

**UPDATED resolution proposal**

**“Nature-based Solutions for supporting sustainable development”**

**Co-sponsors: Costa Rica, Colombia, Montenegro, Pakistan, Peru, Principality of Monaco, Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia and the United Kingdom**

**PP1** *Underlining* the importance of strengthening actions for nature for implementing the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, the Rio Declaration on environment and development, the CBD and other biodiversity related conventions, the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, the UNCCD, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration; the UN Decade of Action to Deliver the SDGs, and *looking forward* to the adoption and implementation of an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective and robust Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework; and *noting* the Leaders' Pledge for Nature: United to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 for Sustainable Development, **(agreed ad ref)**

**PP2** *Welcoming* the Global Assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and Working Group I and II contributions to the Sixth Assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and *taking note* of other relevant reports, **(agreed ad ref)**

**PP3** *Recognizing* the interdependencies between biodiversity loss, pollution, climate change, desertification, land degradation and their interlinkages with human wellbeing, including health, and the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, **(Agreed ad ref)**

**PP4** *Recognizing* that a key opportunity for strengthening actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals is to enhance cooperation, implementation and scaling up of nature-based solutions, while ensuring their social and environmental safeguards, given that (nature-based solutions are effective and efficient when applied in accordance with the best available science and designed on a context-specific basis to achieve multiple benefits, **(Agreed ad ref)**

**PP4 Bis.** *Recalling* the Convention on Biological Diversity COP Decisions V/6, VI/12, VII/11, and IX/7, on the Ecosystem Approach, and Decision 14/5 and further affirming for parties to the CBD the indispensable role of CBD in the conservation, restoration, sustainable use of biodiversity and on the integrated management of natural resources, **(Agreed ad ref)**

**PP5** *Acknowledging* the need for a multilaterally agreed definition of the concept of nature-based solutions, cognizant of and in harmony with the concept of ecosystem-based approaches, and in light of concerns about the potential misuse of the concept of nature-based solutions, **(Agreed ad ref)**

**OP1.** *Decides* that nature-based solutions are actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefits, and recognizes that: **(Agreed ad ref)**

- A- nature-based solutions respect social and environmental safeguards, in line with the Rio Conventions and including those for local communities and Indigenous Peoples, **(Agreed ad ref)**
- B- nature-based solutions can be implemented in accordance with local, national and regional circumstances, consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and managed adaptively, **(Agreed ad ref)**
- C- nature-based solutions are one of the actions that play an essential role in the overall global effort to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals including by effectively and efficiently addressing major social, economic and environmental challenges, such as biodiversity loss, climate change, land degradation, desertification, food security, disaster risks, urban development, water availability, poverty eradication, inequality, unemployment, as well as social and sustainable economic development, human health and a large range of ecosystem services; **(Agreed ad ref)**
- D- nature-based solutions can help stimulate sustainable innovation and scientific research. **(Agreed ad ref)**

**OP1 Bis.** *Recognizes* that nature-based solutions may significantly contribute to climate action, while recognizing the need for analysis including in the long term of their effects and that they do not replace the need for rapid, deep, and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions but can improve actions on adaptation, resilience and mitigation to climate change and its impacts, **(Agreed ad ref)**

**OP1 Ter.** *Recognizes* the potential of sustainable and environmentally-sound biobased products, innovation and technologies that result from Nature Based Solutions, when they contribute to sustainable consumption and production, and are beneficial to nature and consistent with international commitments and relevant multilateral agreements on biodiversity, climate, environment and sustainable development, while cognizant of the potential associated risks, including those for local communities and Indigenous Peoples, **(Agreed ad ref)**

**OP2.** *Acknowledges* that **the concept of** nature-based [solutions] **is cognizant of and in harmony with** the concept of ecosystem-based approaches identified under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and to other management and conservation approaches carried out under existing national policy and legislative frameworks and established under relevant multilateral environmental agreements. **(Agreed ad ref)**

**OP3 Bis 3 Alt.** *Requests* the UNEP Executive Director, subject to available resources, and to further support the implementation of nature-based solutions, as defined in the present resolution, to convene intergovernmental consultations, in a transparent, inclusive, regionally-balanced manner, striving for gender balance, in order to: **(Agree ad ref)**

**OP3 Bis 3 Alt. (b) Alt. (a)** compile examples of best practices, based on best available science, of nature-based solutions; **(Agreed ad ref)**

**(b)** assess existing and discuss possible new proposals, criteria, standards and guidelines to address divergences with a view to reaching a common understanding between Member States for the implementation of nature-based solutions, including to support Member States when designing, implementing and evaluating nature-based solutions, building on existing work, initiatives and platforms as appropriate and without prejudice to existing efforts and new proposals and initiatives of individual Member States; **(Agreed ad ref)**

**(c)** Identify options for supporting sustainable investments in nature-based solutions and share information on multilateral and bilateral sources of finance for developing countries to develop and deploy nature-based solutions; **(Agree ad ref)**

**OP3 Ter.** *Requests* the Executive Director of UNEP, subject to available resources, to support the intergovernmental consultations, including enabling the participation of developing countries and relevant partners and stakeholders, consistent with applicable United Nations rules; **(Agree ad ref)**

**OP4.** *Calls upon* the Member States and the Executive Director of UNEP, in collaboration with other relevant UN agencies, to support the implementation of this resolution in partnership with local communities, women, youth, as well as with Indigenous peoples with their free, prior and informed consent as their knowledge and methods have proved effective in conserving, restoring and sustainably using biodiversity. **(Agreed ad ref)**

**OP4 Bis.** *Calls upon* Member States to follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach, when designing, implementing and monitoring Nature based Solutions. **(Agreed ad ref)**