

Preparatory Meeting, February 4 PM

## Remarks

### By the co-facilitators of the agreed declaration Of the OCEAN conference

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#### [Ambassador Hermann of Denmark]

I call to order the second meeting of the preparatory meeting for the 2020 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. 

We shall now begin our discussion on elements for a brief, concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed declaration. We remind you of the mandate given in General Assembly resolution 73/292, that the declaration will focus on, and highlight science-based and innovative areas of action to support the implementation of SDG14.

In order to ensure that we will have a focused and fruitful discussion, we circulated a set of guiding questions in a letter dated 21 January. We hope that you will address these questions in your interventions.

In our letter, we asked the following guiding questions:

- 1) What are important science-based and innovative areas of action, contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, which could be reflected in the declaration?

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- 2) How can the declaration advance action on concrete, science-based and innovative solutions supporting the implementation of Goal 14?
- 3) How can the international community leverage synergies in the work in science-based and innovative areas of action to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development?
- 4) What are the main challenges to the achievement of Goal 14, especially as it relates to science and innovation?

Before the floor is opened for statements, as indicated in our letter of 30 January, I wish to remind participants of the time limit of FIVE minutes for States speaking on behalf of a group of States, THREE minutes for States speaking in a national capacity, and TWO minutes for other participants so that all requests for the floor can be accommodated.

I would therefore request speakers to keep statements as brief and succinct as possible. Representatives with longer statements are encouraged to read a shorter version of their text and to submit their full-length statements to the Secretariat for posting on the Conference website.

Participants are kindly requested to press the button on the console before them in order to request for the floor.

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**[Ambassador Uludong of Palau]**

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I now give the floor to the representative of \_\_\_\_\_.

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I thank the representative of \_\_\_\_\_.

**[Ambassador Uludong of Palau]**

We have heard the last speaker in the discussion on elements for a declaration for this meeting.

I thank delegations for their attendance and participation at this preparatory meeting. I speak on behalf of both Ambassador Hermann and myself when I say that it has been very interesting to listen to your interventions and it has given us a lot to think about. We look forward to continuing the discussion tomorrow. As indicated in the programme, we shall continue our discussion on elements for a declaration tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. in this Room.

The meeting is adjourned. 

