

**CONTRIBUTION OF TANZANIA DURING INTERACTIVE DIALOGUES 6:
INCREASING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND DEVELOPING RESEARCH
CAPACITY AND TRANSFER OF MARINE TECHNOLOGY**

DURING THE OCEAN CONFERENCE, LISBON, PORTUGAL, 30 JUNE 2022

Excellences,

Ladies and Gentleman,

I thank the Co-Chairs and moderators for this opportunity to contribute on behalf of the Government of Tanzania.

We cannot overemphasize the importance of scientific knowledge and use of scientific research for sustainable management of oceans and their resources. This is because achieving the objectives of SDG 14, and indeed all other SDGs, hinges on access to quality scientific data. Unfortunately, however, access to scientific knowledge on, and research capacity in, ocean science of member states is skewed against the developing nations. Increasing scientific knowledge and developing research capacity and transfer of marine technology enhances the chances of fulfilling our commitments and obligations towards sustainable management of oceans and the resources therein. Therefore, it is needed to level the playing field in ocean governance, by fostering stronger partnerships and eliminate inequities in the capacity to generate, use, and access to data and information and technology.

Excellences,

Ladies and Gentleman,

It is a fact that we cannot manage what we don't know; or formulate good policies in total darkness. Whoever has data and information on the resources in our oceans has a competitive advantage to sustainably develop, use, and manage ocean resources. It is a fact, also, that most developing and less developed coastal states have limited knowledge of the potential their oceans hold; hence they cannot use it to benefit their economies.

To enhance scientific knowledge and research capacity of developing small island and less developed coastal states, we must invest in the physical research infrastructure—including fully equipped laboratory facilities and research vessels; and creating national and regional research hubs and reducing the costs of research technology transfer.

We need to work together to bridge the various gaps identified in the concept paper, especially on generation, use and transfer of ocean knowledge, science and technology.

Excellences,

Ladies and Gentleman,

The United Republic of Tanzania (URT) recognizes the importance ocean science and research in sustainable ocean governance. That is why we have been investing in educating our people through establishment of universities and research institutions with particular focus to marine and aquatic science. The URT is, also, striving to enhance research capacity and infrastructure to harness the economic value of the vast blue resources that my country has.

Tanzania promotes building mutual regional and international partnerships and believes that investing in ocean science and capacity building in favor of the least developed countries and small island developing states will never go unnoticed and will contribute immensely towards achieving the national, regional, and global development agenda. It is in this context the United Republic of Tanzania advocates for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development to serve as a framework for continued cooperation with regional and international communities in enhancing the research capacity and use of ocean science and technology in achieving SDG 14.

I THANK YOU!!!