



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

28 June 2016

Excellency,

Enclosed for your kind attention is a letter, dated 27 June 2016, from the Co-Facilitators on the modalities of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, H.E. Mr. Jagdish Koonjul, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mauritius and H.E. Mr. Magnus Lennartsson, Ambassador at the Permanent Mission of Sweden circulating the second revised draft resolution on modalities of the Conference, to be considered at the next informal consultation.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mogens Lykketoft', written in a cursive style.

Mogens Lykketoft

To all Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York



PERMANENT MISSION OF SWEDEN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York

27 June 2016

Excellency,

Please find attached a 2nd revised zero draft for the General Assembly Modalities resolution for the United Nations Conference to support the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and Sustainably Use the Ocean, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development.

We will be convening informal consultations between Member States on the attached 2nd revised zero draft on Wednesday 29 June 2016 at 10.00 am in CR11.

We would highly appreciate it if the attached 2nd revised zero draft could be circulated to Member States.

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

Jagdish Koonjul
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Mauritius

Magnus Lennartsson
Ambassador
Sweden

H.E. Mogens Lykketoft
President of the UN General Assembly, 70th Session

Seventieth session
Agenda items 20 and 79 (a)

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Modalities for 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

The General Assembly,

PP1 *Reaffirming* its resolution 70/226 of 22 December 2015 in its entirety and the decision to convene the high-level 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 in Fiji from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day, to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

PP2 *Recognizing* the integrated, indivisible, interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, and synergies and coherence between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, as well as other relevant frameworks such as the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,

PP3 *Recalling also* paragraph 2 of resolution 70/226 in which it decided that all costs relating to the Conference and its preparations shall be financed through extrabudgetary resources,

PP4 *Welcoming again* the generous offer by the Governments of Fiji and Sweden to co-host and assume the costs of the Conference,

Objectives

1. *Decides* that the Conference shall:
 - (a) identify ways and means to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;
 - (b) build on existing successful partnerships and stimulate innovative and concrete new partnerships to advance the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;

- (c) involve all relevant stakeholders to assess challenges, opportunities as well as actions taken towards the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;
- (d) share the experience gained at national, regional and international levels in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;
- (e) contribute to the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda by providing inputs on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 to the high-level political forum for sustainable development in accordance with resolutions 67/290 and 70/1, including proposals for driving progress in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 at future opportunities;

Theme

- 2. *Decides* that the overarching theme of the Conference shall be “Our Oceans, Our Future: Partnering for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14”;

Organization

- 3. *Decides* that the Conference shall be convened at the highest possible level;
- 4. *Decides* that the Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: two Presidents, one from each of the host countries, and thirteen Vice-Presidents¹, one of whom shall be designated as Rapporteur;
- 5. *Decides* that the Conference shall comprise eight plenary meetings and seven Partnership dialogues, from 5 to 9 June 2017, and shall include a special event commemorating World Oceans Day on 8 June 2017;
- 6. *Decides* that the plenary meetings will be held as follows:

Monday, 5 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, 6 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 7 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

¹ Three from each of the following groups: African States; Asia-Pacific States; Eastern European States; Latin American and Caribbean States; and Western European and other States. The election of the Co-Presidents will, however, have the effect of reducing by two the number of Vice-Presidents allocated to the regions from which the Co-Presidents are elected.

Thursday, 8 June 2017: from 3 to 6 p.m.

Friday, 9 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

7. *Decides* that the special event commemorating World Oceans Day will be held on 8 June 2017 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

8. *Decides* that the Partnership dialogues will be held in parallel with the plenary meetings, as follows:

Monday, 5 June 2017: from 3 to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 6 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 7 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Thursday, 8 June 2017: 3 to 6 p.m.

Friday, 9 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

9. *Also decides* that the Partnership dialogues shall be interactive and multi-stakeholder in nature and will focus on concrete, action-oriented recommendations to advance the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, building on existing successful partnerships and stimulating innovative and concrete new ones;

10. *Further decides* that the organizational arrangements of the Partnership dialogues will be as follows:

(a) Each Partnership dialogue will be presided by two Chairs, one from a developing and one from a developed country, to be appointed by the Co-Presidents of the Conference;

(b) The Secretary-General of the Conference will select a moderator and up to four panelists for each of the Partnership dialogues. The panel discussions, facilitated by the moderator, will be followed by an interactive debate among States and other relevant stakeholders;

11. *Recommends* the provisional agenda set forth in annex I to the present resolution for adoption by the Conference;

12. *Decides* that the Conference shall be organized in accordance with the organization of work set forth in annex II to the present resolution;

13. *Recommends* the provisional rules of procedure set forth in annex III to the present resolution for adoption by the Conference;

Preparatory process

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to appoint two co-facilitators, one from a developing and one from a developed country, to oversee the preparatory process and to conclude the intergovernmental consultations on the outcome/declaration of the Conference by May 2017;
15. *Requests* the President of General Assembly to convene a two-day preparatory meeting in February 2017 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, to be chaired by the two co-facilitators, with interpretation services on an “as available” basis, with a view to consider the themes for the Partnership dialogues and elements for a political outcome/declaration;
16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present an analytical background note to the General Assembly, by the end of January 2017, outlining challenges and opportunities, gaps and constraints in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, with a proposal for themes for the Partnership dialogues.
17. *Requests* the Secretary General of the Conference to prepare concept papers on each of the themes of the Partnership dialogues and in that regard *invites* relevant stakeholders to submit inputs;
18. *Requests* the co-facilitators to present a concise draft political outcome/declaration no later than March 2017, taking into account the deliberations of the preparatory meeting and other inputs;
19. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to finalize the organizational arrangements for the Conference no later than April 2017;

Outcome

20. *Decides* that the Conference shall adopt a concise, focused, and inter-governmentally agreed political outcome/declaration on the effective implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and a report containing, *inter alia*, the Co-chairs’ summaries of the Partnership dialogues as well as a list of voluntary commitments for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, announced at the Conference;

Participation

21. *Decides* that the Conference and its preparatory process shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of Sea, recognizing that the legal status of non-parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea or any other related agreements with regard to those instruments, or the legal status of parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea or any other related agreements with regard to those instruments will not be affected by their participation in the preparatory process and the Conference as well as its outcome;

22. *Invites* other relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations whose work is relevant to the Conference to participate as observers in the Conference and its preparatory meeting;

23. *Calls for* the participation of associate members of the regional commissions in the Conference and the preparatory meeting, in the same capacity specified for their participation in the global conferences on the sustainable development of small island developing States held in 1994, 2005 and 2014;

24. *Decides* that the accreditation to the Conference and the preparatory meeting shall be in accordance with the provisions set forth in annex II respectively;

25. *Decides that* the provisions of paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution 67/290 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Conference and its preparatory process;

Secretariat

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the work of the Conference and to ensure inter-agency cooperation and effective participation and coherence within the United Nations system, as well as the efficient use of resources, so that the objectives of the Conference can be achieved;

27. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General of the Conference to serve as focal point within the Secretariat of the United Nations for providing support to the organization of the Conference, in cooperation with the authorities of the co-hosts;

Trust Fund

28. *Encourages* 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 representatives of developing countries, priority being given to representatives of 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.

Annex I

Provisional agenda of 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

Nadi, Fiji, 5 to 9 June, 2017

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the Co-Presidents.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda of the Conference.
5. Election of officers other than the Co-Presidents.
6. Organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary bodies, and other organizational matters.
7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
 - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
8. General debate.
9. Partnership dialogues.
10. Special event commemorating the World Oceans Day
11. Outcome of the Conference.
12. Adoption of the report of the Conference.
13. Closure of the Conference.

Annex II

Proposed organization of work of 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

Nadi, Fiji, 5 to 9 June, 2017

1. The arrangements set out below have been formulated pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/226 of 22 December 2015.

2. 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 will be held in Nadi, Fiji, from 5 to 9 June, 2017.

I. Organization of work

A. Plenary meetings

3. 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 will consist of a total of eight plenary meetings, to be held as follows:

Monday, 5 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, 6 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 7 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Thursday, 8 June 2017: from 3 to 6 p.m.

Friday, 9 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

4. The eight plenary meetings will be devoted to statements.

5. The list of speakers for the plenary meetings will be established on a first-come first-served basis, with the customary protocol that ensures that Heads of State or Government speak first followed by other heads of delegation. The European Union will be included in the list of speakers. Detailed arrangements will be communicated in a timely manner through a note by the Secretariat, prepared in close consultations with the host country.

6. At the formal opening of the Conference, to take place during the plenary meeting to be held in the morning of Monday, 5 June 2017, consideration will be given to all procedural and organizational matters, including the adoption of the rules of procedure and the agenda, the election of the Co-Presidents of the Conference, the election of officers, the establishment of subsidiary bodies, as appropriate, the appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee, arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Conference and other matters. At the opening, statements will be made by the Co-Presidents of the Conference, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council, and the Secretary-General of the Conference. The plenary meetings will also hear statements from heads of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, as well as major groups and

other stakeholders in accordance with the practices of the General Assembly.

7. The closing plenary meeting, to be held in the afternoon of Friday, 9 June, is expected to conclude with reporting on the Partnership dialogues, to be followed by the adoption of the political declaration and the report of the Conference.

8. The plenary meetings will run in parallel with the Partnership dialogues, unless otherwise specified in this resolution.

B. Partnership dialogues

9. 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 will include seven Partnership dialogues, held in parallel with the plenary meetings, as follows:

Monday, 5 June 2017: from 3 to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 6 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 7 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Thursday, 8 June 2017: from 3 to 6 p.m.

Friday, 9 June 2017: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

10. The summaries of the Partnership dialogues should be reported to the closing plenary meeting of the Conference and included in the final report of the Conference.

C. Special event commemorating the World Oceans Day

11. The special event commemorating the World Oceans Day will be held on 8 June 2017 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

D. Main Committee

12. A Main Committee, established in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference, will meet if necessary in parallel with plenary meetings, except during the opening and closing meetings. The Main Committee will be responsible for finalizing any outstanding matters.

II. Credentials of representatives to the Conference: appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

13. A Credentials Committee will be appointed according to the rules of procedure of the Conference.

III. Accreditation: institutional stakeholders

14. Other relevant intergovernmental organizations that were accredited to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and previous United Nations conferences on sustainable development of the small island developing States held in Barbados, Mauritius and Samoa, including associate members of the regional commissions, may participate in the deliberations of the Conference and its preparatory meeting, as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of the procedures of the Conference;

15. Interested intergovernmental organizations that were not accredited to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and previous United Nations conferences on sustainable development of the small island developing States held in Barbados, Mauritius and Samoa, may apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the established accreditation procedure;

IV. Accreditation: non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders

16. The non-governmental organizations and major groups as identified in Agenda 21, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as those that were accredited to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and previous conferences on the sustainable development of the small island developing States held in Barbados, Mauritius, and Samoa, shall register in order to participate;

17. The President of the General Assembly shall also draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations whose work is relevant to the Conference, who may participate in the Conference and its preparatory meeting as observers, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, and shall submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and bring the list to the attention of the General Assembly;²

17 Alt. Representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations whose work is relevant to the Conference, may participate in the Conference and its preparatory meeting in accordance with the provisions contained in part VII of ECOSOC resolution 1996/31.

V. Secretariat

18. The Secretary-General of the Conference will serve as focal point within the Secretariat of the United Nations for providing support to the organization of the Conference, in cooperation with the host country authorities.

VI. Documentation

19. In accordance with the practice followed at previous United Nations conferences, the official documentation of the Conference will include documents issued before, during and after the Conference.

² The list will include proposed as well as final names. The general basis of any objections, if requested by one or more States Members of the United Nations or States members of the specialized agencies, will be made known to the office of the President of the General Assembly and the requester.

20. In accordance with the practice followed at previous United Nations conferences, it is recommended that the Conference adopts a report consisting of the decisions of the Conference, including the political /declaration, a brief account of the proceedings, a reportorial account of the work of the Conference and the action taken at the plenary meetings.

21. Summaries of the plenary meetings and Partnership dialogues focusing on concrete and action oriented recommendations as well as a list of voluntary commitments for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 announced at the Conference should also be included in the report of the Conference.

VII. Organization of parallel meetings and other events of the Conference

22. Parallel meetings and other events, including those of major groups and other stakeholders, will be held during the same hours as the plenary meetings and Partnership dialogues, space permitting. Interpretation services will be provided for such meetings, as available.

VIII. Side events

23. Side events, including briefings, seminars, workshops and panel discussions on issues related to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, will be organized by participants in the Conference. Guidelines for organizing special events and the calendar of those events will be made available on the Conference website.

IX. Media coverage

24. Press materials will be prepared by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat for journalists covering the Conference. In addition, regular press releases will be issued on the results of plenary meetings, Partnership dialogues, the special event commemorating the World Oceans Day and other events. All relevant documentation will be made available on the Conference website.

25. The plenary meetings, the Partnership dialogues, the special event commemorating the World Oceans Day and the press conferences will be broadcast live to the media area. A programme of special media briefings and press conferences will be announced.

Annex III

Provisional rules of procedure of 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

[To be circulated shortly]