Excellency,

You will recall that the General Assembly in resolution 70/303, decided to convene the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017. The overarching theme of the Conference is “Our oceans, our future: partnership for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14”.

The General Assembly further encouraged States and international donors, as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors in a position to do so, to support the preparations for the Conference through voluntary contributions to a trust fund, in support of preparations for the Conference and to support the participation of the representatives of developing countries, priority being given to representatives of the least developed countries and small island developing States, including coverage of economy-class air tickets, daily subsistence allowances and terminal expenses, in the meetings of the Conference and its preparatory meeting.

The Secretary-General has appointed me as Conference Secretary-General and in that capacity, I pledge to do all I can to ensure the success of the Conference. In this connection, I am writing to seek your Government’s contribution to the above-mentioned trust fund, in order to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the Conference and its preparatory meeting.

I look forward to your favorable response and to the opportunity of working with your Government. For details on funding requirements and the Trust Fund to which contributions should be sent, please contact Armin Plum (email: pluma@un.org; tel. 1-212-963-8158) and Chaudhry Iqbal (email: iqbalc@un.org; tel. 1-212-963-8563).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.