Thank you chair,

This is a statement from the Group on Earth Observations – Biodiversity Observation Network or GEO BON. In regards with the design of the post-2020 strategy, particularly when considering lessons learned from the previous strategic plan for biodiversity, we would like to present to the Parties the **BEIJING CALL ON BIODIVERSITY OBSERVATIONS FOR POST-2020 DECISION-MAKING.**

We, the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, have gathered scientists and practitioners from 25 countries, on the occasion of our 10th anniversary, in Beijing, to discuss the future of biodiversity monitoring globally. **We call on the Parties to the CBD to significantly step up their efforts on the collection, analysis and delivery of biodiversity observations to advance the world towards the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.**

Despite significant progress over the last decade in gathering biodiversity observations and on the development of indicators, numerous gaps and barriers remain. Without a significant increase in the global investment in biodiversity monitoring, existing observation gaps will remain and continue to impair the assessment of policy goals as well as limit their effective implementation.

To achieve a step change in action, **we propose that the post-2020 targets explicitly include the development of sustained operational national biodiversity observation networks.** Such national monitoring systems would routinely collect *in situ* and remote sensing data in the terrestrial, marine, and freshwater realms; aggregate and publish the data into public repositories; model Essential Biodiversity Variables; report on indicators relevant to national biodiversity strategies and targets; and greatly facilitate policy implementation at a critical time for the world's biodiversity. Developing such national biodiversity observation networks should be a priority in the post-2020 period and GEO BON stands ready to support these efforts.

We will submit to the Secretariat the full version of the Beijing Call in writing. Thank you chair.