

## **WWF intervention.**

Thank you Mr President,

As this is the first time WWF is taking the floor, I would like to thank our host country Jamaica, and the Secretariat, for their hospitality and assistance. We also want to congratulate you on your election Mr President.

As one of the world's largest environmental organisations, WWF's mission is to build a future in **which people live in harmony with nature.**

We bear witness to the accelerating decline of nature and our climate, with serious consequences for life on Earth, including our own.

Nature is the foundation of all life on this planet, and can only be protected and restored if people are front and centre of this process, with everyone entitled to live in a healthy environment and human rights respected.

The recent letter submitted to the ISA by the three special rapporteurs, underscores the importance of upholding and safeguarding the right to peaceful protest. This right is enshrined in numerous international agreements and declarations, reflecting its universal significance in fostering dialogue, accountability, and positive change within societies.

WWF understands the critical role that peaceful protest plays in advancing environmental justice, human rights, and social progress.

We urge all Member States to ensure that the fundamental human right to peaceful protest is upheld.

It is imperative that member states uphold their obligations under international law to respect, protect, and fulfill this fundamental human right, ensuring that individuals and groups can express themselves peacefully **without fear of reprisal or persecution**. We thank the member states that have spoken up for these rights.

**The world is watching.**

Thank you Mr President.