Thank you, Chair, for giving me the floor.

Good afternoon colleagues,

The delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica thanks UNEP’s Secretariat for providing the background documentation and updating about the upcoming World Environment Day, scheduled to take place on June 5th. Costa Rica also takes this opportunity to thank Pakistan for hosting it.

The delegation of Costa Rica welcomes UNEP’s production of a series of communication assets to highlight the need for ecosystem restoration efforts, including one-minute Public Service Announcements and the described actions that encourage making it action oriented.

Costa Rica takes this opportunity to express its strong commitment to protecting ecosystems as an indispensable way to sustain all life on Earth. Conservation and improvement of ecosystems as natural heritage are the basis for sustainable development and eradicating poverty.

Costa Rica particularly welcomes the discussion of this agenda item as it represents a substantive discussion.

Thank you, Chair.