



**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
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*Statements on Partnership dialogue 1:
Addressing marine pollution*

Statement by

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Minister

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**Mister Chairman,
Excellences,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

This topic is a very complex one because of different conditions of the marine regions. For this reason, Regional Seas Conventions have an important role in coordinating implementation of Marine Strategies in all oceans and seas.

Increased sea levels and impacts on coastal areas are concerns that are requiring actions towards increasing the adaptation capacity.

At the national and regional levels, it is necessary to plan and manage the various economic activities that occur in the coastal areas, regulate human behaviour and integrate the use of coastal waters into land-use planning.

In this respect, Romania has developed a Master Plan for the protection and rehabilitation of Black Sea coastal zone. The proposed measures have as the main objectives stopping the coastal erosion, protecting the assets and the safety of housing in the coastal zone and are currently under implementation.

Romania, as the largest country in the Danube basin and through its geographical position, contributes to develop and update the Danube River Basin Management Plan.

Nutrient pollution has been identified as one of the significant water management issues in the Danube River Basin and therefore, the Black Sea, the receiving coastal and marine waters became more sensitive to eutrophication.

Agriculture and urban water management being the main sources responsible for the nutrient emissions, Romania and the other Danube countries focus their attention to reduce the discharge nutrient loads in the Danube Basin and the Black Sea.

Upgrading waste water treatment plants with nutrient removal technology, use phosphate-free detergents and apply the best practices in agriculture are the main measures implemented to reduce nutrient pollution.

Regarding these measures, Romania received support from the World Bank starting with 2002 for a project on integrated nutrient pollution control. This support will continue until 2022.

Measures taken by all Danube countries will avoid future deterioration of the Black Sea ecosystem and allow the Black Sea ecosystems to recover.

Thus, Romania will be part of the EU efforts to achieve the good environmental status of EU Member States marine waters by 2020. I take this opportunity to announce our voluntary commitment in order to support the implementation of SDG 14 – *“Good environmental status in the Black Sea marine region by 2020”*.

Our actions will allow us to prevent and reduce marine pollution in order to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Thank you for your attention.