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Intervention

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In support of Costa Rican-based initiative "Ocean Innovation Hub for Central America and the Caribbean, under the Blue Economy Coalition project" endorsed by IOC UNESCO, we want to highlight the urgency of the following key points:

- Map critical coastal and marine ecosystems with the most urgent need to accelerate collaboration with local stakeholders to scale restoration efforts.
- Invest in trade facilitation projects that support a circular, digital, inclusive, and responsible ocean or blue economy.
- Support with greater ambition knowledge exchange of scientists, researchers, community stakeholders and start-ups to prototype, incubate and accelerate ocean-climate solutions, with a special interest in nature-based solutions and or solutions that champion decarbonization with the highest respect to the environment.
- Support the rights of nature implementation.

In support of the Latin America Youth Declaration Of the Ocean from the Latinoamerica Azul event, where youth from all over Latin America gathered the past 3-6 of June in Costa Rica at Universidad Nacional with support from Sustainable Ocean Alliance, we want to highlight the following points from the declaration:

- As Latin American and Caribbean youth, we recognize the crucial role that the ocean plays in our lives and how we need to guarantee its conservation to confront the triple planetary crisis that we face. Given this, we seek and demand greater ambition from the countries of the region in the following topics:
 - Effectively meet the 30x30 goal of the Kunming-Montreal Biological Diversity Convention, ensuring the establishment of real marine protected areas, in which the development of semi-industrial and industrial extractive activities is prohibited.
 - Accelerate negotiations for early approval of the Global Plastics Treaty, which addresses both its production and use; holding plastic producing companies responsible for the environmental impacts they generate to the detriment of marine-coastal ecosystems.
 - Demand the participation of the countries of the region in the oceans and climate change dialogues of the UNFCCC.
 - Promote the inclusion of young people in the design of public policies, promoting their empowerment and investment in capacity development in climate negotiations.
 - Strengthen coordination between educational and environmental management institutions for the design of an inclusive oceanic culture curriculum adapted to the needs of each Latin American country, integrating into formal and informal education.

- Develop training programs in marine pedagogical technologies for teachers, promoting innovative and scalable tools.
- Empower and disseminate the ancestral knowledge of coastal communities to propose nature-based solutions.
- Ratify the Escazú Agreement.
- Sign and ratify the High Seas Treaty or BBNJ, in order to ensure its prompt entry into validity.
- Guarantee the exchange and generation of interdisciplinary and intergenerational information between the global north and south in multisectoral spaces between decision makers and key actors such as academia, local communities, ancestral communities, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant communities, women and youth.
- Reform institutions to depoliticize and professionalize administrative positions and strengthen the mechanisms of the technical and scientific committees managing the implementation of CITES.
- Sign and ratify the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement to eliminate harmful subsidies and unfair competition.
- Guarantee financing to update technical, administrative and operational processes for the transition to sustainable alternatives and the digitization and centralization of catch databases and stock assessments by authorities.
- Reject the practice of underwater mining and request a moratorium by the member countries of the Latin American region, advocating for mutual support between countries in the region, through advice and exchange of experiences to strengthen
- our position against this destructive practice.
- Support seabed research and promote collaborative North-South and South-South monitoring through the exchange of technology and knowledge between academic institutions and national governments for easy access to information scientific and informed decision making.
- Greater openness and participation of civil society, coastal and indigenous communities, academia and youth in decision-making in the management of the seabed, by requesting the ISA to expand the spaces for participation to guarantee inclusive and democratic representation

Support the World Declaration of Peace for the Ocean from OneaSea and the government of Costa Rica.