June 2015 – Philippine Ambassador and Permanent Delegate Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, delivered a statement at the High-Level Segment of World Ocean’s Day at UNESCO Headquarters, in her capacity as Chairperson of the Paris Chapter of the Group of 77.

In her statement, Ambassador Lazaro conveyed the need for increased participation of developing countries, in particular small-island developing states, in international economic decision-making on the protection, management and sustainable use of oceans and seas. She called for enhanced financial resources, capacity-building, and transfer of technology for developing countries and SIDS, since they are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

In the spirit of the Manila Call to Action on Climate Change, the G-77 looked forward to a successful, equitable, and ambitious outcome of the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December in Paris. Ambassador Lazaro also expressed the Group’s hope for strong global action on the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda, particularly on Goal 14 (oceans, seas and marine resources).

The statement was delivered in the presence of His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco; H.E. Tommy Remengesau, President of Palau; H.E. Freundel Stuart, Prime Minister of Barbados; H.E. Danny Faure, Vice President of Seychelles; Mr. Karmenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Commission; and Mme. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO.
(L-R) Vice President Faure of Seychelles, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, UNESCO DG Bokova, President Remengesau of Palau, Prime Minister Stuart of Barbados, and Commissioner Vella of the European Commission.