

Draft Outline

Secretary-General's background note for the preparatory meeting of the 2025 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 unido

I. Introduction

- Background of the Conference.
- Mandate for the background note as per General Assembly resolutions 78/128 and 77/242.
- Structure of the background note, including aim of the note, taking into consideration the overarching theme of the Conference “Accelerating action and mobilizing all actors to conserve and sustainably use the ocean”.

II. Status and Trends

1. Status and trends including key milestones.

Contributions are sought on the status of progress and trends in the implementation of SDG 14, since the United Nations Ocean Conference held in Lisbon in 2022. Entities are requested also to provide updates on the key milestones achieved of relevance to SDG14 in their respective areas since 2022.

III. Leveraging interlinkages between SDG 14 and other SDGs towards ocean action: Challenges and opportunities:

Contributions are sought on the interlinkages between the 10 targets of SDG 14 and other SDGs in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to address:

- Challenges to the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources (e.g., areas where gaps and challenges exist, where more action is needed);
- Opportunities for conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources, in particular considering interlinkages with other relevant SDGs.

IV. Mobilizing all actors to accelerating ocean action:

Contributions are sought on ways to promote collaboration, cooperation and partnerships to accelerate implementation of SDG 14. The following issues will be highlighted:

1. Investing in SDG 14

This section will focus on ways and means to support the implementation of SDG14. The following cross-cutting issues relevant to support the implementation of SDG 14 will be explored among others:

- Mobilizing finance for SDG 14.
- Marine science and technology (including technology development and transfer) and the use of traditional knowledge for ocean health.

Commented [ND1]: Recommend including a subsection on industrial impacts on oceans, covering both negative impacts (such as pollution and overexploitation of marine resources) and positive developments (such as advancements in sustainable marine technologies and practices).

Commented [ND2]: could include exploring how innovations in clean technology, renewable energy, and circular economy practices can support the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources.

Commented [ND3]: Need more examples and best practices of innovative financing mechanisms that support sustainable ocean-related industries. This could include blue bonds, public-private partnerships, and investments in sustainable aquaculture, marine renewable energy, and ecotourism. Not every option is suitable for every country, but we should be providing a proverbial fruit basket to them in support of their efforts. Should also bring to the table the gap in investment products from multilateral banks/credit facilities to provide finance to SMEs who want to reduce pollution/Co2 emissions.

- Capacity-building.

2. Strengthening Partnerships (including Voluntary Commitments)

This section will focus on key initiatives undertaken in partnership at the global, regional and national levels with a diverse set of stakeholders. Contributions may also highlight voluntary commitments made and their impact as relevant.

3. Mobilizing All actors

This section will consider the relevant stakeholders that need to be mobilized to accelerate ocean action, with a focus on the role of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities to leave no one behind.

V. Possible themes for the Ocean Action Panels

Recommendations will be made for the themes of the ten Ocean Action panels in this section, based on the input received.

VI. Way Ahead/Next Steps

Commented [ND4]: Could highlight the critical role of industry in reducing pollution, developing sustainable maritime logistics, and investing in marine biodiversity protection....and that they are a critical partner

Commented [ND5]: Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Clean Oceans. This conference needs to link with the efforts of PolluTech.