Interactive Dialogue 6- Increasing scientific knowledge and developing research capacity and transfer of marine technology at Tejo hall 0n 30th Jun , time 10 am to 1 PM

Excellencies, distinguished representatives, and ladies and gentlemen

Good morning,

With over 3 billion people heavily reliant on marine ecosystems for food and livelihoods, and the growing understanding of the pivotal role that the ocean will play in achieving global ambitions for climate action, a healthy ocean is also a foundation for achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Bangladesh understands that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to predict and respond to natural and anthropogenic events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas. But this can only be achieved by improving knowledge through international cooperative research. Scientific knowledge across a range of natural and social science disciplines, and with access to marine technology, is essential to sustainable ocean management and the transformations of humankind's relationship with the ocean. They are prerequisites for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development) and are crucial to humanity's ability to ensure a sustainable and equitable recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Disparities persist in scientific capacity in terms of financial, technological, and human resources, in particular between developed and developing countries, and contribute to the uneven distribution of scientific knowledge. At the same time it is also a fact that for a country like Bangladesh fully open access to data has not yet been widely achieved nor is there equitable access to the technology and skills needed to use ocean data.

There is a pressing need to better understand the effects of multiple natural and human-induced climate change and other anthropogenic activities on marine ecosystems, fisheries and wildlife and the resulting ecological, social and economic impacts. Transfer of marine technology includes activities that increase not only access to facilities and equipment, but also expertise, skills and knowledge that enhance research capacity. The resources available for sustained ocean observation programmes and for international coordination are insufficient to deliver all of the required advances, as the system is currently largely supported by short-term, research-based funding.

Early career professionals, women and actors from least developed countries and small island developing States are all underrepresented in ocean science. Global crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, have affected both ocean science activities and investment in science.

Partnerships are a form of cooperation that can involve multiple stakeholders and there is an expectation that all partners bring something to, and benefit from, the arrangement through mutually agreed approaches to defining partnership purpose, timeline, and goals.

International research partnerships can provide equipment, expertise, funding, or other resources to support and build the capacity of local research facilities and scientists who may not have previously had access to them.

I thank you all.