



Jerusalem, December 27, 2021

**Input by Israel to UNEA-5 draft Ministerial Declaration**

1. Israel strongly supports the addition of invasive species as one of the direct threats to biodiversity (Article 5); the reference to rechanneling financial flows (Article 7), which is essential to the transformational change required to halt the deterioration of nature and its services; and the addition of "actively conserving" (Article 15).
2. Article 15: In our opinion, the narrative regarding which ecosystems are important for the provision of ecosystem services, including mitigation of climate change, is not comprehensive enough. In particular, semi-arid / desert systems are not mentioned (they are only mentioned in the negative context of desertification). It is therefore proposed to add grasslands and shrublands to the list of ecosystems given as an example (or alternatively, delete the list altogether).
3. Article 16: The article seems a bit out of context. We suggest mentioning the importance of best available science also for biodiversity and not only for climate.