

**Supplementary Table A.** *‘High-level’ mission statements contained in existing international and regional political commitments, declarations and legal obligations related to the Atlantic marine environment (Turner et al., 2020).*

<b>Provision</b>	<b>‘High-level’ political statement</b>
<b>1. International commitments, declarations and legal obligations</b>	
United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012	to protect, and restore, the health, productivity and resilience of oceans and marine ecosystems, to maintain their biodiversity, enabling their conservation and sustainable use for present and future generations, and to effectively apply an ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach in the management of activities having an impact on the marine environment
UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development Goal 14	sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience and take action for their restoration, to achieve healthy and productive oceans
The Convention on Biological Diversity	The conservation of biodiversity, Sustainable use of the components of biodiversity, and Sharing the benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way
The Convention on Biological Diversity’s Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework	biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people
UNCLOS and the International Seabed Authority	ensure effective protection for the marine environment from harmful effects of deep-seabed mining
1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement	to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks through effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the Convention.
UN General Assembly Resolutions regarding deep-sea fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction	to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to... sustainably manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from destructive fishing practices, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain
The International Maritime Organization: London Convention and Protocol	to promote the effective control of all sources of marine pollution and to take all practicable steps to prevent pollution of the sea by dumping of wastes and other matter
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	to reduce and limit greenhouse gas emissions, asking countries to adopt mitigation measures and to report on progress
UNESCO World Heritage Convention	effective conservation of existing and potential marine areas of Outstanding Universal Value so they will thrive for generations to come
The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	to protect migratory species threatened with extinction by conserving or restoring the places where they live, mitigating obstacles to migration and controlling other factors that might endanger them
Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)	conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction
<b>2. Regional political commitments, declarations and legal obligations</b>	
OSPAR Commission	to prevent and eliminate pollution and shall take the necessary measures to protect the maritime area against the adverse effects of human activities so as to safeguard human health and to conserve marine ecosystems and, when practicable, restore marine areas which have been adversely affected
Sargasso Sea Commission	to encourage and facilitate voluntary collaboration towards the conservation of the Sargasso Sea

Abidjan Convention: West, Central and Southern Africa	to prevent, reduce, combat and control pollution of the Convention area and to ensure sound environmental management of natural resources
Benguela Current Commission: Angola, Namibia and South Africa	to promote a coordinated regional approach to the long-term conservation, protection, rehabilitation, enhancement and sustainable use of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem, to provide economic, environmental and social benefits
The Cartagena Convention	to promote regional cooperation for the protection and sustainable development of the Wider Caribbean Region
EU Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) & Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)	to protect and preserve the marine environment, prevent its deterioration or, where practicable, restore marine ecosystems in areas where they have been adversely affected
EU Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) & Marine Spatial Planning Directive (MSPD)	
EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030	to put Europe's biodiversity on the path to recovery by 2030 for the benefit of people, climate and the planet
Belém Statement on Atlantic Research and Innovation Cooperation	to strengthen scientific collaboration in the Atlantic Ocean between Brazil, South Africa and the European Union
Galway Statement	an Atlantic Ocean that is healthy, resilient, safe, productive, understood and treasured so as to promote the well-being, prosperity, and security of present and future generations
North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)	to ensure the long-term conservation and optimum utilisation of the fishery resources in the Convention Area, providing sustainable economic, environmental and social benefits
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)	to ensure long term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Convention Area and, in so doing, to safeguard the marine ecosystems in which these resources are found
South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)	to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of all living marine resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean, and to safeguard the environment and marine ecosystems in which the resources occur
Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC)	to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources of the area of competence of the Commission

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