The high-level 2025 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 2025 UN Ocean Conference) will be co-hosted by France and Costa Rica and held in Nice, France, from 9 – 13 June 2025. Under the overarching theme “Accelerating action and mobilizing all actors to conserve and sustainably use the ocean”, it will engage governments, the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, other interested international bodies, NGOs, the scientific and technological community, the private sector, philanthropic organizations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities and other actors.

The UN Secretary-General has appointed the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Li Junhua, as the Secretary-General of the Conference to oversee its preparations; and the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares, as Special Adviser to the Presidents of the Conference on ocean and legal matters. For more details about the 2025 UN Ocean Conference, please visit: https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/ocean2025.
Appointment of co-facilitators for the outcome document of the 2025 UN Ocean Conference

In his letter dated 6 June 2024, the President of the General Assembly has appointed H.E. Ms. Tania Romualdo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cabo Verde to the UN, and H.E. Mr. James Larsen, Permanent Representative of Australia to the UN, to conduct intergovernmental consultations on a brief, concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed declaration, to be concluded by 1 May 2025 and adopted at the 2025 UN Ocean Conference.

Preparatory Meeting for the 2025 UN Ocean Conference

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 78/128, the President of the General Assembly will convene a one-day Preparatory Meeting for the 2025 UN Ocean Conference on 2 July 2024 at the UN headquarters in New York. The morning session will be co-chaired by the co-hosts of the Conference, Costa Rica and France, to discuss the themes for the Ocean Action panels to be held during the Conference. The afternoon session will be co-
chaired by the recently appointed co-facilitators Australia and Cabo Verde and it will address elements of the political declaration.

Ahead of the Preparatory Meeting, a background note of the Secretary-General has been prepared in coordination with the co-hosts of the Conference, outlining proposed themes for the Ocean Action panels.

The preliminary programme can be found here.

The Preparatory Meeting will be webcast – follow LIVE on UNWebTV (part 1, part 2).

Information about stakeholder participation in the preparatory meeting is available here.

Voluntary Commitments

In its resolution 78/128, the General Assembly invites Member States and other relevant stakeholders to provide an update on the implementation of the voluntary commitments made in the context of the United Nations Ocean Conferences and invites new voluntary commitments in support of Goal 14, as well as support the sharing of experiences and lessons learned on their implementation.

With over 2000 published voluntary commitments (VC), the VC platform registry remains open for further commitments. Voluntary commitments reflect the collective ambition of the international community, involving a diverse group of stakeholders forging crucial partnerships. They remain a vital way to accelerate ocean action towards the implementation of SDG 14. Participants are requested to register their voluntary commitments and provide any relevant updates to those already made in the registry maintained by DESA.

Sign up to receive email updates about the 2025 UN Ocean Conference

To receive updates about the 2025 UN Ocean Conference, please, sign up to our mailing list here.