

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA

Second informal substantive consultation meeting on United Nations General Assembly resolution 73/333 17-19 November 2021

Thank you for giving me floor,

Dear Excellencies and colleagues, good afternoon,

With regards to the draft political declaration, the delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica aims for a more ambitious outcome.

Costa Rica would like to reinstate its recognition to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, however, we strongly believe are all expected to do our utmost as we advance in the Decade of Action to Achieve the SDGs.

My delegation wishes to strengthen the expression: "Believing that everyone should have the right to a healthy and sustainable environment" by adding a reference of **explicit recognition** to resolution A/HRC/48/L23 on the human right to a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, adopted by the Human Rights Council and encouraging States to adopt policies for the enjoyment of such right as appropriate, including with respect to biodiversity and ecosystems.

Costa Rica considers this an essential opportunity to reinforce the international communities' strong commitment to guaranteeing human rights and protecting ecosystems as an indispensable way to sustain all life on Earth.

This is also a key moment to work in synergy with other UN programs, Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Conventions such as biodiversity, desertification, and climate change, as well as to work along regional human rights systems, looking forward to the **actual** compliance of international law.

The delegation of Costa Rica strongly believes that conservation and improvement of ecosystems, as natural heritage, are the basis for sustainable development and poverty eradication. This could be attained if all nations, face the global challenges with a positive action-oriented approach.

Additionally, the delegation of Costa Rica requests to make an explicit reference to **gender** on the paragraph related to "*continue the ongoing efforts to achieve equitable geographical distribution in the UNEP Secretariat*".

Thank you.