Remarks of J. Charles Fox, Executive Director, Oceans 5
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- Excellencies, colleagues, thank you. This afternoon, I would like to chat briefly about the
  how the role of private philanthropy is changing, and how we may be able to capitalize
  on momentum from the UN Oceans Conference.

- By way of introduction, Oceans 5 is an international funders’ collaborative comprised of
  23 private foundations from North America and Europe. We provide direct grants to civil
  society organizations working to secure new ocean conservation policies throughout the
  world. Over the past 10 years, we’ve provided about $120 million to groups working in
  over 60 countries.

- Our keynote speaker was instrumental in creating Oceans 5 in 2010. Thank you, Sylvia.

- (SLIDE #1) Ocean-related philanthropy has grown considerably in the past decade but
  remains a small fraction of total philanthropic giving. It is estimated to have doubled in
  the past decade to over $1 billion (US) annually. Climate change-related giving, by
  contrast is probably 6 to 10 times larger, which is still only about two percent of total
  philanthropic giving.

- A relatively small number of institutions are responsible for the vast majority of ocean
  giving. Groups like the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Oak Foundation, Walton
  Family Foundation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, and Bloomberg Philanthropies
  are dominant institutions. New entrants include groups like Oceankind and the Bezos
  Earth Fund.

- (SLIDE #2) Private philanthropy is concentrated in the United States and Europe for a
  variety of reasons. Its geographical reach has been slowly broadening over the past few
  decades but remains heavily concentrated in North America and Europe. Places like the
  high seas, the Arctic, Antarctica, or the Pacific Islands still receive only small portion of
  philanthropic funds.

- There are several new trends that are emerging, many of which were crystalized last
  week in Lisbon.

- First, a significant group of donors seek to support work to achieve 30x30. This
  culminated in an unprecedented commitment of $1 billion last week. We can assume
  that this will change the pie chart I just showed, resulting in significant new grantmaking
  in regions like the high seas, Antarctica, and among the Pacific Islands. These currently
  underserved areas will prove pivotal to achieving 30x30.
• Second, private philanthropy is increasingly interested in tackling issues related to social justice, likely resulting in greater focus on poverty, hunger, equality, equity, and climate.

• Few people appreciate that five countries catch over 85 percent of the fish on the high seas, while only twenty countries catch almost 80 percent of all the fish in the sea. I anticipate that we will see greater attention from private philanthropy to reversing these inequities.

• Private philanthropy also will become much more involved in coastal fisheries and community-based conservation. Small scale fisheries provide jobs, food, and income to coastal economies. And, unfortunately, these fisheries are notoriously poorly managed.

• A good example of where these issues come together is off the coast of West Africa. Here there has been an explosion of fish meal/fish oil plants that export small pelagic fish to predominately European and Chinese markets. These fisheries are poorly managed and presently subject to overfishing, creating food insecurity throughout much of West Africa. There are no easy solutions, but I anticipate that these are the kinds of issues that will become a greater focus of private marine philanthropy.

• I will close with an offer to help anyone who wants to understand more about private philanthropy. While my organization primarily serves donors, we have a continued interest in supporting high quality marine conservation projects. We would be happy to hear some of your ideas and assess whether there are ways that we can help.