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First, more investment in coastal ecosystem restoration and conservation, including mangroves, wetlands and coral reefs, is needed to enhance ocean resilience.

Women, who make up a significant proportion of the workforce in coastal and maritime sectors, must be central to these efforts. Regrettably, women are often in the lowest-paid and least-protected jobs. This must change.

Special attention is also needed for marginalized groups - to ensure that no one is left behind.

The follow-up to the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit should be utilized to recognize the essential role of sustainable aquatic foods in our food systems.

As we have entered the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, ocean science must receive the support and financing needed. Ocean science and innovation are at the very heart of action for a sustainable blue planet.

Through capacity development and technology transfer, we must also ensure that all countries can undertake scientific research and participate in scientific collaborations to sustainably use the ocean for economic, social and cultural life.





Seas Treaty”; the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework negotiations; and the negotiations for increased climate finance and adaptation actions at the next Conference of Parties in Egypt, hold great opportunities to demonstrate our commitment and ambition to turn the tide.

Thank you all for participating in the second United Nations Ocean Conference, held here in Lisbon. We are greatly encouraged by the renewed sense of hope and urgency emerging from the Conference for the future of the ocean. As we leave the Conference, we must all commit to following up on the promises we have made

