



MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE EL SALVADOR
ANTE LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS

SECOND INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE 2022 UN OCEAN CONFERENCE
DECLARATION

REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR

New York, 24–25 March 2022

[Check against delivery]

Distinguished Co-facilitators, delegates:

The Republic of El Salvador associates itself with the intervention delivered by the Group of 77 and China, and in our national capacity, my delegation wishes to express the following considerations:

- On February 1st, on the first round of intergovernmental consultations, my delegation reaffirmed the importance of continuing the call for action and working towards the sustainable protection of ocean activities in order to guarantee food security for millions of people and to promote efforts that allow for the conservation and sustainable management of coastal and marine resources.
- In this regard, we reiterate that our participation in this intergovernmental negotiation process is based on the real need to advocate for scientific and innovative solutions that allow for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14. Thus, in accordance with the inputs that we have notified to the co-facilitators on February 1st, my delegation has identified the need to update language in the text of the declaration, as we noted in **paragraph 4** of the draft text circulated on February 14th, and in which we have suggested expanding the paragraph to add the seriousness of the phenomenon of coastal erosion and plastic pollution in the oceans that has now been aggravated by the pandemic of COVID-19.
- Similarly, we echo what was expressed by the Group of 77 and China, particularly with regard to **paragraph 10**, in which it is proposed to strengthen the ways of implementing scientific and innovative solutions, considering the special circumstances that characterize developing countries; and therefore, we see as

essential the transfer of marine technology to enhance scientific observation networks on coastal and marine resources and promote the development of good practices in their protection and sustainable management.

Excellencies,

- El Salvador would like to refer to the current language of **paragraph 8** of the draft Revised Declaration. As has been stated since the first round of consultations, my delegation considers that the language currently reflected in paragraph 8 of the text is far from contributing to the universality intended by the draft Declaration in question, since it excludes States that, although they have participated constructively in this process, their legal position with respect to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea has not been respected.
- We consider that this Declaration includes political commitments that go beyond what is prescribed in the aforementioned Convention, to which not all of us are Parties, and therefore, with a view to being inclusive and reaffirming the scientific, environmental and multidimensional nature of the Political Declaration, we request the inclusion of a safeguard clause as El Salvador proposed in the first round of consultations. In case this proposal is not sufficient, my delegation, in the spirit of maintaining a constructive engagement in these negotiations, would like to then suggest, as a second option, to revert to the language set out in paragraph 11 of the Declaration adopted in 2017, entitled "Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action".

Thank you very much.

