

Reference GovernanceAffairs/UNEA-HLPF-2021

Date 25.1.2021

Excellency,

On behalf of H.E. Mr. Sveinung Rotevatn, President of UNEA and Minister of Environment and Climate of Norway, I have the pleasure to share with you the [letter from the President of ECOSOC](#), inviting the United Nations Environment Assembly to provide an input to the thematic review of the 2021 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), under the theme “Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.

Following guidance provided by the bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) at its [meeting on 12 January](#), it is recommended that the fifth meeting of the Open-Ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the online meeting of the fifth meeting of the UN Environment Assembly will defer consideration of the matter to three meetings of the CPR subcommittee to take place after the online session of UNEA-5, tentatively on 4, 11 and 15 March.

In preparation for these meetings of the subcommittee, Member States are encouraged to send their inputs in writing for the consideration by the Secretariat with the aim to develop and distribute a draft contribution to the HLPF immediately after the adjournment of UNEA-5. In this context, Member States are invited to take into account the “template” for inputs, as referred to in the attached letter from the ECOSOC President, which reads as follows:

- (a) Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the SDGs under review in the 2021 HLPF from the vantage point of your intergovernmental body, bearing in mind the interlinkages with other SDGs;
- (b) Actions, policy guidance, progress, challenges and areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the SDGs and to the theme within the area under the purview of your intergovernmental body;
- (c) An assessment of the situation regarding the principle of “ensuring that no one is left behind” at the global, regional and national levels against of background of the COVID-19 pandemic in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, within the respective area addressed by your intergovernmental bodies

**Permanent Missions to the United Nations Environment Programme**

**CC: Minister responsible for the environment**

Annex:

Letter from the President of ECOSOC

- (d) Cooperation, measures and commitments at all levels in promoting sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (e) Various measures and policy recommendations on building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development;
- (f) Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2021 HLPF.

When finalising the first draft, the secretariat will also make use of relevant UNEP documents, including those available on the web portal “COVID Materials from UNEP” (<https://www.unenvironment.org/covid-19>), several of which have been shared and presented to the Committee in the course of 2020, such as the UNEP report from 14 May 2020, entitled “Working with the environment to protect people: Covid-19 Response”.

Please send your input to the email addresses [unep-sgb@un.org](mailto:unep-sgb@un.org) and [unepnyo@un.org](mailto:unepnyo@un.org), preferably by **5 February 2021** at the latest.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Jorge Laguna-Celis  
Director, Governance Affairs Office