INTERVENTION BY BRAZIL
UNEP CPR SUB COMMITTEE MEETING
17 MARCH 2022

POINTER FOR AGENDA ITEM 2:
INPUTS TO THE 2022 HLPF ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

As a follow-up to the Subcommittee meeting held on 17 March, on UNEP’s contributions to the HLPF, please find below our written comments:

* Brazil suggests to streamline the document, given there’s a lot of information, in order to convey the most important points.

* We also stress the need to use multilateral agreed concepts, which would translate into deleting expressions such as "nature positive".

* We further underline the need to use agreed language from UNEA-5.2 resolutions.

* On plastic pollution, we recall that circular economy approaches are an option among many approaches, and that the resolution itself recognizes the diversity of methods - which was an important part of the agreement reached at UNEA. We further underscore the need to align the scope with the text of the resolution: “plastic pollution, including in the marine environment”, so as to convey a precise message to the HLPF.

* There is no reference to means of implementation in the text, which would be a crucial aspect under SDG 17. References to means of implementation are found both in the UNEA Ministerial Declaration and UNEP@50 Political Declaration.

* The document is missing important references from the UNEP@50 Political Declaration, including on the Rio Principles.

* The current reference to nature-based solutions found in the document suffices - additions would disrupt the balance. Furthermore, the text should add that NBS is one of possible actions and, according to the resolution, "that they do not replace the need for rapid, deep, and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions but can improve actions on adaptation, resilience and mitigation to climate change and its impacts". References to NBS should always be accompanied by ecosystem-based approaches - so as to align with the harmony recognized in the resolution itself.

* References to circular economy approaches should also be framed as one of the approaches that contribute to sustainable consumption and production patterns. That is part of the very important agreement reached at UNEA 5.2.

* The phrase “There is an urgent need to stop deforestation and loss of wetlands. Without doing so the 1.5°C target of the Paris Agreement is out of reach." is out of balance with the multiple actions, in a wide range of areas, required to implement the Paris Agreement, including reduction of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the text does not reflect UNEA-5.2 agreed language.
* The whole section on climate change could be replaced with the message found in the UNEA Ministerial Declaration, as follows:

* "11. We welcome the outcomes of the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including the adoption of the Glasgow Climate Pact, which emphasized the urgent need for parties to increase their efforts to collectively reduce emissions through accelerated action and implementation of domestic mitigation measures and the critical role of protecting, conserving and restoring nature and ecosystems in delivering benefits for climate adaptation and mitigation while ensuring social and environmental safeguards. The Glasgow Climate Pact urged developed-country parties to provide enhanced support, including through financial resources, technology transfer and capacity-building, to assist developing-country parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and encouraged other parties to provide or continue to provide such support voluntarily. The Pact also recognized the importance of the adequacy and predictability of adaptation finance, including the value of the Adaptation Fund in delivering dedicated support for adaptation. We are committed to a successful twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Egypt that further enhances global action to tackle climate change."