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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Stockholm+50: 'A healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity' (Stockholm, Sweden, 2-3 June 2022) - Information from the Swedish delegation

Delegations will find in the Annex an information note from the Swedish delegation on the above subject, to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the Council (Environment) meeting on 28 June 2022.

Stockholm+50: ‘A healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity’ (Stockholm, Sweden, 2-3 June 2022)

- Information from the Swedish delegation -

On June 2-3 2022, Kenya and Sweden hosted the international UN meeting Stockholm+50 to commemorate the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and to accelerate implementation in the coming decade of measures in key areas for ensuring a sustainable future: the relationship between humans and nature, what we invest in, and how resources are used and shared.

Over four thousand participants from governments, youth, civil society, and business participated in Stockholm+50 and associated events. The European Commission was represented by Commissioner Sinkevičius, and environmental and climate ministers from several EU member states also participated. Germany and Finland acted as co-chairs for the leadership dialogues that were held as part of the meeting. Stockholm+50 is the culmination of a preparatory process with extensive and inclusive consultations and informal working groups. The process involved almost 50 000 people from all over the world, comprising a wide range of actors, not least young people, in a way that sets a new standard for inclusive multilateral processes.

Stockholm+50 showed that the world can join forces to address the triple planetary crises we are now experiencing. The meeting emphasised the urgent need for transformation and implementation of our joint commitments to achieve change for the well-being of current and future generations, but also pointed to the possibilities afforded by this transformation.

The main outcome of the meeting can be summarised in the 10 recommendations presented to the plenary with a focus on action-oriented measures to increase the pace of transformation. The recommendations include the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, the development of new welfare measures, the importance of rebuilding confidence in the multilateral system, the promotion of a global dialogue on sustainable consumption and production, support for the phasing out of fossil energy with the necessary support for the most vulnerable, and facilitation of a fair transition with a focus on education and new green jobs. The recommendations encompass many EU priorities in the field of the environment and the climate. The Youth Task Force policy paper received a special mention. Stockholm+50 clarified that meaningful involvement of young people will become an increasingly important feature of multilateral cooperation in the future. An action agenda for the transformation of sustainable value chains was also launched. In addition, Stockholm+50 generated a range of other outcomes, such as the launching of reports, initiatives, partnerships and policy papers.

Stockholm+50 generated new energy and determination which must now be translated into increased ambitions. Sweden intends to follow up on the outcomes from Stockholm+50 in relevant processes and to mobilise ahead of the UN Secretary-General's Summit of the Future in 2023. We encourage all actors to carry the meeting's message further and ensure thereby that Stockholm+50 becomes a milestone in the achievement of a better, more inclusive, and sustainable future.
