

Initial Inputs and Ideas for UNEA 5 Ministerial Declaration by Sri Lanka

1. What would you, as a government/ organization/ stakeholder, welcome as the most important element and/or key messages from the ministers in the declaration to address the theme in an impactful manner?

- As individual leaders and representatives of the geographical boundaries of the world, we have a shared responsibility towards nature, which simply does not have distinguished boundaries. Caring for nature strengthens the trust between the leaders and nations.
- The complexity of critical environmental issues of today has given rise to many economic, health and social issues. We, being the leaders, should not be restricted to the present position, instead be concerned about the direction of travel for the world.
- The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals has opened up the horizons for us as leaders to seriously wake up to the challenge of ensuring a safe environment for human survival and growth.

2. How can the Environment Assembly make a significant contribution to Strengthening Action for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals at a global scale? In doing so, you may take into account the preparation for the meeting, its conduct and follow-up, as well as its relationship to other meetings and processes.

2.1 Assembly may encourage discussion topics and submission of resolutions which addresses multiple goals at once.

2.2 Resolutions with targets embedded or indicates a clear path of implementation have to be allocated financial resources on prioritized basis enabling Executive Director of UNEP to monitor the progress and report to the Assembly, appropriately.

2.3 Assembly may provide better opportunities as a platform to share experiences, make partnerships and strengthen international cooperation to ensure delivery of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities of all Member States.

2.4 Assembly may strengthen the mechanism to guide policy and to cooperate with policy responses towards realistic actions to implement the Assembly decisions including the Resolutions while monitoring actions implemented by Member States.

2.5 Assembly may inform the General Assembly, key strategies of addressing multiple goals at once and the need of alarming the political leadership on related complexity of critical environmental issues.

2.6 Assembly may consider opportunities aroused amidst COVID 19 pandemic to better communicate the environment challenge and strategic solutions to the global political leadership.