



Jerusalem, August 11, 2020

## **Input by Israel regarding the ministerial declaration outline for UNEA-5**

### **1. Vision:**

- a. Israel supports the emphasis on the need for transformative actions. The current trajectory of biodiversity and ecosystems loss and the wildlife-associated COVID-19 outbreak requires real changes in the way we treat nature, if we want to continue co-exist with it. As has been proven by the pandemic, this is not just a question of sustainable development but of the ability of human societies to develop in general. We must secure the resilience and health of our societies concurrently with strengthening nature's resilience and health.

### **2. Introduction:**

- a. *"The UN Environmental Assembly is our platform for joint action and to respond to the urgency and scale of the challenge, moving beyond statements to gather forces around concrete actions."* This sentence is ambiguous – add a comma after "statements", or we propose adding "towards" i.e. *"...moving beyond statements towards gathering forces around concrete actions."*
- b. *"Together we can strengthen action to approach a positive scenario for our common home."* – In our view this phrase is too weak, we suggest to use "goal" or "outcome" instead of "scenario".

### **3. Green Recovery:**

- a. *"We recognize the vulnerability of our society and our economy and the urgency of efforts for a post COVID-19 recovery that puts society on track for the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals through strengthened action for nature."* – We propose "urgent need" instead of "urgency".

### **4. Healthy ecosystems:**

- a. *"This also as important measures to urgently adapt and mitigate climate change."* – It is unclear to what "this" refers to. We propose instead "Such measures to safeguard and strengthen biodiversity and ecosystems are also important for urgently adapting to and mitigating climate change."