

DRAFT Ministerial declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”

Input from Anglican Consultative Council, an organisation in consultative status with UNEA since 2018

(suggested changes indicated in red)

7. We recognize the urgent need to transform attitudes as well as behaviours towards nature and to turn from mindsets of extraction, which see nature as a commodity to be exploited, to ones of relationship, which recognize nature's inherent worth and humanity's reliance on its well-being. We also recognize the need for policies that address several environmental and societal challenges simultaneously, rechanneling financial flows through innovative holistic approaches that truly value nature.

12. We commit to supporting an inclusive and sustainable recovery, promoting a green and just transition, with the goal of revitalizing our economies and livelihoods, contributing to poverty eradication, by mainstreaming biodiversity, climate and pollution concerns into all policies and tools; making use of green economy pathways that emphasize ecosystem and knowledge-based management, and by reducing carbon and non-carbon greenhouse gas emissions while adapting to climate change in line with the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, and doing so in a way that promotes the restoration of indigenous ecosystems.

15. We commit to promoting and strengthening ecosystem based approaches and nature-based solutions, including by actively reducing deforestation and forest degradation, and by protecting, actively conserving, sustainably managing, and restoring degraded land and ecosystems that provide us with food, water, and energy, are habitats for biodiversity and provide carbon storage and sequestration, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, for example natural forests, wetlands, peatlands, mangroves and coral reefs, thus underpinning our efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and doing so in a way that does not undermine the human rights of Indigenous Peoples, but protects their rights and recognises their vital role as keepers of the earth.

21. [add to final text] with a goal to secure a legally binding global instrument on plastic pollution covering measures along the entire life cycle of plastics.

22. We commit to pursuing and joining new and innovative partnerships across sectors, including the UNEP Faith for Earth initiative, and engage all relevant stakeholders, working with youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, faith-based organisations and faith communities and local communities, business, finance and science sectors to develop actions that are nature positive and reverse the persistently negative long term trend for the environment described by recent scientific reports from the Intergovernmental Science Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES),

the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the International Resource Panel (IPR) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).