



مؤسسة محمد السادس لحماية البيئة
FONDATION MOHAMMED VI
POUR LA PROTECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
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Preparatory Meeting to 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

Speaking points of the Secretary General of the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, February 4th 2020:

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection is a Moroccan NGO chaired by **Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa**.

Firstly, I would like to extend my appreciation to Portugal and Kenya for co-hosting this important conference.

The Foundation's fundamental mission is to raise awareness through education for sustainable development. The Foundation works with the general public, from schoolchildren to political and economic decision makers, including the private sector. Since its very creation, two decades ago, the Foundation has been committed to the safeguard of coastlines in an inclusive multi stakeholder approach.

Indeed, on oceans, the Foundation is working closely with UN Environment, including through the Global Partnership on Marine Litter and with UNESCO and the IOC through Ocean Literacy and the UN decade for Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

I would like to highlight the importance to fully feature education for all, leaving no one behind, and a focus on youth, in the 2020 Ocean Conference. In the spirit of the 8th theme, the Foundation would like to invite all stakeholders to not consider the 8 themes in silo but on the contrary to commit to leveraging the synergies between the themes and the SDGs.

Finally, I would like to stress the importance of facilitating meaningful participation of diverse representation from the Global South, in particular from African Youth. It is important to build bridges between such conferences and local stakeholders all over the world. It is the spirit of the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training, a regional hub for education for sustainable development. We will host several international and local workshops on oceans this year at the Center and will be happy to associate you to those events. We are keen to work in partnership with you. We are here to listen and are eager to share.

Thank you.