

# Comments by the Republic of Korea

The 14<sup>th</sup> Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process

10 November 2020

The Republic of Korea wishes to present its view as follows about the third draft of the second World Ocean Assessment.

Overall comments on the third draft of the second world ocean assessment (WOA II)	
	The third draft appears duly prepared despite the limited time and resources. The Republic of Korea agrees to approve the third draft WOA II.
Chapter 1: Summary	
Section	Comment
2. Drivers  Page 2:	The concept of "the blue economy" appears confined to an "ocean-based economy." Considering the objective of the WOA (i.e., contributing to achieving SDGs in coastal and marine areas), the concept needs to encompass more ecological and environmental aspects. Therefore, it is recommendable to include more relevant entities and experts in concretizing the concept in the future.
4. Protecting marine ecosystems  Page 8:	The subsection "Open Ocean and Deep Sea" deals with significant changes and threats to marine ecosystems. Notably, Arctic and Antarctic marine ecosystems are undergoing serious ecological degradation driven by climate change and anthropogenic impacts. To raise public awareness of marine ecosystems degradation, recent environmental change, and significant threats of the polar region need to be addressed in the future.

8. Sustainable economic use of the ocean Page 16:	It is encouraging to find the updated definition of "the blue economy" as per the RoK's request. However, the expression 'sustainable shipping' needs to be modified to 'eco-friendly shipping' to imply an environmentally sustainable aspect.
<b>Chapter 8C: Coastal Communities and Maritime Industries</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>Comment</b>
7.2. Scale and distribution of tourism P. 496, Figure 5:	"South Korea" in figure 5 should be corrected to the "Republic of Korea," the official name. Group of Experts responded to RoK's comment on the 2nd draft of WOA II as follows: "The Group of Experts is well aware of the need to make this change. It requires the obtaining of a better file for the figure so that the amendment can be made. It was not practical to do this before the due date to send out the second draft."
<b>Chapter 29: Developments in Marine Spatial Planning</b>	
<b>Section</b>	<b>Comment</b>
5. Progress in implementing marine spatial planning Page 847:	The Republic of Korea has implemented the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) system, one of the various types of 'Marine Spatial Planning' (MSP), since the late 1990s and enacted the ICM law in 2000. Since then, Korea has witnessed remarkable achievements in the MSP area for the last two decades. Based on this achievement, the Republic of Korea is willing to share its experience with the global society.

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