

## Submission by the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection on the Draft Outline Document for the Ministerial Outcome Document of the 2021 UN Environment Assembly

The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, **chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa**, welcomes the important work of the UNEP Secretariat and, in reference to the President's letter calling for inputs on Ministerial Declaration from Member States and Stakeholders for the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly, would like to share the following elements:

1. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection would like to emphasize the importance of meaningfully taking into account the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular when it comes to the most vulnerable. In that regard, the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection has facilitated several digital activities to raise awareness and build capacities in the context of a green recovery that leaves no one behind. As an example, the Foundation took part in and organized several webinars, including one in official partnership with UNEP and the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises on “Consuming and producing sustainability to build back for the green future we want for Africa” in the context of the celebration of the World Environment Day in June 2020.
2. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection would like to highlight the critical role of Education for, by and around Sustainable Development as a transformational lever for action. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection would also like to caution against silos and recall the central aspect of the “Education for Sustainable Development: Towards achieving the SDGs (ESD for 2030)” framework that was adopted by the 40<sup>th</sup> UNESCO General Conference in November 2019.
3. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection would like to underline the importance of responding to and amplifying the voices and actions of Youth in the context of a positive and impact oriented intergenerational approach to inspire and support sustainable behaviours, in particular when it comes to “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable development Goals”
4. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection would like to put forward the critical role that the sea and the ocean, including through marine and aquatic ecosystems, have for sustainable development for all. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection has been particularly involved in the sea and the ocean through activities on the beaches and coasts of Morocco since its

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creation. From 1999 to 2020, the activities of the foundation have focused on awareness raising, education and capacity building of all partners at all levels (national, local, governmental, civil society, private sector, schools, universities, etc.) as well as rigorous science-based decision-making processes.

5. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection calls for action against plastic marine litter. For example, the Foundation has launched the first campaign in Morocco against Plastic Marine Litter in 2019: #bha7blablastik. Through that campaign:

- a. 1.4 Million People were mobilized, particularly Youth.
- b. Almost 500 tons of plastic litter were collected on 70 beaches
- c. 50 000 actions were carried out jointly for the benefit of beach visitors; awareness campaigns on plastic pollution, cleaning, and fun activities (workshop, entertainment, etc.).

Furthermore, the Foundation supports the United Nations of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and hopes for meaningful convergence between the Ministerial Outcome Document and that decade.

6. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection supports the impactful consideration of Climate Change as a critical aspect that must be addressed while promoting Sustainable Development.
7. The Mohammed VI Foundation would like to express its strong support for an inclusive process throughout the fifth UN Environment Assembly. The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection took part in the Act #ForNature global online forum that took place on 8–10 June and found it to be a useful space of exchange and learning. Furthermore, a representative of the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection was elected in June 2020 Regional Facilitator of Major Groups and Stakeholders, Africa.
8. Finally, the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection would also like to invite all relevant stakeholders to recognize and highlight the key role of UNEP in global environmental governance, in particular in the context of its upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, including through the Ministerial Outcome Document of the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly.