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Thank you, Co-Facilitators.
I am pleased to deliver this statement on behalf of Pacific Islands Forum members with
presence here in New York, namely Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia,
Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands,
Tonga, Vanuatu and my own country, Tuvalu.
At the outset, the Pacific Islands Forum countries would like to congratulate you on your
appointment and express our appreciation for your hard work and for the letter circulated
in January this year, which provided an overview of the Ocean Conference’s mandate, as
well as posing questions for consideration at this meeting.
Science-based and innovative areas of action are cru

connections. Science-based and innovative areas of action are critical to save our ocean,
our people, traditions, cultures and future, when we are facing the greatest challenges
caused by the existential threat of climate change and related phenomena whilst driving
resilient, effective and robust solutions to overcome the risks posed to our ocean.
Science-based and innovative areas of action in mapping of the ocean, observations,

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harness opportunities to support SDG 14. Building up genuine partnerships is
indispensable to enhance the engagement of the Paci