Comment for the UNOC3 Ocean Action Panels

To the Co-chairs of the preparatory meeting

We would like to contribute with the following comment to the discussion on the Ocean Action Panels, at the Preparatory meeting 2nd July 2024:

We register that workers of the ocean are not taken into consideration in these deliberations. We therefore strongly encourage Parties to include fishers, seafarers and their organisations and trade unions in the themes of the Ocean Action Panels.

The labour movement organizes more than a million seafarers and about 146,000 fishers globally. We believe that SDG 14 in general, and 14.4, 14.6, 14.7, 14 c) and SDG 8 in particular will not be achieved without the cooperation and participation of workers.

We would also urge Parties to note and take into consideration the written comments from the ILO, underlining the imperative of engaging with the workers of the ocean to ensure all the pillars of sustainable development.

Should it be impossible to have a separate Ocean Action Panel as proposed above, we urge you to make a particular space under the proposed panel c) (cooperation).

Yours Sincerely,

Anne-Beth Skrede, on behalf of
The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions, LO-Norway
And the Trade Union Major Group