

- Thank you for giving WWF the floor and we would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report, and commend the hard work and efforts of the Secretariat.
- Across the world, more Governments, Businesses, Financial Institutions, Scientists, civil society, Indigenous and community groups, and religious organisations are calling for a moratorium, pause, or ban, on deep sea mining
- The Ocean is already under severe stress from multiple pressures including overfishing, pollution, and climate change. Deep sea mining would add another pressure to an ocean already severely compromised in its ability to provide in the long term.
- The science is very clear - the necessary Green transition to a fossil free economy, does not need minerals from the deep sea.
- A recent report, "[The Future is Circular](#)" shows that demand for the studied minerals can be reduced by 58 per cent by: technological choices, recycling and circular economy measures such as product-life extension and materials recovery.
- The [European Academies Science Advisory Council](#) recently concluded that the argument that deep seabed mining is needed for the green transition is misleading. They warn of the dire consequences deep sea mining would have on marine ecosystems.
- The green transition requires us to move away from a fossil based economy, but it also requires us to move from a linear, to a circular economy. We must not repeat the mistakes of the past. A functioning ocean is the best buffer, best mitigation and adaptation tool we have for addressing the impacts of climate change. We cannot focus on just the climate crisis, and forget about the biodiversity crisis. We are now in a situation where we have to solve them both together, or solve neither.
- The ocean is the foundation for all life on this planet. We urge you to think deeply about the decisions you must make and join the call for a moratorium or precautionary pause. It is crucial to stop any applications being considered before robust regulations are in place, enough scientific research is done and the effective protection of the marine environment can be ensured.

Thank you