



## 2022 United Nations Ocean Conference Side Event

*Welcome Outside the Box! From Blue Food for Thought to Blue Food for Action - Making Ocean Protection the Norm rather than the Exception*

Tuesday 28 June 2022, 16h00-17h30, PT Meeting Centre Auditorio III

Organized by: [The Varda Group](#), with support from [Dona Bertarelli Ledunfly Philanthropy](#), the [Tara Ocean Foundation](#) & [MedPAN](#), & in collaboration with the [Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation](#)

### Background on the event (one paragraph)

Following the publication, during the Monaco Ocean Week 2022, of [From Blue Food for Thought to Blue Food for Action](#), a think-piece by [The Varda Group](#) consultancy, a follow-up paper: [The Lisbon Addendum](#) was published and launched at this event. Facilitated by Rémi Parmentier (Varda Group lead author), the event counted with the participation of Dona Bertarelli, Romain Troublé (Tara), Puri Canals (MedPAN), Sylvie Goyet (Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation), Guillermo Ortuño (Stockholm Resilience Centre), Christina Dexon (Environmental Investigation Agency), Françoise Gaill (Ocean & Climate Platform), Paula Castillo Alonso (Varda Group youth representative), Pascal Lamy (former DG of the WTO), Cameron Diver (Deputy Director of the Pacific Community) the Ocean Ambassadors of Sweden & France Helen Agren and Olivier Poivre d'Arvor, among others.

### Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

The Lisbon Addendum reports on six rountables dialogues which took place among 57 ocean experts and advocates between March and May 2022, to discuss and complement The Varda Group's original paper and proposals, namely:

- Making Ocean Protection the Norm rather than the Exception, by shifting the burden of proof & hold ocean users responsible
- Calling for an Antarctic Life Summit whenever the wide geopolitical landscape permits, in order to elevate & speed up the debate on the protection of the Southern Ocean

- Numerical management of populations of large fish such as tuna, sharks, merlin, swordfish & Antarctic Toothfish
- Expediting the entry into force of the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement, & complementing it with bilateral and regional “disarmament” agreements among countries chasing the same fish
- Isolating micro-plastic particles just like we isolate radioactive wastes
- Establishing Regional Ocean Management Organizations to supervise or substitute Regional Fisheries Management Organizations

### **Voluntary Commitments (one paragraph)**

The Varda Group, as lead author of the two papers, and the four partner and supporting organisations have expressed their intention to continue to promote a widespread dialogue on **these and other “outside the box” new ideas to protect the ocean**, between now and the 3rd UN Ocean Conference in 2025.