

Summary remarks by PM Støre

Ocean Panel, Glasgow, 2 November 2021

Let me just say a few words to thank you all for coming. I think this is well spent time at the COP in Glasgow to take note of the ocean and the state of affairs. We have in front of us an ambitious plan and action agenda and that can now be implemented.

New countries coming on board is good. Following up the plan in each of our nations is important - and it will require continued leadership.

For Norway it is quite easy to conclude that this is the way we must go because we depend on the oceans, we rely on the oceans - and that is why we are putting both our money and political dedication in doing this.

It is natural for me to follow up on my predecessor and take this work seriously. It is broad consensus that this is a matter of survival and engagement. We will try to be as concrete as we can in our national plans. But we will also work in the spirit of the Paris Agreement, to make resources and technology available for countries that don't have that available, that readily - and it has to happen fast.

We come to Glasgow with a promise of doubling the climate financing. From already a high level, but we go further. We also have established a program to build capacity for sustainable ocean management and we are providing additional funding through the multilateral channels such as the World Bank Problue fund.

Colleagues, I think the launch of the Sustainable Ocean Plan Guide in December could be an important step - has to be an important step – because that is a guide that can provide input to how we reach these targets. We have to build momentum on that agenda now.

There are new partners coming on board. Next year, as we have heard announces of, several events will take place in France, Palau and Portugal, and we will meet in New York for the General Assembly.

There are new key actors coming on board such as development banks, financial institutions, and the private sector. The action coalitions and groups forming in response to the Call to Action reflects a kind of broader push that we must continue to build upon.

The Sherpa group that we established is well place to take the work forward in between meetings and bring messages back to us as leaders. I will ask my Sherpa and his team to drive the process forward together with your teams, so we have another basis to take decisions on until next time we meet.

Thank you for coming to this session.

Thank you for contributing.

We will see you again soon.

Thank you.