



Intervention by Colombia
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Minister Counselor

2022 United Nations Ocean Conference
Second Informal Consultations
March 24th, 2022 / 10:00 am – 1:00 pm (CR2)

3 minutes

Dear co-Facilitators.

Good morning.

Thank you for convening this meeting and for your efforts to produce the current draft of the Declaration, in which we find several merits.

To begin with, Colombia adheres itself to the statement made by Pakistan on behalf of the G77 and China.

Given time limitations, I will only focus on paragraph 8.

In our national capacity, my country wishes to emphasize, as was mentioned earlier today, that Resolution 73/292 sets out a very clear instruction: *“adopt, by consensus, a brief, concise, action-oriented and inter-governmentally agreed declaration”*.

In this vein, creating new language or bringing wordings from other negotiations would deviate us from that clear mandate and would open a discussion on matters that have already been agreed.

In light of the current version, Colombia finds itself in the position to have to reiterate that target 14c mentions UNCLOS as *“the legal framework for the*



conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources". Therefore, paragraph 8 in the draft resolution shouldn't reflect any other language.

Likewise, my country would like to insist that that the Declaration must reaffirm the commitments included in the 2017 Call for Action, precisely to avoid renegotiating those agreements and duly fulfill the mandate we have.

Having said all this, Colombia voices its support to the requests made by several delegations on this topic and requests the co-facilitators not to import language from other processes and to return to the agreed language for paragraph 8.

Last but not least, allow me to indicate that we stand ready to engage with all delegations, be it at the plenary, at the bilateral level, at a small group informal setting or at any other format the co-facilitators may think of, in order to bridge positions and reach an agreement amongst all.

Thank you.