



Information Note

Concept Papers for Interactive Dialogues of the 2020 UN Ocean Conference

INTRODUCTION

General Assembly resolution 73/292 requests the Secretary-General of 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 to prepare concept papers on each of the themes of the interactive dialogues, taking into account the relevant ocean-related processes of the General Assembly and other possible contributions, and in that regard invites the stakeholders referred to in paragraph 5 (d) of resolution 73/292 to submit inputs.

The President of the General Assembly circulated a letter to Member States on 11 February 2020, in which he forwarded the letter from the co-facilitators of the 2020 UN Ocean Conference preparatory process, H.E. Mr. Martin Bille Hermann, Permanent Representative of Denmark and H.E. Ms. Ngedikes Olai Uludong, Permanent Representative of Palau related to the preparatory meeting of the Conference held on 4-5 February 2020. The letter from the co-facilitators contains the final list for the themes for the eight interactive dialogues of the Conference. The letter of the President of the General Assembly is available at the Conference website: [https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/oceans - _silence not broken-letter from co-facilitators.pdf](https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/oceans_-_silence_not_broken-letter_from_co-facilitators.pdf)

Following the letter of the President of the General Assembly and in line with paragraph 23 of resolution 73/292, the Secretary-General of the Conference, Mr. LIU Zhenmin sent a letter to Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers on 25 February 2020, inviting them to contribute to the concept papers on each of the themes of the eight interactive dialogues. The letter is available online: https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/desa-20-00475_2020_ocean_conf_ms_inputs_to_concept_notes_1.pdf. In addition, a letter was also sent to the United Nations system on 29 January 2020 inviting contributions to concept notes as well.

SUBMISSION FOR INPUTS

Paragraph 5 (d) of resolution 73/292 requests that the conference shall: “Involve all relevant stakeholders, bringing together Governments, the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, other interested international bodies, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector, philanthropic organizations and other actors to assess challenges and opportunities relating to, as well as actions taken towards, the implementation of Goal 14”.

Among the entities mentioned in paragraph 5(d), Governments, the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and other interested international bodies are invited to send their inputs to the preparation of the concept papers to the Secretariat (Ms. Xin Feng, xin.feng@un.org, Mr. Yoshinobu Takei, takei@un.org, copied to Ms. Madhushree Chatterjee, chatterjeem@un.org, and Mr. Dmitry Gonchar, gonchar@un.org by **16 March 2020**).

In addition, all other stakeholders: non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector, philanthropic organizations and other actors are also invited to provide inputs to the concept papers on each of the themes of the interactive dialogues by **16 March 2020**. The request for inputs from stakeholders is now available at the Conference website: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2020/preparation/stakeholders>.

SUGGESTED TEMPLATE FOR CONCEPT PAPERS

As requested in resolution 73/292, paragraph 23, the Secretary-General of the Conference will prepare concept papers for each of the themes of the eight interactive dialogues. All relevant stakeholders may provide inputs to the following components:

- a) Status and trends**
- b) Challenges and opportunities**
 - Gaps identified in the area relevant to the topic
 - Measures/interventions should be promoted to fill existing gaps and to assist Member States in scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation in relation to the topic of this theme.
 - Concrete examples where ocean action is scaled up based on science and innovation
- c) Existing partnerships**
 - Focus could be on scientific and technological innovation-based partnerships
- d) Possible areas for new partnerships**
- e) Conclusions and recommendations**
- f) Key questions for the dialogue at the 2020 UN Ocean Conference**

Due to the restriction on the length of the documents, the Secretariat may not be in the position to reflect the full contributions in the concept papers. However, all contributions will be made available online.
