

## Meeting of Major Groups and Stakeholders, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018, Nairobi, Kenya

### BUSINESS & INDUSTRY STATEMENT

- The Business and Industry Major Group, represented by the the Global Business Alliance for Environment — GBA4E — appreciates the opportunity to provide input from business in the lead up to UNEA4.
- GBA4E is a coalition of global business associations that supports the work of UN Environment, coordinating and expanding the business community's engagement with this important organization. We are open to working with all business representatives, and welcome the opportunities UN Environment provides this week and in so many other settings to dialogue with governments, UN bodies, and other major groups and stakeholders.
- GBA4E members made strong contributions at UNEA-3. From answering UN Environment's call for "commitments" to a pollution-free world to taking part in the first Science-Policy-Business Forum to organizing the inaugural Business Symposium, GBA4E members demonstrated their commitment to work with UN Environment to combat pollution and attain the Sustainable Development Goals.
- GBA4E members see promising opportunities for constructive discussions, further initiatives, and cooperative action within all the potential themes for UNEA-4, particularly "Innovation for Environment." Each theme provides an opportunity for the business community to discuss its role in promoting environmental stewardship in the context of sustainable development, including innovating and producing a wide range of products and services across sectors and their supply and value chains that will help to achieve the SDGs.
- Indeed, widespread private sector driven innovation across sectors, from agriculture to healthcare to advanced manufacturing, is critical to building a sustainable world economy and inclusive green growth. Achieving a more efficient, clean, and equitable global policy and market landscape requires deploying new products, technologies, and management systems to help a growing population make best use of the world's scarce resources. As showcased at the UNEA-3 Business Symposium last year, small and medium-sized enterprises have a great deal to offer as well, and we heard several examples of actions taken by business communities in developing countries.
- GBA4E stands ready to work with governments, UN Environment, and other stakeholders to develop the content and build the momentum necessary for a highly successful UNEA-4. Already we are identifying opportunities to showcase business contributions to the environment and planning to participate with UN Environment in science, policy, and business dialogues.
- Thank you.