Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I think we all agree that we need a multi stakeholder approach - both to ensure a healthy and productive ocean, but also to ensure an impactful and action oriented UN Ocean Conference.

The UN Global Compact will therefore support the partnership dialogues, facilitate accreditation of private sector representatives and organize a series of consultations prior to the Conference world wide.

It is clear that the Private Sector wants to address how business can deliver concrete results and progress - concrete action on how to ensure a healthy and productive ocean. We have for two years been working with a multi-stakeholder group on this and launched at the UN General Assembly last year the Sustainable Ocean Principles for companies.

We need to address land-based and ocean-based activities, we need Marine Protected Areas, good Marine Spatial Planning, more ocean science - and equally important we need to use the ocean more to produce more sustainable food, transport and energy. This is what we call the 5 Tipping Points for a Healthy and Productive Ocean. We need to enable the market forces to deliver on SDG 14 and all the Global Goals.

To be very concrete, we are soon launching a reference Paper for Blue Bonds as an addition to the Green Bonds - specifically targeting sustainable ocean business. This is an initiative from the finance sector and we see concrete interest in broad cooperation with business, academia, governments, cities and finance on this.