Statement by MD Excellences, ladies and gentlemen,

We gathered here with a sense of urgency to address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

We engaged actively in the past months in the consultations to deliver an ambitious general message of UNEA to the world and as input to the Summit of the Future communicating the planetary emergency we are facing. For the EU+MS, it is of outmost importance to keep the level of ambition that we must not lower down and ensure effective environmental multilateralism delivers important messages to the global level!

It is only then that we will be able to act timely, efficiently and preserve the health of this planet for current and future generations!

Even though we appreciate the modifications answering to some of our concerns, we would have expected a more ambitious and forward looking declaration.

In particular, at UNEA 5 we resolved to END PLASTIC POLLUTION based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics and our processes need to build upon our ambition. We would like to put in the record of the meeting that the reference to the UNEA 5 resolution “UNEA 5/14 End Plastic Pollution” is not correctly reflected in the document.

We feel the crucial voices of the youth that participated in UNEA, could have also been better captured.

The Global Resources Outlook is our joint achievement, giving us important scientific information to adapt our policies to ensure truly sustainable development that meets the needs of the present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs!

In the run-up to the Summit of the Future, our quest for effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle triple planetary crisis continues and the EU and its MS remain committed to that objective with ambition and determination!