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PZI President Speaks at Key UN Member States Meeting about the Interdependence of Animal Welfare, Environment, and Sustainable Development

Albuquerque, NM – Dr. Hope Ferdowsian, Phoenix Zones Initiative’s president, was invited to present to the UN Member States during a private April 1 meeting in Diani, Kenya. The meeting focused on the UNEA 5 resolution on the nexus between animal welfare, the environment, and sustainable development. Dr. Ferdowsian’s presentation illustrated how we are all connected and the importance of a just One Health approach, as emphasized in the UNEA 5 resolution. One Health is an interdisciplinary approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the interdependent health of humans, animals, and ecosystems.

The nexus connects global health priorities and will help meet the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). “It’s encouraging to see the progress being made at the UN in recognizing the connections between human, animal, and planetary health and wellbeing,” said Dr. Ferdowsian. “We look forward to ongoing opportunities to help move the needle forward.”

Dr. Ferdowsian drew upon her decades of experience working with vulnerable individuals, families, and communities around the globe to inform her presentation. Additionally, her experience as a selected advisor to the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Goal 3:

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“Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages” added a unique perspective.

Dr. Ferdowsian emphasized how the nexus and interlinkages with other SDGs are critical to meeting the SDGs, which include ending hunger and poverty, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture. She noted how holistically addressing the nexus can help create a world where all life can thrive and the most vulnerable human beings and other living species are protected.

About Phoenix Zones Initiative

Phoenix Zones Initiative (PZI) uses medical and public health expertise to advance the health and wellbeing of people, animals, and the planet through education, research, and advocacy. Led by physicians and an interdisciplinary team, PZI promotes social, economic, and environmental policy to uplift the most vulnerable, and provides resources to empower others to advocate for similar change.

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