

General Statement
United States of America

Dear distinguished Co-chairs of the Regular Process and distinguished representatives to this Regular Process Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue and Capacity-Building Partnership Event.

The United States welcomes the holding of this important event, as capacity building plays a central role in our collective ability to understand the overall marine environment. When scientists share knowledge and skills with their colleagues around the world, we all benefit. We look forward to fruitful discussions over the next two days to learn about the valuable capacity building work being done in support of the Second World Ocean Assessment.

The United States has a long history of assisting partner countries through capacity building in the marine sciences. In the interest of time, I will cite just three examples of this commitment to enhancing global scientific expertise. The U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration supports numerous international partnerships for capacity building to promote increased understanding of global ocean sciences to enhance predictability of global integrated Earth system science. Also, the U.S. Department of State allocates resources to

establish international networks of scientists, including the training of new scientists, to observe ocean acidification, including development of standardized protocols for ocean acidification data collection and sharing. And lastly, at the multilateral level, the United States supports capacity building through international organizations and programs such as the Committee on Space Research and Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research.

Through these and other activities, the United States has provided a variety of opportunities to the ocean research enterprise in partner countries for scientific and technical training. The United States recognizes that the ocean continues to be under sampled, and by building partner capacity, we work together to better understand and report on the overall health of the ocean.

The United States looks forward to engaging with our colleagues here at the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue to enhance the Regular Process and the development of the Second World Ocean Assessment.

Thank you.