



5 March 2021

World Federation for Animals Statement UNEP Input to the 2021 High Level Political Forum

We welcome the inclusion of the One Health approach and the recognition of the "intimate relationship among humans, animals and the environment." While recognizing the need to retain broadly agreed concepts in this document, we would nonetheless like to bring attention to the complementary concept of "[One Welfare](#)". One Welfare expands the framework laid out by One Health, recognizing that this intimate relationship between humans, animals and the environment encompasses more than health alone. For example, the wellbeing of animals is also critically tied to food security and livelihoods. We believe that when examining progress on the SDGs in particular that the One Welfare provides a more holistic lens through which to examine barriers and identify solutions.

In general, we believe that given the SDGs under review at the 2021 High Level Political Forum (HLPF), and the weight of the Food Systems Summit that will follow it and surely be a topic of interest at the HLPF, that an increased focus on sustainable food systems, both from the demand and supply side, is warranted in the input.

Lastly, numerous recent reports, including UNEP's *Preventing the Next Pandemic*, the IPBES Pandemics report, and the Chatham House Report on Food System Impacts on Biodiversity have brought the impact of agricultural intensification on biodiversity loss, deforestation and zoonotic risk to the forefront. It is important that recommendations or inputs such as the one under discussion are in line with the science which demonstrates the links between habitat loss and zoonotic risk, and the continued and growing risk of agricultural intensification. Additionally, other relevant reports have identified the negative social costs of agricultural intensification, such as the Committee on Food Security High Level Panel of Experts' 10th Report: "*Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock*".

(d) Cooperation, measures and commitments at all levels in promoting sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;

In addition to the five points raised in this section, we would suggest:

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6. Multilateral and international development banks assess and redistribute financing, eliminating the financing of projects that contribute to agricultural intensification, habitat loss, deforestation or exploitation of wildlife and instead financing the transformation to sustainable consumption and production.

(f) Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2021 HLPF

In addition to the six messages included in section (f), we recommend including an additional two:

7. Invite Member States to implement policies and financing structures, including through taxes and subsidies, that enable the transformation to sustainable food systems;

8. Invite Member States to incorporate One Health approaches to pandemic preparedness and prevention, recognizing the intimate relationship between humans, animals and the environment.