



SAMOA
On behalf of
THE ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES (AOSIS)

Preparatory Meeting
for
**The 2025 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable
Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources
for sustainable development**

Afternoon Session
2 July 2024

**Discussion on the elements for a declaration co-chaired by the co-facilitators to
conduct the intergovernmental consultations**

AOSIS welcomes the appointment of Ambassador Tania Romualdo of the Republic of Cabo Verde, and Ambassador James Larsen of Australia as co-facilitators of the consultations for a declaration to be adopted at the 2025 UN Ocean Conference. We look forward to engaging with the co-facilitators and delegations in the consultations to come.

With regards to the discussion at hand, AOSIS is of the view that the declaration must include elements that support and promote implementation of international law as reflected in UNCLOS which, as articulated in SDG 14.c, provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources.

Additionally, and as outlined in the *Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States*, or ABAS, targeted and results-focused interventions and commitments that support SIDS in the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and marine resources, including through sustainable management of ocean-based economic sectors; addressing biodiversity loss caused by harmful human activities; and, strengthening partnerships at all governance levels, are key elements for inclusion for SIDS. Specifically, but not limited to:

Capacity building, particularly for SIDS, to enable effective participation in activities under UNCLOS, including towards ratification and implementations of the provisions of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction;

Ocean financing solutions, including provisions for public-private sector partnerships that are innovative and can drive the transformation to sustainable ocean-based economies, and provide technical assistance to enhance actions; and,

Opportunities for *research and innovation* in ocean-related industries that explore new and appropriate technologies, sustainable practices and innovative solutions.

We are conscious that the intention is for the Declaration to be brief, concise, and action-oriented, and commit to engaging constructively with others to this end.

I thank you.