Frequently Asked Questions

Updated on 4 April 2022

1) Who can attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference?

In accordance with paragraphs 26-28 of General Assembly resolution 73/292 of 9 May 2019, entitled “2020 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”, the following participants may attend or be represented at the Conference:

- All States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);
- Intergovernmental organizations, including those having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and works of the General Assembly, international financial institutions and other international bodies;
- Associate members of the regional commissions;
- Organizations and bodies of the United Nations;
- Non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations.

2) Which civil society organizations, private sector, academia and other stakeholders can attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference?

Relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations whose work is relevant to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference, accredited in accordance with the provisions set forth in Annex II of General Assembly resolution 73/292 can request registration to participate as observers in the Conference.

3) Which organizations can register participants to attend the Conference?

The organizations listed below will be able to request registration to attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (Please, click on the links for details):
• Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC (Special, General or Roster consultative status). You can check if your organization has consultative status here.

• Organizations that have received special accreditation by the United Nations General Assembly to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (please, read more about Special Accreditation for the 2022 UN Ocean Conference below):

  1) Outcomes of the first round of Special Accreditation to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (December 2019) can be found here.

  2) Outcomes of the second round of special accreditation to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (April 2020) can be found here.

  3) Outcomes of the third round of special accreditation to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (March 2022) can be found here.

• Organizations that were accredited to any of the following past Conferences and Summits (please click on the links for details):

  1) The World Summit on Sustainable Development;

  2) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

  3) The 2017 high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;

  4) The intergovernmental conference on an internationally legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

  5) Previous United Nations conferences on sustainable development of small island developing States, held in Barbados, Mauritius and Samoa.

4) Can I still request Special Accreditation for my organization?

The third and final round of Special Accreditation was held between 17 January – 28 February 2022 and it is now closed.

5) I applied for Special Accreditation. Where can I check the outcomes?

Please, check below for information about outcomes to Special Accreditation processes related to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference.

a. Outcomes of the first round of Special Accreditation to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (December 2019) can be found here.

b. Outcomes of the second round of special accreditation to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference (April 2020) can be found here.
6) My organization has received Special Accreditation to attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference, can I show a copy of the letter to attend the Conference?

No. All organizations will need to register their representatives in order to be able to attend the Conference.

7) I do not belong to any organization. Can I attend the Conference?

Unfortunately, you cannot register to the Conference as an individual. Participants must be connected to an accredited organization or to a United Nations Member State delegation in order to have registrations confirmed.

8) My organization has consultative status with ECOSOC. Do I need to register to attend the Conference?

Yes. All participants must register to attend the Conference.

9) How can I register to attend the Conference?

Registration for representatives from accredited non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations to attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference will open on 18 April 2022.

Only accredited organizations (please, see above) will be able to request registration of representatives to attend the Conference. Each organization will be able to request registration of up to three (3) representatives.

All participants must be registered using a dedicated platform.

Details about how to register to attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference will be posted here: https://www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022/participate

10) I’m not 18 years old yet. Can I attend the Conference?

The minimum age for participants to register to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference is 18 years old.

11) How many representatives can each organization register to attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference?
Each organization will be able to request registration of up to 3 (three) representatives to attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference. All representatives must be duly registered using the dedicated registration form to be set up for the Conference. When available, information will be shared here: https://www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022/participate

12) Are funds available for stakeholders to attend the Conference?

Registered stakeholders are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

13) I represent a city and/or a regional government. Can I attend the 2022 UN Ocean Conference?

Representatives of local and regional governments should register through their Member State delegation.

Associations of local and regional governments can also request special accreditation. Associations of local and regional governments in consultative status with ECOSOC will also be able to register participants.

14) Are there opportunities for stakeholders to speak during the Conference?

Information on engagement opportunities will be published here. You may also sign up to the general mailing list to receive updates. Please, check here.

15) Can NGOs and other stakeholders organize side-events at the 2022 UN Ocean Conference?

Please, check information about side events here: https://www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022/events/side

Do you still have questions?

Please, email: 2022UNOC@un.org

For Private Sector Organizations and Philanthropic Institutions - Please email unocean@unglobalcompact.org