

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE ON
BEHALF OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES DURING THE
11TH SESSION OF THE OWG ON SDG : NEW YORK : TH MAY 2014**

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Southern Africa Region namely; Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, South Africa, Zambia and my own Country Zimbabwe.

I wish to align this statement with the statements made by the Ambassadors of Bolivia and Lesotho on behalf of G77 and China and the Africa Group respectively.

Co-Chair

In terms of Focus Area 13 and 14, the Southern Africa Group has the following comments and proposals.

With regard to **Focus Area 13, CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE RESOURCES, OCEANS AND SEAS**, we suggest that the Goal be worded as follows:

“Promote the conservation and Sustainable use of Marine Resources, Oceans and Seas”.

In terms of targets, our group supports all the targets (a) to (g) as presently crafted and would like to add one more target (h); **Encourage Sustainable Small Scale Fisheries.**

With regard to FOCUS AREA 14: ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY, the Group agrees with the goal as is.

With regard to Targets, we suggest the following amendments:

On Target (a), by *2020, halt the loss of all biodiversity habitats, and protect threatened species*

Target (b), by 2020, ensure the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems including restoration of degraded ones.

Target (c), Maintain genetic diversity of cultivated plants, farmed and domesticated animals including their wild relatives

Target (d) ok as is.

Target (e), this is target implied in (b) above so it can be omitted

Target (f), ok as is

Target (g), ok as is

On Target (h), by 2030 eliminate invasive alien species in major ecosystems

Target (i), ok as is

I thank you.