China’s Comments to the Draft Inputs of UNEA to the HLPF on Sustainable Development

China’s position is that this report to the HLPF is based on the outcomes of UNEA, and shall be restrained to discussions within UNEA. The current document includes contents beyond UNEA discussions and its authorized contents, and therefore needs further re-edit. China would like to reiterate that data quoted in this document should be accurate, scientifically-based, while authorized or approved by UN authority or Member States.

1. Page 2, section (a), Paragraph 2:

On the other hand, more than 90% of all pollution-related deaths occur in low and middle income countries, with pollution accounting for up to one in four deaths in rapidly industrializing countries like Bangladesh, China, India, Kenya, Madagascar and Pakistan.

China requests to delete this sentence.

2. Page 2, section (a), last paragraph:

Every day, 9 out of 10 of us breathe air in which concentrations of air pollution exceed the limits set out in the World Health Organization’s air
quality guidelines and more than 17,000 people will die prematurely as a consequence.

China request to delete this sentence or re-craft the expression to be accurate and science-based.

3. Page 8, paragraph 4

Rapid economic development in countries like China and India is creating a growing middle class which creates greater demand for goods and services. Such consumption and production patterns will push the planet outside a ‘safe operating space’ and undermine its resilience.

China requests to delete the underlined sentence above. This sentence and its context may easily create a biased interpretation where major consumptions of resources by the developed countries are neglected and the development of countries from the south held responsible for resource deficiency.