

Distinguished Guests,

- I would like to thank the **Governments of Kenya and Portugal** as well as the UN for organizing this important event.
- It is a great honor for me to be here for our oceans at the UN Ocean Conference 2022)
- Ocean-related data and information are essential for understanding ocean processes and ecosystem functioning and making informed decisions in light of the ocean's current and projected future state.
- In particular, such data essential to protect and conserve marine ecosystems and resources, manage human activities that support critical economic sectors, and ensure safety at sea.
- Our oceans are a source of food and livelihood and they regulate our climate as well.
- Our Oceans and Our Home are struggling with the triple crisis of pollution, biodiversity loss, and climate change.
- While climate change has an impact on biodiversity, biodiversity also has an impact on global warming and climate change.

- The impacts of climate change and marine pollution are destroying marine habitats and causing substantial biodiversity loss.
- Enhancing cooperation in protecting and managing marine areas and threatened species has an important role in the ecosystem around the world.
- Increasing the number of marine protected areas including Marine Protected Areas, Specially Protected Areas, and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas is very important to increase ecosystems' resilience and adaptive capacity against the problems we experience due to climate change.
- As a result, healthy ecosystems will be more resilient against climate change and facilitate the adaptation process.
- Türkiye carries out important efforts within the scope of the Strategic Action Programmes to combat the triple planetary crisis.
- Türkiye supports action plans and programmes to develop fair use of marine resources within the scope of the mentioned biodiversity and sustainability principles.

- Türkiye has adopted a climate-based and information-based decision-making process.
- Not only will these efforts support adaptation to climate change, but they will also ensure the sustainability of biological diversity, which is of great importance to us.
- We actively participate in international agreements including the BBNJ Process and International Convention on Plastic Pollution.
- We recognize that the planning and management process needs to be strengthened by continuous monitoring of the resilience of coastal areas.
- Türkiye implements the National Integrated Marine Pollution Monitoring Programme, a wide monitoring network, including 423 stations covering all sea areas surrounding our country.
- We are carrying out species monitoring projects, population monitoring and protection activities for endangered species within the framework of the National Action Plans and the Regional Sea Conventions to which we are a party.
- For example, Sea turtles are tracked by sea turtle researchers through satellite tracking devices.

- About 3,000 plant and animal species live along the 8,500 km coastline of Türkiye.
- As a last word, Life on Earth counts on carbon and water, and we, humans, must immediately find ways to cooperate more in order to sustain this together.

Thank you very much.