The Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management (S2S Platform) and its partners, including the Stockholm International Water Institute, welcome this opportunity to provide input on the zero draft of the political declaration. We have based our contributions on the following background paper "Starting at the Source to Save the Sea: Looking upstream to achieve SDG 14."

For your guidance, below you can find extracts of the paragraphs of the Political Declaration Zero Draft with the S2S Platform’s suggested modifications highlighted in red text in brackets [].

**Our ocean, our future, our responsibility**

**Paragraph 3**

...We underline the interlinkages [between land, freshwater and marine ecosystems] and synergies between Goal 14 and the other Sustainable Development Goals, and ...

**Paragraph 4**

We are therefore deeply alarmed by the [many] global [emergencies] facing the ocean. Sea levels are rising, the ocean is warmer and more acidic. Plastic [and nutrient] pollution [from land-based sources] continues to enter the ocean at an alarming rate...

**Paragraph 5**

...as established highlighted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its special report entitled The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate. [Many of these impacts arise far upstream of the ocean and must be addressed from source to sea. Fragmented governance is a contributing factor to the state of the ocean and coordinated source-to-sea management is strongly needed]. We emphasize that...

**Paragraph 6**

We are deeply concerned by the findings about cumulative human impacts on the ocean [from land–and ocean-based activities], including ecosystem ... and to protecting and restoring its resilience and ecological integrity [by taking action to address the impacts from human activities from source to sea]. We are encouraged by...

**Paragraph 7**

...has exacerbated the problem of marine plastic litter and microplastics in the ocean. [This calls for holistic approaches to managing plastic waste from land-based sources.] We also recognize the devastating impacts...
Paragraph 11

a. Informing [holistic coordinated source-to-sea management], planning and decision-making, through improving our understanding of the impact of cumulative human activities [including land-based] on the ocean [considering the linkages between ecosystems from source to sea] and anticipating the impacts of planned activities [on the source-to-sea system as a whole] and eliminating or minimizing their negative effects.

b. ...contributing to comprehensive [source-to-sea and] life-cycle approaches, that include improved waste management.

c. ...contributing to comprehensive life-cycle approaches, [addressing plastic litter at its land-based sources], developing new materials for...

d. ...applying the precautionary and ecosystem-based approach [that considers linkages between land, freshwater, coasts and the ocean], in accordance with national legislation and international law, [New language]

Paragraph 12

a. ... in developing countries to improve data collection and analysis, [and encourage data collection and scientific observation to better understand the linkages between land, freshwater, coasts and the ocean] [Based on A/74/630, para 76 and A/RES/74/4, OP27(i)]

b. ...best practices within marine scientific research [and with the freshwater scientific community] and to support developing countries...

c. ...and scientific partnerships [from source to sea], including by incentivizing...

d. ...of sustainable ocean-based economies [and to encourage upstream actions that benefit ocean health], [and for upstream actions that will protect these] economies including through...

h. ...policy is informed by the best-available science [, considering the upstream-downstream linkages between ecosystems] and relevant traditional knowledge...

Paragraph 14

... enhancing inter-agency coordination and coherence throughout the United Nations system on ocean issues, through the work of UN-Oceans [including by enhancing linkages to land-based issues affecting the health of the ocean]. [A/RES/71/312, OP14]