

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

23 March 2022

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**Contribution from chatbox**

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**Stefán Jón Hafstein (Special Envoy for the Ocean, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Iceland, Aquatic/Blue FOOD Coalition)**

Chair,

I am speaking on behalf of the Aquatic/Blue FOOD Coalition which was launched at the UN Food Systems Summit last year.

We are a coalition of about 30 international actors, including 20 member states.

We have a proposal for addition to the Political Declaration. In paragraph 11 we would like to add:

Mobilizing actions for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture to deliver sufficient, safe and nutritious food, recognizing SDG 14 as vital for sustainable food systems and for achieving SDG 2 by 2030, while supporting a healthy ocean, marine ecosystems and a vibrant ocean-based economy.

Our mission is raising the profile of aquatic/blue foods in food system dialogues and mobilizing resources for projects. We aim to focus world attention on the role that the ocean plays in food security and nutrition, poverty eradication and sustainable natural resource use.

Our agenda is clearly linking SDG 14 to the all important SDG1 and SDG2 and a number of other sustainable development goals.

Finally: At UN Ocean Conference, we have a tremendous opportunity. In this forum we will highlight the groundbreaking science that demonstrates blue foods' ability to fill food security, share stories of fisheries and communities that provide this critical source of food and nutrition to the world.

We will galvanize action from policy makers and funders for investments and policies that can provide a growing global population with sustainable and equitably sourced food.

The Political Declaration must reflect this reality.

**Michael Jones (TMA BlueTech)**

Clusters are well-recognized as important economic development agents by coordinating the Triple Helix (education + industry + policymakers) region-by-region. In Paragraph 12c, we would like to see a reference to the development of Blue Economy clusters globally to help promote international collaboration as follows:

Establish effective partnerships, including multi-stakeholder, public-private, cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary and scientific partnerships via regional innovation clusters and other organizations, by incentivizing the sharing of good practices, giving visibility to well-performing partnerships and creating space for meaningful interaction and networking and capacity building.

**Katharina Paetz (Environmental Justice Foundation)**

Thanks for this great meeting & opportunity to provide input: The 2022 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue is a timely opportunity to highlight this and urge countries who have not submitted updated NDCs and/or NAPs to include ocean protection within a portfolio of mitigation and adaptation solutions. This must also apply to upcoming reviews in goals. The Dialogue must also serve as a forum for increasing coordination on ocean policy across regional and national levels, including promotion of best practices, and as a platform for exploring complementarity across different treaties, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UN Convention on the Law

of the Sea, and frameworks under development such as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction treaty and a UN plastics convention.

**Alice Tipping (International Institute for Sustainable Development)**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to this declaration. Many of you will be aware negotiations on a binding multilateral agreement on fisheries subsidies is due to be concluded at the World Trade Organisation in Geneva in June this year, just before the Ocean Conference. Successful conclusion of the negotiations would represent achievement, in large measure, of SDG target 14.6. We suggest additional paragraph, perhaps between current para 10 and 11 along the following lines:

“Welcoming the outcomes of the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference and the conclusion of negotiations of the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement, we commit to the effective implementation of the new agreement, recognizing the importance of technical assistance and capacity building for developing and least developed countries in their efforts to achieve SDG target 14.6.”

**Maria Lopez-Acosta & Marie-Morgane Rouyer (One Ocean Summit University)**

The One Ocean Summit University has reviewed the Zero Draft of the political declaration in line of our work to present a Call for Action by early career scientists for the Ocean Conference in Lisbon, and we wish to make the following contributions.

Considering the important role early career scientists play in the current and future health of our oceans and coasts, we suggest including the following text as a new point in section 12 of the declaration:

"Ensure the optimal training and career development of early career scientists across marine and social disciplines at the global level, particularly in and from developing countries, who are and will be the professionals generating the science-based and innovative actions necessary to achieve a healthy, safe and resilient ocean for sustainable development by 2030 and beyond the UN Ocean Decade."

We consider essential to refer specifically to the importance of early career scientists in this declaration and to the need both to train researchers from developing countries in developed countries and to invest in the training capacities of researchers in developed countries

Considering the importance of the science-policy-society interface to improve sustainable ocean management we suggest that the section 12.c of the declaration be amended in the following way:

Establish effective partnerships, including multi-stakeholder, public-private, cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary and scientific partnerships, including by incentivizing the sharing of good practices, giving visibility to well-performing partnerships, promoting citizen science and science co-construction and creating space for meaningful interaction and networking and capacity building such as the Ocean Knowledge Action Network of Future Earth.

The interface between science-policy-society needs to be strengthened in order to achieve a healthy and resilient ocean. To do so, society should be engaged in the co-construction of science guiding policy. Promoting citizen sciences is a way to consolidate the interface between science and policy. The Ocean Knowledge Action Network of Future Earth is a prime example on how this can be achieved through engaging with stakeholders to develop science-based pathways towards

sustainable human-ocean interactions informed by solutions-oriented and integrated ocean research.

Note: The One Ocean Summit University was born alongside the One Ocean Summit (organized in Brest by the European Union Presidency 9-11 February 2022) and is an initiative from the University of Brest in collaboration with several academic institutions and international marine networks (ECOP, OYSTER, All-Atlantic Youth, Réseau des Universités Marines, SEA-EU, CONEXUS, etc.). It gathers PhD and postdoctoral researchers from around the world that came together to write a call for action, to be launched in Lisbon, highlighting priorities for a sustainably-managed and resilient ocean as seen by early-career marine researchers

**Gordana Grujic (OASIS, Serbia)**

“We underline the interlinkages and synergies between Goal 14 and the other Sustainable Development Goals, and recognize that the implementation of Goal 14 can contribute significantly to the realization of the 2030 Agenda, which is integrated and indivisible in its nature”.

I suggest to develop in one or two sentence linkages with other particular SDGs. Thank you.