



2022 United Nations Ocean Conference Side Event

“From a Blue Call to Action to a Blue Plan of Action”

Wednesday 29th June 2022, 16:00-17:15- Side Event room 2

Organized by: Government of Tuvalu and RISE UP

Background on the event (one paragraph)

To introduce the ever-growing RISEUP network to decision makers and the wider ocean community and explain the 6 major themes of RISE UP Blue Call to Action and the priority actions that need to be undertaken by governments and businesses to reverse the decline in ocean health. The focus was on the actions that must be taken in the remainder of the long-awaited ‘Ocean Super Year’ and also how coastal states should be prioritising access for small-scale fishers and IPLCs in territorial waters. The representative from the Government of Tuvalu explained how such transformative actions are vital for the survival and development of small island, large ocean states.

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

- Showcased RISE UP as a unified call for transformative ocean action by governments and businesses from the continually growing global network of civil society organisations which now numbers over 555 organisations worldwide.
- Looked at progress in 2022 so far, and what actions are still needed in 2022 to build momentum and drive transformative progress in line with the Blue Call to Action.

- Touched on all 6 pillars of RISE UP, demonstrating the ocean is a single, interconnected system.
- Explained the need to secure a robust High Seas Treaty not only for governance reasons but in order to implement 30x30, foster resilience against climate change and increase food security.
- Set out the importance of adopting the 30x30 target at the CBD and the need to ensure that IPLCs rights are upheld and enhanced. Successful models including financing and consultation of implementation were showcased.
- In order to reverse the decline in ocean health, we need to invest in a sustainable blue economy which means the development of new finance streams.
- Noting the importance of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, an expert panel conducted a 'deep dive' into prioritising access for small-scale fishers and IPLCs in territorial waters in the context of mounting threats to global food security and the need to empower coastal communities.

Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)

- Secure a robust High Seas Treaty with provisions for MPAs and Environmental Impact Assessments
- Speed the transition to a circular and sustainable economy
- Agree 30 x 30 target upholding and enhancing indigenous peoples rights
- Make good on ocean climate commitments from COP26
- Implement a moratorium on Deep Sea Mining
- Prioritise access for SSF in territorial waters

Voluntary Commitments (one paragraph)

N/A