

Statement by Germany to the Preparatory Meeting for the 2020 UN Ocean Conference, New York 4-5 February 2020.

Dear Madame / Mr Co-Chair

1. Germany aligns itself with the statement presented by the European Union and its Member States and wishes to express a few complementary points.
2. We fully support the assessment by the Secretary General that “existing actions for the implementation of SDG14 are insufficient”. The decisions taken in the next ten years will be crucial for achieving Ocean health and the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon now comes at a critical juncture on the road towards 2030.
3. This delegation therefore suggests that the 2020 UN Ocean Conference should also address a couple of urgent overarching issues in the conference resolution that will complement the conference’s main theme and that will be crucial for the further implementation of SDG 14 and the 2030 Agenda:

As other delegations have pointed out already, in 2020 a number of targets under SDG14 will expire that will not be reached. We believe it is high time, therefore, to discuss the fate of these targets. Possible options may include extension of timelines for the relevant targets or their replacement by new targets. This conference should now discuss concrete steps towards renewed targets that could then be further considered and agreed by the HLPF. This should also include an approach how to take account relevant new targets,

that it could provide a policy-relevant and targeted state assessment on the way towards 2030. This delegation proposes that the UN Ocean Conference