

DRAFT OUTLINE

(Addressing marine pollution)

I. Introduction (500 words)

- As seen in the SDG Target. 14.1. By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution,” this theme of interactive dialogue has primary importance at the upcoming United Nations Ocean Conference. With this regard, Japan puts emphasis especially on addressing marine plastic litter.

II. Status and trends (1500 words)

- The leaders of the G20 Osaka Summit of June 2019 shared the “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision (OBOV) ,” which aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050. Worldwide engagement, including that of emerging and developing countries that supposedly allow large amounts of plastic to flow into the ocean, is required to solve the issue of marine plastic litter. Japan has been calling on non-G20 countries to share the Vision, and 87 countries and regions have already joined as of February 2022.

III. Challenges and opportunities (2800 words)

- To realize the vision, the "G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter" was adopted at the "G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth" for countries to share information on countermeasures and promote effective action through mutual learning. Since the first "G20 Report on Actions against Marine Plastic Litter” was compiled in 2019, the report has been compiled by countries of the G20 Presidency, and the number of participating countries and organizations have also been increasing beyond the G20 member countries. By discussing OBOV at UNOC, we can expect to see more countries joining this collaborative mutual learning process on tackling marine plastic pollution.
- In addition, guided by the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, Japan has been promoting “MARINE initiative” to advance effective actions to combat marine plastic litter at a global scale focusing on (1) Management of wastes, (2) Recovery of marine litter, (3) Innovation, and (4) Empowerment. For instance, Japan has trained over 6,000 people in the area of waste management worldwide as of February 2022, in collaboration with the UNEP International Environmental Technology Centre and relevant institutions, and aims to train 10,000 officials by 2025. It is crucial to tackle the issue of marine plastic litter with a wide range of actors including developing countries, and Japan has provided necessary supports with this recognition. Assistance and technology transfer to developing countries continues to be a challenge for the international community. The UNOC can provide an opportunity to identify the needs and advance more effective international cooperation.

IV. Existing partnerships (1200 words)

- V. Possible areas for new partnerships (1200 words)**
- VI. Conclusions and recommendations (1000 words)**
- VII. Key questions for the dialogue at the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (300 words)**