

CPR Sub Committee Meeting held on 17 March 2022

General comments on Agenda item 2: Inputs to the 2022 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

Following the Invitation letter from the President of the ECOSOC to the Members of the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP, to provide inputs to the thematic review of the 2022 HLPF, we would like to thank UNEP Secretariat for providing the document UNEP/SC/2022/7/2, in this regard.

Let us start our comments by recalling Operative Part 3(b) of UNEA Resolution 3/3, according to which inputs to be provided *will also take into account the Sustainable Development Goals under review at each year of the annual meetings of the forum*. And, for the ongoing year 2022, the HLPF will review progress towards the following SDGs: *SDG 4 on quality education; SDG 5 on gender equality; SDG 14 on life below water; SDG 15 on life on land; and SDG 17 on Partnership for Global Goals*.

At the first sight, **SDG 4 on quality of Education** and its targets fall under UNESCO mandate while **SDG 5 on gender equality** remains a cross cutting matter. But, as far as *quality of Education* is concerned in regard the 2022 HLPF, UNEA of UNEP can take this opportunity to assess the level of its **collaboration** with UNESCO, in term of Education in Environment fields, such as sensitization campaign and/or introduction of Environmental topics in Primary, Secondary Schools, why not in Universities.

Therefore, in reference to an Agenda item 2 on: *“Inputs to the 2022 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development”*, we find interest to align SDGs 14 and SDG 15 in its Section(c):

(c) Actions and Policy recommendations in areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the implementation of the SDGs under Review:

As far as the implementation of the SDGs are concerned substantive inputs, from the UNEA of UNEP to the 2022 HLPF should be based on the Review of the SDGs 14 and 15:

- In regard to **SDG 14 on life below water**, inputs to the HLPF should take into account Ocean Governance, bearing in mind that there are relevant targets under SDG 14, which deserve to be achieved timely, for example, target 14.1 *“By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution”* (Outcome target), and target 14.c *“Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the UNCLOS, which provides the legal framework... ”* (means of implementation target);
- In regard to **SDG 15 on Sustainably manage forests**, inputs to the HLPF should recall the importance sound management of all types of forests, of halting deforestation and increase afforestation and reforestation globally (Outcome target 15.2), and should also touch on resource mobilization from all sources in order to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems (means of implementation target 15.a).

The D.R.CONGO EMBASSY (Hans Thinzela MBALE).

