implement an efficient and effective Green New Deal.

How can the Environment Assembly make a significant contribution to Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Goals at a global scale? In doing so, you may take into account the preparation for the meeting, its conduct and follow-up, as well as its relationship to other meetings and processes.

The Environment Assembly should be able to communicate the concerns of vulnerable countries like Madagascar, facing the erosion of biodiversity, climate change and the emergence of urban and industrial pollutions. About biodiversity, the CBD’s Post-2020 Agenda must strengthen actions and resources mobilization toward enhanced security of biodiversity hotspots. Trades in wild flora and fauna always have harmful effects on ecosystems, sometimes unpredictable to humans, as we currently learn from COVID-19. No country in the world should accept illegal wildlife trade anymore; and people from the most affected countries must be supported in the way toward sustainable development, so that they no longer recourse to such harmful practices.

Against climate change, the Environment Assembly must move toward an effective mobilization of means of implementation and resources, in order to concretize the objectives of the Paris Agreement and related decisions, including the provision of 100 billion dollars per year before the end of 2020. Madagascar awaits a RETROACTIVE CATCH-UP MODEL for the Green Fund replenishment since 2016, accompanied by an effective Transparency Framework in the Paris Agreement Rule Book. Madagascar is also awaiting capacity building and tangible advances in technology transfer, so that its population efficiently reaches a model of sustainable development, emits less greenhouse gases, and reduce climate risks.

* RETROACTIVE CATCH-UP MODEL: The Paris Agreement has entered in force since Nov. 4, 2016 and recommends 100 billion USD per year before 2020. As at 3 February 2020, a total of US$10.3 billion has been pledged and US$8.24 billion confirmed. The model proposed by Madagascar plans to account for the gaps since 2016 and to feed the Green Fund accordingly to this gaps, with a reinforced Transparency Framework.

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