

INPUT FROM SCIAENA

With respect to the two specific questions you put forward in your email, we would like to reply the following:

1) What would you, as government/organization/stakeholder, welcome as the most important elements and /or key messages from the ministers in the declaration to address the theme in an impactful manner?

--> The ocean has a key role in fighting climate change. Seas and oceans absorb 90% of the heat trapped by greenhouse gas emissions. Mangroves, plankton, seagrass and marine mammals are very effective in sequestering CO₂. The more biodiversity the ocean holds, the greater its resilience to climate change. But the ocean is in dire conditions and cannot fully play its climate action role

2) How can the Environment Assembly make a significant contribution to Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals at a global scale? In doing so, you may take into account the preparation for the meeting, its conduct and follow-up, as well as its relationship to other meetings and processes.

--> Fully or highly protecting at least 30% of the ocean; shifting to low-impact fishing; securing a pollution-free ocean; planning of human activities that support the restoration of thriving marine ecosystems; these are key actions, identified in the Blue Manifesto, that would allow to build ocean resilience and ensure the ocean remains an ally in mitigating the effects of global warming.