Statement delivered by Helen Ågren, Ambassador for the Ocean, Sweden 2020 UN Ocean Conference-Preparatory Meeting 4-5 February 2020, UN HQ

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

Sweden aligns itself with the statement presented by the European Union and its Member States and wishes to express a few complementary points.

Sweden looks forward to working with H.E. Ms Ngedikes Olai Uludong and H.E. Mr. Martin Bille Hermann to prepare a concise and forward-looking declaration on science based and innovative actions to implement SDG 14.

As we all know four of the SDG 14-targets matures in 2020. Achieving these targets is important not only for the ocean but also for the credibility of multilateral cooperation and the Heads of States that agreed to Agenda 2030 and the 17 global goals for sustainable development.

While preparing for the UN Ocean Conference in June the results of the intergovernmental conference negotiating a new instrument to protect biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction will unfold. And so will the WTO negotiations on fisheries subsidies with the view to ban harmful fisheries subsidies as well as the IH71 0 59.32 mg/TJy ty b]Tgy.4() sTh