Excellency,

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

We would once again like to thank you for the constructive input we received at our meeting on February 1. We were also encouraged by the indications of support to the previous draft, which many of you still found to be relevant, although certain updates of course were required. Based on the inputs we received, we have prepared a zero draft. In developing the zero draft, we have been guided by the mandate to prepare a brief, concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed declaration that focuses on, and highlights, the science-based and innovative areas of action to support the implementation of Goal 14. As mentioned, we are building on the draft from 2020, and have attempted to capture the views expressed by Member States at the February 1 meeting regarding needed updates. We look forward to hearing your reactions.

We have the pleasure to invite you to the second informal consultations, to be held on March 10 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the General Assembly Hall and on March 11 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the General Assembly Hall. In our reading of the zero draft, we propose that we divide our discussion in two. We will first discuss paragraphs 1 through 10, and subsequently paragraphs 11 through 15. There is no established list of speakers for the meeting. The time limit for statements will be five minutes for statements delivered on behalf of a group of States and three minutes for individual delegations. We kindly ask all delegations to adhere to these limits.

All delegations are encouraged to submit your written statements to the Secretariat at chatterjeem@un.org as well as Mira Bergem (Denmark) at mirber@um.dk and Nerissa Williams (Grenada) at nerissa.williams@un.int. When sending the statements, kindly indicate whether or not you would like for the statement to be published on the conference website. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our experts if you would like to discuss the text bilaterally.
After the second round of informal consultations, we will circulate a revised draft, and will invite you to a third round of informal consultations on April 4 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the General Assembly Hall, and if needed, on April 5, also in the General Assembly Hall.

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