

2022 UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE
ONLINE STAKEHOLDER BRIEFING: INPUTS TO THE POLITICAL DECLARATION

ZERO DRAFT

23 March 2022

10:30 – 11:30 AM (EDT, New York)

Written Statement

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We, the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR), a network of more than a 150 regions from 24 Member States of the EU and beyond, believe in the utmost importance of the involvement of regional and local authorities in the discussions regarding ocean pollution. Not only are they the implementors of measures, but their territorial knowledge and on-field expertise should be taken into account when discussing the measures to be implemented for the most relevant and effective deployment.

For these reasons, we are asking for a stronger emphasis on the role regions can play, in particular **in 12.b** :

“Enhance cooperation at the global, regional, sub-regional and national level in order to strengthen mechanisms for collaboration, knowledge-sharing and exchange of best practices within marine scientific research and to support developing countries in addressing their constraints in access to technology, including through strengthening science, technology and innovation infrastructure, domestic innovation capabilities, absorptive capacities and the capacity of national statistical systems, in particular in the most vulnerable countries, which face the greatest challenges in collecting, analyzing and using reliable data and statistics. *We thus recognise the importance of strengthening collaboration with local and regional governments as key interlocutors for effective dialogue and for the implementation of measures to fight against ocean pollution.*”

In addition, we wish to add the mention of “small island **regions** and developing states” in paragraph **7 and 12** to underline their existence and thus specificities.