

Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

UNEA - 5

Inputs from Chile (Draft)

I. Introductory remarks and general comments

Chile wishes to refer to the communication sent by the UNEA 5 Presidency on 6 October 2021, inviting to provide inputs regarding the zero draft of the Ministerial Declaration on the overall theme: “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”.

We welcome the initiative on continuing the dialogue between member States on the results expected for the next session of the Assembly, and we reaffirm our commitment in working on a consensual basis that will lead to concrete results to strengthen actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals during UNEA 5.2.

As a general comment on formal aspects, we express our preference to agree on a short declaration, with clear and accessible language, and oriented to actions.

We can agree on the contents on the draft proposal generally, but we observe there is a lack of recognitions and actions regarding gender and the environment, so we suggest additional on the preambular and operative part on this matter.

We take the opportunity to consult if the Secretariat and the Presidency are considering any way of assessing the impact of declarations approved on the framework of UNEA in future work, particularly as the next session will put into consideration two declarations to be agreed by the participants.

We would like to provide the following comments on the proposal:

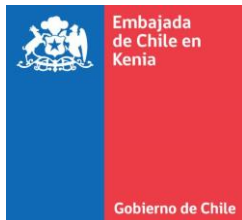
II. Specific comments

1. ON PP3, we propose the following modifications:

We note with profound concern the loss, degradation and fragmentation of ecosystems and **habitats for its** biodiversity, affecting both life on land and **life** under water **life**, due to multiple and interlinked threats **and biodiversity loss drivers** such as unsustainable management, **use and exploitation** of nature and its resources, unsustainable consumption and production patterns, **land and sea use change, invasive alien species**, climate change, and pollution and littering of water, air, and soil.

2. On PP5, we would like to propose the following additional text:

We are deeply concerned about the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on human lives and health, **especially considering differentiated impacts and that it affects mostly girls and women**, as well as on economies and societies [...].”



3. ON PP6, we propose the following modifications:

We recognize the need for transformative and systemic changes, ~~and could have the opportunity to achieve more by~~ **encouraged through** policies and investments that address several environmental challenges simultaneously through innovative holistic approaches that truly value **and respect** nature.

4. On OP 8, we propose the following additions:

We commit to supporting a green and just recovery, with the goal of revitalizing our economies and livelihoods, contribute to poverty eradication, by mainstreaming environmental concerns into all policies and tools promoting economic recovery; making use of green economy pathways that emphasize ecosystem and knowledge-based management, and by reducing greenhouse gas emissions **and biodiversity loss** while adapting to climate change in line with the Paris Agreement, **and the Convention of Biological Diversity Guidelines and Frameworks**.

5. We would like to propose a new OP, located after the paragraph under OP 9:

“We commit to continue working on the promotion of gender equality in environmental management, strengthening decision making capacities so that a gender perspective is considered in environmental public policy design and implementation, while recognizing the role women and girls play as agents of change, with differentiated needs, knowledge and contributions on the use, management and conservation of natural resources, climate action and sustainable development”.

6. On OP 10, we propose the following modifications:

We commit to rethinking our approach to the use and management of nature, **biodiversity**, and its resources, to advance sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through resource efficiency and circular economy policy approaches, and by integrating the proper valuation of nature’s **contribution to people** and the assessment of nature-related risks in policymaking.

7. On OP11, we suggest the following additions:

We commit to promote and strengthen **ecosystem-based approaches, including** nature-based solutions by actively protecting, sustainably managing, and restoring degraded ecosystems that provide us with food, water, and energy, are habitats for biodiversity and provide carbon storage and sequestration, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, for example natural forests, wetlands, **peatlands** and mangroves, thus underpinning our efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

8. OP14, we propose the following additions:

We commit to safeguarding life under water, and a clean, healthy, and productive ocean capable of providing food, livelihoods, and storing carbon, through strengthening efforts to sustainably manage all our



oceans, as well as by sustainably using and protecting oceans, seas and coastal ecosystems, while acting to prevent pollution, and prevent marine temperature rise and ocean acidification, by keeping our efforts in line with the Paris agreement, **and other related measures and considering the UN Decade for Ocean Sciences (2021 – 2030).**

9. On OP 17, we suggest the following additions:

We reaffirm the continued need to strengthen actions for nature and our commitment towards the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, and call for an ambitious and transformational post-2020 global biodiversity framework for adoption at the 15th Conference of Parties of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity that inter alia includes a set of clear and robust goals, and targets **and headline indicators** to address the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, as a key instrument to reach the Sustainable Development Goals, **and the 2050 Convention of Biological Diversity vision of living in harmony with nature.**