

**28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture – Written Correspondence Procedure**  
**Item 3.5: Progress towards the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem**  
**Restoration 2021-2030**

**Secretariat response to written questions from the Committee**

The Secretariat welcomes the inputs received from Members on the progress towards the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem restoration 2021-2030 and thanks all Members for their support to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

The Secretariat acknowledges the submission by Australia to the UN Decade Flagship Initiative call. 153 expressions of interest have been received from across the world. Governments endorsed 73 valid nominations, from 61 countries, including 19 cross-border flagships. A review process is ongoing to select 10 flagships. The first 10 selected flagships will be announced during a launch gala to be held at the end of 2022.

The Secretariat thanks the European Union and its 27 member states for their continued commitment to support global efforts to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide. The Secretariat acknowledges the important role of ecosystem services in climate adaptation, and the need to reduce soil degradation and enhance soil health as well as promote sustainable and integrated water resources management, and to address the challenges related to marine and coastal ecosystems.

The Secretariat welcomes the People's Republic of China's inputs and takes note of its national efforts to promote ecosystem restoration. The Secretariat is following with attention the ongoing discussions on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to be adopted at the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Target 2 of the GBF is on restoration and FAO emphasizes the need for the target to be linked to the UN Decade.

The Secretariat takes note of Chile's endorsement of the call to mobilize relevant resources and technical capacities to prevent, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation for better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life for all, and notes the plans and strategies in progress in the country.

The Secretariat notes the activities funded by the United States of America with regards to ecosystem restoration, through the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service and Forest Service.