



10 January 2022

Excellency,

We are pleased to write to you in our capacity as co-facilitators for the intergovernmental consultations on the declaration for the 2022 United Nations Conference to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14.

As you will recall, the intergovernmental consultations for the declaration began in February 2020, but were put on hold due to the postponement of the conference. With the new dates for the conference having been decided by General Assembly resolution 75/578 to be 27 June to 1 July 2022, we are pleased to announce that we will now resume the intergovernmental consultations. We have the pleasure to invite you to the first informal meeting to be held on February 1 from 10 am to 1pm and from 3 to 6pm in the Trusteeship Council, if the COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions in effect at the time allow.

As we resume the consultations, we believe it is important to recognize and take into consideration the valuable input that Member States provided in the first rounds of consultations in the winter and spring of 2020, and which resulted in the revised draft declaration that was shared with Member States on 28 April 2020. You will find the latest draft attached to this letter. It is, therefore, our intention to build on the latest draft.

At the same time, we fully recognize that almost two years have passed since Member States last met to discuss the political declaration, and that there are, therefore, several aspects of the draft that are in need of updating, and that there may be new elements that need to be added. At the informal meeting on February 1, we, therefore, invite you to consider the draft of April 28, and reflect on which elements you believe should remain, and which are in need of updates. After we have received input from Member States, we will prepare a revised version, which will be the basis for the forthcoming consultations.

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations New York



In order to ensure that we will have a focused and fruitful discussion at the meeting, we kindly invite you to consider the below questions when preparing your statement. Recalling that the declaration shall be brief, concise and action-oriented and focus on the science-based and innovative areas of action to support the implementation of Goal 14,

- 1) The declaration mentions several concrete, science-based and innovative solutions to support the implementation of Goal 14. Are these still relevant, and are there any further that should be included?
- 2) What are the current main challenges to the achievement of Goal 14, especially as it relates to science and innovation?
- 3) How should the political declaration address the SDG 14 targets that matured in 2020?
- 4) How should the political declaration address relevant recent and upcoming UN Conferences and negotiations, such as UNFCCC COP26, CBD COP15, BBNJ, etc.?
- 5) Which, if any, effects of the Covid-19 pandemic should be reflected in the political declaration?
- 6) How can the declaration advance action on concrete, science-based and innovative solutions supporting the implementation of Goal 14?

There is no established list of speakers for the meeting. The time limits for statements will be five minutes for statements delivered on behalf of a group of States, three minutes for individual delegations and two minutes for observers and stakeholders. We will kindly ask all delegations to adhere to these time limits. All delegations are encouraged to submit the full-length version of their statement to the co-facilitators and to the Secretariat [email: chatterjeem@un.org]. The Secretariat will post statements to the conference websites, but it is of course up to each delegation whether they prefer to have their statement published or not.

We are committed to an open, inclusive, transparent process, and count on your support and your active and constructive engagement. We stand available to meet with Member States throughout the process, and encourage you to reach out to us at your convenience.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Ms. Keisha A. McGuire
Permanent Representative of Grenada
to the United Nations

Mr. Martin Bille Hermann
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

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