



Statement by

H.E. Mr. Dian Triansyah Djani

Permanent Representative

Of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

at

Discussions on Elements for a “Call for Action”

Preparatory Meeting for the UN conference to Support the Implementation

of Sustainable Development Goal 14

New York, 16 February 2017

Excellencies,

Indonesia aligns itself with the statement delivered by Ecuador on behalf of the G77 and China.

Ocean is a very dear issue for Indonesians. As an archipelagic nation with more than 17 thousand islands spread over 99 thousand square kilometer of water, we have implemented the principle of 'Wawasan Nusantara', in which we perceive oceans and seas as uniting forces rather than separating ones.

Our ancestors followed the so-called 'cinnamon/spices route' and traveled as far as the southern tip of Africa to seek economic collaboration and friendship centuries ago. They learned and shared new culture and knowledge to better their community.

This spirit of genuine trust and partnership is the one we seek to insert and revive in the upcoming UN Conference to Support the Implementation of SDG 14.

Excellencies,

In line with the modalities for the Conference, we agree that "Call for Action" should be a concise, focused, and intergovernmentally agreed declaration. It will focus on actions needed in supporting the implementation of SDG 14.

In this regard, we would like to emphasize few key elements regarding the "Call for Action":

First, the "Call for Action" should emphasize the importance of mobilizing resources to support the implementation of SDG 14.

Mobilizing resources is not only about financing. We need to get better access for the best knowledge, technology, and sharing know-how, as well as learn from different level of community, within and between countries.

We need to convince the rest of global ocean environment, such as shipping industries, seafarer associations, insurance companies, and regional fisheries management organizations to work together and share their interest as well as their knowledge on how to deliver SDG 14. The key words are cooperation and partnership.

A UN Ocean platform perhaps is worth to consider.

Second, the “Call for Action” should include ways to collect better ocean data.

Ocean data is particularly lacking in many developing countries. The UN should come up with ways and means on how to produce greater data collection method, which includes ocean indicators, whilst emphasizing such work with the national statistical agency.

Our government is currently working with our national statistics bureau to come up with national ocean economy outlook that will be released on June 2017.

Having such report will eventually give policy makers a better understanding and enhance policy strategy in the future.

Third, it is also important to emphasize that the issue of oceans involves cross-cutting challenges and, therefore, requires cross-cutting solution.

In that regard, engaging wider, inclusive, and multi-disciplinary policy within the current ocean management is something worth to consider.

We need to look after our ocean in a different perspective in order to gain better impacts.

As a common heritage of mankind, we need people to pass over the knowledge of ocean. Teachers, rights activists, and students associations need to be more reached out.

In closing, allow me to reiterate Indonesia’s continued support for the preparations and convening of the Conference as a means to provide for the implementation of SDG 14. Indonesia looks forward to constructively engage in further discussions on “Call for Action” and announces its voluntary commitments for the implementation of SDG 14.

Thank you.