

DE Statement, Session 1 - Discussion on the themes for the partnership dialogues

- Germany fully supports the statement made by the EU on behalf of the EU and its Member States. We, furthermore, highly appreciate the opportunity to thank the SG for the background note as an excellent basis for our further discussions.
- In the conference and the process towards it we regard it as a unique chance and at the same time our obligation to collectively start an implementation process for our jointly agreed goal on oceans, a process which is effective, transparent and participatory and which takes due account of existing processes on the various levels worldwide.
- In view of the specific timelines for the targets under SDG14, the oceans goal (and thereby this conference) can be regarded as a test case for the delivery of the 2030 Agenda by the global community.
- Although we look forward to putting on the table all relevant activities that we are undertaking and intending to undertake, we particularly see the June conference as a chance to take a close look at the governance structures needed and at the means and tools to make implementation effective.
- We understood the intentions by the Co-facilitators and our two hosts of the Conference to arrange for distinct partnership dialogues during the June conference, which themselves would be oriented along the targets under SDG 14. And we very much welcome and support this – in the literal sense - "target-oriented" approach.
- For the proposed dialogues we are intending to contribute with national and regional aquis, in addition to our joint EU contribution - much of our asset in German waters builds on joint regulatory frameworks and initiatives by the EU and its Member States.
- Obviously, however, also a number of cross-cutting issues needs to be discussed and resolved, such as governance structures and accompanying processes, capacity building and knowledge transfer, financing, interlinkeage with other SDGs and follow-up and review.
- We allow ourselves to forward this question towards the facilitators: Is it your intention to discuss these cross-cutting questions in each of the seven partnership dialogues separately – or would it be more appropriate to arrange for an own and dedicated segment to discuss cross-cutting issues jointly and focused, whether in form of another 'partnership dialogue' or as any other format, during the June conference?
- Germany would see the need for a targeted format for such questions to be discussed, rather than duplicating discussions on cross-cutting issues in the various partnership dialogues.
- On our side, we are in any case willing to become engaged and take an active role in such discussions, in which ever way they are organised.