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STATEMENT BY SWEDEN

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on Soil Monitoring and Resilience (Soil Monitoring Law)

In the negotiations, the proposal for a Soil Monitoring Law has moved in the right direction in most parts, substantially increasing the flexibility for the Member States.

Sweden reiterates its concerns regarding the inclusion of common sustainable management principles in the Directive. Although the General Approach clarifies that the Management principles in Annex III are guiding principles, Sweden regrets to see that Article 10 remains too far-reaching and strongly favour a deletion of the first paragraph of the Article and corresponding Annexes. Further, it should be made clear that sustainable soil management should only be applied to soils with poor health.

In this context, Sweden also notes the adopted position of the European Parliament of 10 April 2024, and trust that the incoming Presidency will work for an acceptable solution between the institutions during the trilogues.