

*Yasmine Djelloul (Swedish Youth Council LSU)*

Thank you for the floor, Chair, Co-chairs, member states and distinguished delegates. My name is Yasmine Djelloul and I am the Swedish Youth delegate to the United Nations, and I am here speaking on behalf of the National Youth Council of Sweden, LSU, and our 86 member organizations.

We know that one of the groups that are disproportionately affected by the consequences of climate and environmental change is youth. In our consultations with young people in Sweden one of the, by far, most important questions for them is climate and climate change but climate change is of course not a national issue it's a global one. And it is therefore critical that we work to enable a representative and heterogeneous youth presence with an intersectional perspective, where young people's participation is guaranteed, no matter their geographic or socio-economic conditions. Regardless if you're from the global north or South you should be a part of the transition that we all need, to fix our relationship with nature and to restore our ecosystems through evidence based environmental practices in line with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

To be able to promote ecosystem based approaches we first need to make sure that our environmental human rights defenders are heard and protected. We also need to divert agency to indigenous people's knowledge and their practices AND allow for the recognition of historical injustice such as colonialism.

New measures must also be taken. We also need to recognize ecocide as a crime against peace, and include it in the Rome statute.

It has been 50 years since the first global conference on climate and time is running up. We can not wait another 50 years if we actually want a healthy planet. Arranging meetings and discussing is good, but in this case doing is better.

Thank you for the floor.