

Brussels, 26 March 2025
(OR. en)

7129/25
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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
No. prev. doc.:	6496/25
Subject:	2025 UN Ocean Conference (Nice, France, 9 – 13 June 2025) and its outcome Declaration - Authorisation to enter into negotiations on a non-binding instrument - Protocol statement by Germany, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden

Protocol Statement by Germany, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden

Germany, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden highly welcome and support the EU's intention to negotiate a non-binding instrument for the third UN Ocean Conference, taking place in Nice, France from 9th until the 13th of June 2025. Achieving effective protection and sustainable use of the ocean are a top priority for Germany, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

At the same time, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden would like to point out that certain aspects of the envisaged declaration fall within the member states' competence, for example matters relating to deep-sea mining, and must remain their responsibility.

