

Reference: UNE-2022-02158_Res.1

21 October 2022

Dear Minister,

I am writing to you in relation to resolution UNEP/EA.5/Res.1 "[Animal welfare environment and sustainable development nexus](#)", which was adopted at the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2) that took place in Nairobi from 28 February – 2 March 2022.

Resolution EA.5/Res.1 requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), subject to the availability of financial and human resources, to produce a report, in close collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the World Organization for Animal Health, as well as with the One Health High-Level Expert Panel, on the nexus between animal welfare, the environment and sustainable development by analysing the nexus between animal welfare, the environment and sustainable development, identifying key partners and stakeholders to consult, where relevant, in the preparation of the report, and preparing a summary of the findings for consideration by Member States. The resolution also requests the Executive Director to report to the Environment Assembly at its sixth session on the findings of the report.

A Group of Friends of the Resolution has been formed to accelerate implementation of the resolution, led by Ghana with the participation of Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana and Senegal. UNEP has participated in meetings with the Group and has had consultations with several civil society organizations to gather input and to identify means of mobilizing resources. UNEP has set seed funding from the Environment Fund to undertake an initial scoping which will be initiated in the first quarter of 2023. In the coming days, UNEP will participate in a meeting in Botswana on the margins of the 6th African Animal Welfare Conference to continue discussions with member states and other interested parties on the implementation of the resolution. In addition, UNEP has discussed the resolution with the Quadripartite Alliance for One Health, and those partners stand ready to assist with implementation when resources are available.

As stated in the resolution, additional voluntary resources are needed to support this important work. The estimated cost of undertaking the initial study proposed in the resolution as a full inter-governmental and stakeholder process, is approximately USD 4,560,000. Despite discussions held by UNEP with various groups to explore how resources may be mobilized, unfortunately, no additional resources have been secured. However, UNEP will explore alternative options and revert to Member States in the coming weeks on potential courses of action for the implementation of the resolution.

In the meantime, UNEP continues to invite governments and other stakeholders in a position to support governments to provide extra-budgetary resources at the earliest convenience to support the implementation of the resolution EA.5/Res.1.

To: Ministers responsible for the Environment

My colleague in the secretariat Mr. Abdelkader Bensada (abdelkader.bensada@un.org), stands ready to provide any additional information your teams may require.

Yours sincerely,



Inger Andersen
Executive Director

CC: Permanent Representatives to UNEP