



## **Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding**



in particular the youth, coming together with the same aim of reverting the trend on the declining health, resilience and productivity of our ocean and its resources. It is my hope that the hundreds of commitments made in Lisbon will quickly be turned into action. I note the many calls in Lisbon for the prompt conclusion of the work of this Conference.

The dire state of the ocean means that the time to act is now. And what better way to signal our determination to act, than finalizing a robust agreement that ensures the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in the largest spaces of the ocean?

At this critical stage of the negotiations, it is time to show the true spirit of multilateral cooperation. The focus must now be on finding compromise that allows for a mutually beneficial agreement. Delegations may need to exercise even greater flexibility than has already been shown in the interest of ensuring that the ocean gets what it urgently needs. I urge you to let the youth and future generations know through your actions that you will not let marine biodiversity collapse on your watch.

Madam Presip 58.0

