*[AC, MIM]*

Thank you.

Just [yesterday], Denmark got a new government. And, as a result, our new minister Magnus Heunicke couldn’t make it in time to speak here today. So – as [deputy permanent secretary] – I will speak [on behalf of] the Kingdom of Denmark today.

The position of the Kingdom of Denmark remains very clear:

We need an ambitious agreement. The new Global Biodiversity Framework should build on the Aichi targets and should have clear and measurable targets.

Like the global protection of 30 percent of nature on land and of coastal and marine areas.

We need an agreement that will stop the destruction of our Ecosystems and effectively restore them.

And we need to invest in nature. Every sector and funding source has to contribute. We know how climate change drives biodiversity loss – and the other way around. Therefore, we need nature-based solutions.

The nature in Greenland is like nowhere else.

With these words, I would like to give the word to [Greenland’s minister of the environment], mister Lund:

*[MINISTER, GL]*

For centuries, we the people of Greenland have lived a life in balance with nature – the vast tundra, the ice, and the snow.

But even here. In one of the pristine ecosystems on Earth, nature is under pressure:

By pollution that has travelled [thousands] of kilometers, before settling on the shore or the snow. And by climate change that threatens the species that live in the Arctic and thereby endangering the livelihoods of Arctic Indigenous Peoples.

Our nature is inter-connected. And to protect it, we need global solutions.

And the agreement should respect and safeguard the rights of Indigenous Peoples: Indigenous Peoples are some of the most important guardians of the world’s biodiversity.

We must ensure their rights to land, traditional knowledge and sustainable use in the new Global Biodiversity Framework – in accordance with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

We have the opportunity to protect and halt the destruction of our nature.

For the benefit of us and future generations.

Let us seize this opportunity.

Thank you.