



Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations

**Statement at the Preparatory Meeting for the international meeting
entitled Stockholm+50**

28 March, 2022

*Interactive discussion on the background document to Leadership Dialogue
1: “Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and
prosperity for all”*

Excellencies, Distinguished colleagues,

**Brazil supports the statement delivered by Pakistan on behalf of G77 and
China, and would like to make some additional remarks.**

**The draft background paper for Leadership Dialogue 1 makes some
references to the concept of "nature-based solutions". We would advise
caution regarding the use of this concept, and highlight the importance of
adequately and comprehensively taking into account the outcomes of
UNEA-5 in this regard, including on the definition of this concept, which
must be cognizant of and in harmony with the concept of ecosystem-based
approaches. We would also stress UNEA-5 outcomes on the necessary
future work regarding nature-based solutions, through intergovernmental
consultations, with a view to reaching a common understanding for its
implementation.**

Brazil understands that this future work will be key to make sure that this new concept is consistent with international commitments and relevant multilateral agreements on biodiversity, climate, environment and sustainable development, in this way ensuring that it can meaningfully contribute to the achievement of a healthy planet and prosperity for all.

Regarding the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities in the design and implementation of land use decisions, we stress that such engagement must always be consistent with international law, as well as national legal systems. In the case of Brazil, we ratified the International Labor Organization Convention No. 169, a fundamental instrument for the protection of indigenous and tribal peoples, which provides for rights of free, prior and informed consultation. References to "consent" in the document, therefore, should be replaced by "consultation", to better align the document with said ILO Convention.

Lastly, Brazil takes note, with appreciation, of the references in the background paper to major multilateral processes taking place throughout this year, such as UNEA-5 and the conferences of the parties to the UNFCCC, the CBD and the UNCCD, as well as the 2022 United Nations Ocean Conference. As correctly highlighted in the document, we need to avoid duplicating discussions, and I would add that we must also ensure full support and adherence of Stockholm+50 to existing international commitments, notably the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as multilateral environmental agreements.

I thank you.

Interactive discussion on the background document to Leadership Dialogue 2: “Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic”

Excellencies, Distinguished colleagues,

The draft background paper for Leadership Dialogue 2 highlights the importance of promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns. Brazil understands that it would be important to include an explicit and clear reference to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in this regard, particularly SDG 12 and its different targets and indicators.

While recognizing the importance of promoting life-cycle approaches, we should avoid singularizing only one approach – such as “circular economy” - to the detriment of others, so as to present an inclusive and comprehensive landscape of different patterns of sustainable consumption and production, taking into account the specific circumstances and the needs and priorities of developing countries.

The draft also stresses the importance of harnessing innovations and technologies to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, as well as the importance of leveraging global, South-South and triangular cooperation. We believe a clear reference to North-South cooperation is required, and that the interlinkage between these two areas – technology and cooperation – should be further explored, including a stronger reference to technology transfer in the section on leveraging international cooperation.

This would not only be in line with the broader proposal of Leadership Dialogue 2 concerning the achievement of a sustainable and inclusive

recovery, but also in line with SDG 17, on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development, as well as with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

In fact, throughout the three draft background papers, we counted only one single reference to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. However, we understand that the cross-cutting sustainable development issues highlighted throughout the three background papers - frequently with very ambitious language - could and should be included within the overall context of existing commitments and frameworks on financing for development and means of implementation, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, but also other instruments and mechanisms such as the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism - which does not receive adequate attention and funding -, as well as the UN Technology Bank for LDCs.

In addition, the scaling up of financing for development mechanisms could also be an opportunity to include more developing countries in global value chains. Needless to say, value chains that are more regionally diverse will also be more sustainable and resilient in the face of disrupting events such as the current COVID-19 pandemic.

If we want to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs, we need to accelerate technology transfers, financing and capacity building, making full use of existing instruments and mechanisms.

I thank you.

Interactive discussion on the background document to Leadership Dialogue 3: “Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”

Excellencies, Distinguished colleagues,

The draft background paper for Leadership Dialogue 3 makes a reference to nature-based solutions. We understand it would be important to refer it and add a reference to the concept of ecosystem-based approaches, in line with the language of the other two background papers. I would also, once again, recall our previous comments on this subject regarding the need to be cautious, as well as on the key importance of future work on the implementation of this concept, as per UNEA-5 outcomes, to ensure its overall consistency with international commitments and relevant multilateral agreements on biodiversity, climate, environment and sustainable development.

While this draft background paper recognizes the ground-breaking character of international commitments such as the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, my delegation is extremely concerned with the suggestion that existing commitments would allegedly be - and I quote - "not adequate" to address current sustainable development challenges. The logical conclusion to this suggestion would be that new international commitments would be required.

In our view, this suggestion is not only incongruous with the nature and scope of Stockholm+50 as a commemorative international meeting with no expected multilaterally negotiated and agreed outcomes, but also fundamentally false.

If we really want our joint development journey to be “put back on track” – as later proposed in the document -, we should not divert our attentions by suggesting the creation of parallel tracks. What we all need is to work together to fully implement and make full use of existing commitments and multilateral mechanisms. The 2030 Agenda is our agreed on roadmap.

Lastly, to close our brief remarks during today's discussions, we believe that Stockholm+50, in addition to its commemorative character, could be an opportunity for us all to keep momentum regarding the major multilateral processes and renew our support to existing commitments, including by discussing and exploring how to make full use of existing instruments and mechanisms, in line with the 2030 Agenda, in particular with the implementation of the three dimensions of SDGs in a balanced and integrated manner, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Promoting and ensuring the effective and full implementation of existing commitments is the great challenge that we all need to address, if we really want to promote a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic while accelerating the achievement of sustainable development goals and targets.

I thank you.