



PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**STATEMENT BY MR NATHANIEL KHNG,
COUNSELLOR (LEGAL), PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE THIRD INFORMAL MEETING
ON THE DECLARATION FOR THE 2022 UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14,
NEW YORK, 19 APRIL 2022**

1 My delegation thanks the co-facilitators for the revised draft of the political declaration that was circulated on 6 April 2022.

2 Singapore's comments on the revised draft are as follows.

- Paragraphs 5 and 6: We support retaining the word “highlighted” in relation to the references to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, the Second World Ocean Assessment and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services’ Global Assessment Report.
- Paragraph 8: We support proposals to delete “greener” and “bluer” and keep to agreed language. Our suggestion would be for the last sentence to be amended to state: “We affirm that the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and the advancement of nature-based solutions plays a critical role in ~~building back better, greener and bluer, namely ensuring a sustainable, inclusive and environmentally resilient recovery~~ sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.”
- Paragraph 9: We support proposals to revert to the previous version of the text for this paragraph, which was based on language that has been adopted consistently by the UN General Assembly in its annual oceans and the law of the sea omnibus resolution.
- Paragraph 12: We support the G77 and China’s proposal to delete “ecosystem-based” in the first sentence of the chapeau. We also

propose amending the first sentence, based on language from the 1992 Rio Declaration and the UNFCCC, to state: “We recognize that **where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage**, the absence of adequate scientific information should not be used as a reason for postponing or failing to take required conservation or management measures, in line with the precautionary approach.”

- Paragraph 12(d): The reference to “emissions from the maritime sector” should be amended to “pollution from the maritime sector”. The use of “pollution” would be more appropriate, given that this sub-paragraph is on pollution.
- Paragraph 12(f): We propose amending “ecosystem-based approach” to “ecosystem approach”. This would be in line with established CBD language.
- Paragraph 13(i); We support the amendments proposed by the G77 and China for this sub-paragraph. In particular, we support replacing the reference to the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the setting of interim goals with a reference to the Initial IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships.

3 Thank you.

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