UNOC3 Preparatory Meeting, 2 July 2025 Statement by Norway

- Pleased that we share a high ambition on sustainable ocean management.
- The proposed Ocean Action panels coincide very closely with the Norwegian priorities.
- We believe in using UNOC to advocate transparency and accountability to reach the SDG 14 targets.
- We support the UNOC goal to reach successful conclusion on multilateral processes such as the <u>BBNJ treaty and an ambitious Global Plastic Agreement.</u>
- We believe that the BBNJ treaty will be essential in enhancing ocean management and paves way for closer cooperation across sectors to improve ocean health.
- It is critical that all governments ratify the treaty as soon as possible, so that the agreement can enter into force and be implemented.
- We will do our utmost to ensure that Norway will ratify the treaty well before UNOC. ***
- We aim to conclude the negotiations of a <u>historic agreement to end plastic pollution by the</u> <u>end of this year</u>. The global expectations for what we can achieve in the negotiations are high.
- Norway and the High Ambition Coalition have called for legally binding measures across the entire life cycle of plastics to end plastic pollution by 2040.

- A possible UNOC deliverable could be that all ocean and coastal states commit to 100% sustainable management of national ocean area guided by SOP by 2030.
- The Ocean Panel and its member states will work with France and Costa Rica for this outcome.
- The IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanic Commission) and the Ocean Panel work closely together and supplement each other on the ocean agenda.
- The IOC constitutes an important link to the UN system for ambitions on sustainable ocean planning and management.

- We would also like to add that the recent UN Ocean Decade conference in Barcelona highlighted that more knowledge is needed about the deep sea and the polar ocean areas.
- A general focus for UNOC3 should be to translate findings into practical policy and better ocean management.
- The road to the UN Ocean Conference in Nice next year will be crucial for our work both for the UN Ocean Decade and for the High Level Panel.

- We appreciate and welcome the strong support and collaboration from Costa Rica and France in this very important undertaking.
- We are looking forward to joining forces towards UNOC in Nice next year to support this holistic and ecosystem-based way of ocean management.
