We thank the Secretariat for a comprehensive draft document to be delivered to the HLPF as this year’s input from UNEA to the HLPF in response to the letter by ECOSOC President about the upcoming Forum. The draft aims to contribute to the review by the Forum in July 2022.

To us, UNEAs inputs to HLPF should naturally build on the results and messages just agreed by UNEA. That should go for every year where the UNEA inputs to HLPF are sent just as a UNEA finishes, like this year. We are glad to see that the proposed messages to this year HLPF declaration indeed build on the ministerial declaration. With the clear UNEA5 focus on actions for nature, and SDG 14 and 15 under scrutiny at HLPF, the overlap of UNEA and HLPF focus is significant this year. One could also seek and possibly find guidance in the UNEA5 results when it comes to SDG 5 and 17, also considered at this year’s HLPF.

A particularly clear message by UNEA is probably expected, and we believe that the present text is well balanced and responds to such a request. In these dire times on the situation for nature, climate and pollution we must more than ever be very clear on the urgent need for transformative and forceful processes if member states are to achieve the SDGs. Multilateral results achieved at UNEA are a counterforce to the current processes of destruction that we should fully embrace, enhance further and build further on at HLPF.

While we welcome the good way that messages are formulated in the draft, we see that actual agreed language from this year’s UNEA5 outcomes in many instances form a natural fallback if discussions again emerge on exact formulations. We are, however, content with the dynamic approach to utilizing agreed text where possible, and other texts having been enriched by UNEP to fully do justice to the questions posed to us by ECOSOC.

We also recognize that other previous and still relevant resolutions, and other relevant documents as produced by UNEP, could be referenced. But we find such an approach to UNEAs message to HLPF to be even more appropriate in the years between UNEAs.

Thank you