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Preparatory meeting for the 2020 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

Statement by the Micronesian Delegation

New York, 4 February 2019

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Co-facilitators,

I first like to congratulate you on your appointment as well as thank Kenya and Portugal for cohosting the Conference. I align myself with the statements made on behalf of G77 and China and AOSIS.

My delegation is generally comfortable with the themes, we see the importance not in the respective titles but in the discussions in the interactive dialogues to which we look forward. In this respect we hope that they will include among others:

- a stock take on the implementation of the respective SDGs, especially the ones which mature in 2020;
- the interplay between the Ocean and Climate Change and related phenomena;
- how science and technology can help combat IUU fishing, for example by linking our fisheries challenges to universities or research institutions that can develop smart systems at low cost;
- how the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities about the Ocean reinforces and interacts with Ocean science and technology for the conservation and sustainable use of the Ocean and its resources;
- and how developing countries, in particular Small Island Developing States, can benefit through the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

Finally, SDG 14 does not exist in a silo and other SDGs will feature in the discussions as well.

I thank you.