EDM CSWG Co Chairs’ Response

C20 Summit Policy Pack: Environment, Climate Justice and Energy Transition

Excellency Ministers, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and gentlemen.

[additional addressees]

On behalf of the Minister Siti Nurbaya, allow me to extend the Minister’s sincere appreciation for the opportunity to be here, to share the Environment and Climate perspective on the comprehensive and meticulously prepared, C20 Policy Pack. Recommendations contained in the policy pack truly represent actions and ambitions needed to transform our impact on the world.

The G20 Ministers of Environment and Climate have met on 31st August 2022 to put forward, reaffirmed and strengthened their steadfast commitments in advancing real, impactful actions as well as cooperation in environment and climate sustainability at the G20 and beyond.

Excellencies,

On recommendation of inclusive climate action by acknowledging the principle of climate justice and rights-based approach, the Environment and Climate Ministers’ Meeting acknowledged the importance of engaging vulnerable groups to tackle climate change—including women, children, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities in vulnerable situations, in coastal zones and cities affected by the adverse impacts of climate change—in developing and implementing ocean-based climate policies and strategies, ocean-based adaptation planning and integrated coastal zone management to promote and foster climate justice.

On recommendations under “resources efficiency in waste management and strengthening the G20 Marine Litter Action Plan made in G20 Japan by targeting the reduction of plastic production and consumption”, the Meeting recognized that marine litter and plastic pollution—including micro-plastics, have significant impacts on ecosystems and their biodiversity; and that the main sources of marine litter and plastic pollution are particularly land-based. Therefore,
increasing the circularity and resource efficiency of economies is important for the achievement of sustainable production and consumption, thus contributing to addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, land and water degradation, as well as pollution—including from plastic.

Further, the Ministers underlined the need for strong collaboration and cooperation, including on science and knowledge sharing to enhance implementation of resource efficiency and circular economy, among other approaches, and minimize the negative environmental, social and economic impacts of consumption and production. The Ministers recognized the importance to work with all partners and stakeholders at all level, including with the business sector, to encourage knowledge sharing between business sectors globally.

In this regard, the G20 has a fully operating mechanism of the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue and its Roadmap of 2021-2023 to promote and share measures, actions, knowledge and good practices to foster resource efficiency and circular economy and other means to achieve sustainable production and consumption patterns. And in collaboration with the Government of Japan, G20 is currently developing the 4th Annual Report of Action on Marine Litter consisting of their respective targets and timeframe, actions as well as initiatives to reaffirm their commitments to achieve the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision.

Further on conservation of biodiversity, both marine and terrestrial, and taking concerted actions to halt forest loss, species extinction, and expanding G20 Marine Protected Areas, the Ministers stressed that, in addition to conservation, the protection, restoration and sustainable use of nature are critical to achieve the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, both marine and terrestrial. The Ministers committed to strengthen evidence-based, effective, and holistic action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and to address direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, with particular focus on unique ecosystems, such as Peatland and Mangrove. These actions include: (1) mainstreaming biodiversity protection, conservation, sustainable use and restoration into all policies; (2) working towards achieving a clear,
ambitious, realistic, transformative and robust Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework along with its means of implementation, a set of measurable headline indicators and an effective implementation and review and reporting mechanism; and (3) updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans accordingly, as appropriate.

The Ministers also made a call on participating delegations to the negotiation under UNCLOS to achieve an ambitious and balanced agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ). The Ministers were also discussing the importance of establishment and effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs), based on the best available scientific information, as tools to conserve and sustainably use marine ecosystems and biodiversity.

Moving on to recommendations on “accessibility of sustainable finance and establishing climate finance principles that avoids creating additional debt to low-income and developing countries,” the G20 Environment and Climate Ministers are committed to strengthening policies to enhance the participation of public and private financial institutions and other relevant public institutions in sustainable finance, and are also committed to the implementation of the G20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap. The Ministers encourage the further development and implementation of innovative financing instruments that support the protection, conservation sustainable use and restoration of nature.

On climate finance, the Ministers highlighted the importance of support for developing countries through capacity building, development, transfer, and deployment of technologies, and mobilization of climate finance, as well as the coherence of financial flows with a low GHG emissions and climate resilient development. The Ministers also made commitment to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including by strengthening policy strategies and governance of comprehensive risk management including disaster risk reduction, displacement and non-economic losses.

Thank you, Excellencies.