UN Ocean Conference 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal

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Information Paper submitted by Portugal, Sweden and WMO

Summary

In 2022, Portugal will be co-hosting – alongside Kenya – the second UN Ocean Conference in support of the implementation of SDG14, after constraints due to COVID-19. The Antarctic Treaty System has the capacity and expertise to be one of the key contributors to the success of the event.

Background

The Antarctic Treaty applies to the area south of 60ºS and has an important role in sharing and promoting Antarctic research with the World community, in accordance with Art. III of the Antarctic Treaty (ATCM XLII/IP68). The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Developments and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the SDGs (2015), aim to address global challenges facing humankind, including issues that overlap with some of the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty (Ex. Art. I, II and III), such as climate change (SDG13), water and ocean pollution (SDG6 and SDG14) and gender equality (SDG5).

**The 2022 UN Oceans Conference**

Organized by Portugal and Kenya, the next UN Ocean Conference will take place in Lisbon, between the 27th June and the 1st July 2022 (<https://www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022)>. Apart from the plenary meetings, the Conference will be holding interactive dialogues which will address themes related to the different targets under SDG 14, thus exploring the key role and potential that partnerships between different actors have to bring about the solutions supporting the full implementation of SDG 14 and other Ocean-related SDGs. Another key outcome of the Conference will be the adoption of an action-oriented political declaration, to be focused on essential areas where solutions based on science and innovation can perform a transformative role in addressing Ocean challenges.

Because of its focus on ocean science and innovation, the 2022 Ocean Conference will be a unique event that will enable us to continue raising global awareness to Ocean issues, establish new partnerships and concrete solutions and create opportunities to strengthen progress in the affirmation of the importance of a sustainable blue economy, the implementation of SDG14 and the conservation of our Ocean.

The UN Ocean Conference in 2022 will be an opportunity to get the World one step closer to the realization of our commitments under the 2030 Agenda and we are looking forward to welcoming representatives of all States, at the highest possible level, as well as all the interested stakeholders (private sector, academia and civil society) including a wide range of ocean-relevant international organizations.