



**Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development
Environmental Policy and Planning Division**

**Comments- First Revised Draft
Ministerial Declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its seventh
session**

Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet

[29 August 2025]

Specific Comments

Page	Sub-section	Comment
1	A	It is suggested that this is amended to read “ <i>will strengthen international cooperation among governments, international organizations, the scientific community and civil society</i> ”, consideration should be given to include academia, non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and business. ”
3	J Sentence 1	It is suggested that consideration is given to including language that recognizes the variability in access to digital technologies among countries and the digital divide and the need to ensure equality to close this gap.
3	J Sentence 2	It is suggested that this paragraph is altered to ensure better coherence, as the use of AI is being encouraged but then assessments are being suggested to assess impacts and can otherwise be considered contradictory.
3	Action 2 Statement	Given that pollution is one of the major environmental crises, it is suggested that reference is also made to the chemicals and waste Conventions, as was done for BBNJ, CBD and UNCCD, especially as successful implementation is crucial for achieving the SDGs, particularly SDG 12, and also noting that under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, decisions are adopted by the COPs to enhance international cooperation and coordination and would therefore align with these aspirations.
3/4	L	Additional language has been suggested to make reference to the direct work of the Panel and not only the outcome. It is suggested that reference is also made to the urgent need to convene the first session of the Panel as a priority so that the critical work of the Panel will be initiated in the soonest.
4	M	The current formulation risks appearing overly procedural by tying completion to a specific session and may understate the urgency of addressing plastic pollution given the slow progress of the INC process thus far. Suggest including an additional line to strengthen the declaration by clearly signalling ministerial expectations for tangible outcomes. While the first sentence

ATTACHMENT I

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		affirms constructive engagement and solidarity, the added sentence emphasizes that the INC must fulfil its mandate under UNEA resolution 5/14 and deliver an effective instrument. For e.g. “We take note of the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and reaffirm our shared commitment to continue engaging constructively and actively and with a sense of urgency and solidarity in the ongoing negotiations with a view of completing the work of the INC at the third part of its fifth session. <i>“We underline that the Committee must fulfil its mandate under UNEA resolution 5/14 and deliver an effective instrument.”</i>”
		Additional language has been suggested to make reference to the direct work of the Panel and not only the outcome. It is suggested that reference is also made to the urgent need to convene the first session of the Panel as a priority so that the critical work of the Panel will be initiated in the soonest.
4	O	It is suggested that consideration be given to include: <i>“We call upon all States that have not done so to develop and implement Biodiversity Financing Plans (BNPs) that would assess the root causes of biodiversity loss, identify national biodiversity finance gaps, and articulate strategies on how to reduce the gaps through a suite of finance solutions aimed at reducing flow of resources that cause harm to biodiversity; generating additional resources; and enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of resource use.”</i>
4	P	It is suggested that emphasis is also placed on mobilizing adequate, predictable and timely finances to advance the work of the other MEAs as well as this is usually a major setback as it relates to implementation.
5	R	It is suggested that the additional language inserted to also place emphasis on the need for pre-emptive action and not only reactive.