

Berlin, 29 April, 2020

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Comments from ProVeg International

“Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” Note on the preparations for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

ProVeg International welcomes the background document and is submitting following suggestions for your attention.

General:

We agree on the fact that targeted actions for nature are key to achieve the SDG's. Those actions must be ambitious and systemic in nature, helping to trigger fundamental transformative changes in our productions and consumption patterns. “Making progress” will not be enough, we have to learn from the current Covid crisis to completely reassess our ways of living, especially in the global north.

On proposed action area 4: Nature for sustainable food systems:

ProVeg supports having four specific pillars and is pleased to see that the crucial challenges of building resilient food systems is represented in action area 4, “Nature for Sustainable Food Systems”. However, we would like to see **“industrial animal agriculture”** mentioned directly as a **core driver of biodiversity loss, land degradation, deforestation and climate change.**

As more and more decision makers are now acknowledging the need to diversify protein sources, and of **promoting less resource intensive diets**, which would be more in line with national dietary guidelines, we believe that **UNEP should help leading the transformation towards more sustainable and plant forward diets**, especially with the launch of the United Nations “Decade on ecosystem restoration”.

We also see potential to integrate the topic of **“sustainable food innovations”** as the achievement of SDG12 is so crucial to the success of many other SDG's (SDG1, SDG2, SDG3, SDG8, SDG9, SDG13, SDG14, SDG15).

Thank you for the opportunity to present our comments and take an active part in the framing of UNEA-5 and we are sending you our very best regards in this challenging time.

ProVeg International
April 2020