

2022 UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE
ONLINE STAKEHOLDER BRIEFING: INPUTS TO THE POLITICAL
DECLARATION ZERO DRAFT

23 March 2022

10:30 – 11:30 AM (EDT, New York)

Intervention

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The European Marine Board would like to thank the Governments of Kenya and Portugal for co-hosting the 2022 UN Conference to support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and the Permanent Representatives of Denmark and Grenada for their leadership in drafting this political declaration. To Scale up our Ocean Action based on stocktaking, partnerships and solutions we need to ensure that all possible human impacts and all possible benefits that humanity might obtain from the Ocean are accounted for. We also must ensure that the full transdisciplinarity of Ocean science is included. The European Marine Board therefore suggests the inclusion of:

- The physical and mental health benefits of the Ocean in point 3 – as highlighted in the [EMB Policy Brief No 8](#) on Oceans and Human Health;
- The inclusion of Ocean deoxygenation and anoxia as an important threat in point 4;
- The inclusion of the impact of cumulative human activities on the Ocean and on the socio-economics of local coastal communities in point 11a;
- The inclusion of marine geological events to ocean-related extreme events in point 11f – as highlighted in the [EMB Position Paper No 26](#) on the hidden threats of marine geohazards;
- The inclusion of transdisciplinary science needed and committed to in point 12c – as highlighted in the [EC's IOG Forum](#) report; and
- Not just recognizing the role of traditional and local knowledge but also taking it into account in decision making – under point 12f.

The European Marine Board would like to thank the Permanent Representatives of Denmark and Grenada for their leadership in drafting the political declaration for the 2022 United Nations Conference to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14. The European Marine Board suggests the inclusion of the following text:

Point 3, line 6: [...] forms an important part of our natural and cultural heritage, PROVIDES HUMANS WITH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS, and plays an essential role in sustainable development, [...]

Point 4, line 2: [...] the ocean is warmer and more acidic AND ANOXIC. [...]

Point 11a, line 2: [...] through improving our understanding of the impact of cumulative human activities on the ocean AND ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMICS OF LOCAL COASTAL COMMUNITIES, and anticipating [...]

Point 11f, line 4: [...] preparing for ocean-related extreme weather AND GEOLOGICAL events [...]

Point 12c, line 2: [...] sectoral, INTER- AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY, and scientific [...]

Point 12e, line 1: Recognize the important role AND TAKE IT INTO ACCOUNT IN DECISION-MAKING of traditional and local knowledge [...]