Comments on the Zero Draft (May 2023) Ministerial Declaration for the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

General Comments

- The zero draft declaration addresses the need to take effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral action to tackle the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.
- It takes into consideration the RIO+20 principles, the Sustainable Development Goals, previous UNEA resolutions, the report of the UN Secretary General on Our Common Agenda and the Stockolm+50 International Meeting.
- The document takes on board environmental issues which are of relevance today such as climate change, biodiversity, plastic pollution, chemicals management, disaster risk management, sustainable development and sustainable consumption and production. However, it is viewed that issues like circular and green economy have not been adequately addressed (Please see proposal below).
- It also addresses challenges affecting the coastal and marine environment such as climate change, biodiversity loss, marine litter and impacts of disasters amongst others. Moreover, it promotes the use of ecosystem-based approaches and nature based solutions, which are main tools for integrated coastal zone management.

Proposal

It is proposed to include a specific paragraph on Sustainable Consumption and Production in line with the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023-2030 towards delivering on global sustainability ambitions, leaving no one behind and recognizing that Circular Economy is key to achieving sustainable consumption and production.

Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change Mauritius 25 May 2023