

## CPR Sub-committee meeting of March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Agenda item 2: Inputs to the 2022 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

#### EU and its MS comments

- The EU and its MS draws the attention that the letter from the ECOSOC President invited the contributions by 1 March 2022.
- The EU and its Member states welcome this first draft for contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the 2022 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
- The EU and its MS particularly welcome the importance given to a recovery post COVID-19 that takes into account the need to tackle the triple environmental crisis and to shift to more sustainable patterns in our production, consumption and relationship with nature, and with the One Health approach.
- The EU+MS continue to be committed to achieving land-degradation neutrality as per SDG 15.3 and supporting the UNCCD to this end.
- We would favour stronger references to the concept of Nature-based solutions, in accordance with resolution UNEP/EA5/L9 on Nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development. The EU and its Member States would thus support that the draft promotes the implementation of Nature-based Solutions in the sub-para (c) on the action and policy recommendations requiring urgent attention in relation to the implementation of Goal 14 and 15, of the SDGs under review, in addition to the reference in section (e).
- Additionally, the EU and its MS believe that the contribution of UNEA to the HLPF, should make clearer references to the Ministerial Declaration adopted at UNEA-5.2, and the Political Declaration adopted at UNEP@50, as they provide strong elements related to the theme of this 2022 HLPF *“Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”*. These declarations could also be sent as annexes to the contribution.
- In particular the EU and its MS would suggest to add a reference to the **right** to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. That addition could be made under the second bullet of point (e).
- Concerning the Ministerial Declaration of the HLPF 2022, the EU and its MS would support to specify in the contribution from UNEA, that this declaration should include references to circular economy, and sustainable consumption and production, as important means for positive socioeconomic and environmental changes (Goals 15 and 17).
- The EU and its MS would suggest that the Ministerial Declaration of the 2022 HLPF also includes references to the restoration and protection of biodiversity, and water ecosystems, in addition to the paragraph on land and soil restoration. Stronger references to the need to

end pollution would also be relevant, given the numerous resolutions adopted at UNEA-5.2 on this issue, and especially the one on the establishment of an open-ended group on a Science-Policy Panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.

- The EU and its MS trust that the Secretariat can take our comments into account.