Distinguished co-facilitators,
Ladies and gentlemen:

Croatia fully aligns itself to the statement delivered earlier today by the European Union; however, we would like to add some remarks in our national capacity. In particular, we would like to address two issues:

First, Croatia welcomes the co-facilitators’ revised document on revised goals and targets, and further steps thereto. In particular, we would like to add our voice to those who previously mentioned the need of aligning them to the already existing international standards. Here we have in mind especially the proposed solution for the target 14. c, on protection of seas and oceans, and the introduction of the UNCLOS thereto. The said convention, being the fundamental international legal instrument that comprehensively regulates the law of the sea, thus justifies its reference.

Second, based on our discussion in March session, in particular on the technical report on the indicators, conducted by the UN Statistical Commission, we were pleased to hear some very sound steps forward today, as presented by Mr. John Pollinger. Hence, we welcome the Commission’s efforts, as set out in its plan for further work on the indicators.

As was previously mentioned, this process (technical in its nature) should be led by the Statistical Commission and accompanied by the support of the national statistical authorities and other competent regional and international institutions, especially in the field of data gathering.

Thank you.