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Dear First Minister,

In 2011 Scottish Environment LINK published *From Rhetoric to Reality*, which examined progress made towards Scotland's environmental ambitions. A decade on, and in the United Nation's Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, we have published our reassessment *From Rhetoric to Reality: Revisited*, which is attached.

Scottish Environment LINK welcomes the leadership shown by the Scottish Government on environmental matters and your recognition that we are living through connected crises of climate and nature. It is more important than ever that our environmental ambitions are translated into successful outcomes. Unfortunately, across many areas, progress has been too slow and has failed to reflect the urgency of the situation we face.

Our new report is an attempt to constructively identify the barriers to progress and to make suggestions to the Scottish Government as to what steps should now be taken. We were supported in the drafting of this report by the enthusiastic engagement of our 44 member bodies, who represent a broad spectrum of environmental interests. We hope to see a whole government approach to restoring nature and tackling climate change, and our recommendations cover a range of government portfolios.

We would be grateful for the Scottish Government's response to these recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Deborah Long, Chief Officer



Scottish Environment LINK the voice for Scotland's environment

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