



Contribution to the Concept Papers of the UNOC3 Ocean Action Panels

With reference to the letter dated 18 September 2024 (DESA-24/01869) from Under-Secretary-General Li Junhua, Costa Rica is honored to submit its contributions to the ten Ocean Action Panel Concept Papers. These inputs reflect Costa Rica's priorities for each of the OAP themes.

a) Fostering sustainable fisheries management including supporting small-scale fishers

- Multiple Use Marine Protected Areas
- Implementation of FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries
- Fishing infrastructure to guarantee artisanal fishing products' safety and health
- Tracking technologies (Vessel Monitoring System, among others) to register information on catches and landing

b) Conserving, sustainably managing and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems including deep-sea ecosystems

- Links between the BBNJ Treaty (Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction) with Target 3 of the Global Biodiversity Framework, including through the opportunities offered by the HAC for Nature and People
- Conservation models such as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) or other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs, marine corridors, Areas of Particular Environmental Interest – Areas of Particular Environmental Interest or APEI, among others)
- Coastal Marine Ecological Monitoring (coral and rocky reefs, mangroves, cetaceans, among others)
- Blue carbon indicators
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plans for marine and coastal ecosystems

c) Promoting and supporting all forms of cooperation, especially at the regional and subregional level

- Strategic partnerships among governmental institutions, public and private sectors, and academic and scientific communities
- Cooperation to strengthen maritime control and surveillance
- Successful examples of regional cooperation for the sustainable management of marine ecosystems, such as the CMAR (Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor)



d) Preventing and significantly reducing marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities

- Local, regional and global practices to reduce the impact of lost, discarded, or abandoned fishing gear (ghost fishing gear)
- Integrated waste management plans of watersheds and coastal areas to mitigate and prevent the arrival of pollution from land into the ocean (source to sea management)
- Legacy plastic in the ocean

e) Leveraging ocean, climate and biodiversity interlinkages

- Connections between several international processes (GBF Target 3, Fisheries Subsidies, BBNJ, Paris Agreement, Mining Code, Plastics Treaty)

f) Advancing sustainable ocean-based economies, sustainable maritime transport and coastal community resilience leaving no one behind

- Identify and promote the ecosystem services of a sustainable blue economy for coastal marine resources, such as surfing, fishing, tourism, among others
- Green Shipping Technologies for low-emission ships and for reduction of noise pollution

g) Promoting the role of sustainable food from the ocean for poverty eradication and food security

- Access to resources, geographic markets and technology to improve the seafood supply chain, especially for small-scale fisheries
- Promotion of Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries Voluntary Guidelines and multi stakeholder partnerships such as the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI)
- Fisheries Improvement Action Plans (FIP) to optimize practices and sustainable management of fisheries

h) Increasing ocean-related scientific cooperation, knowledge, capacity building, marine technology and education to strengthen the science-policy interface for ocean health*

- Knowledge management platforms (data analysis) to strengthen marine ecosystem conservation
- Access to technological platforms that facilitate data exchange for monitoring and evaluating highly migratory species populations, promoting the development of institutional capacities
- Investment in advanced technology for ocean research and monitoring



- Ocean Literacy as an educational policy in schools to create a consistent and effective educational framework worldwide
- International scientific cooperation for scientific mobility

i) Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the UNCLOS

- Universalization of agreements under UNCLOS

J) Mobilizing finance for ocean actions in the support of SDG14

- Innovative financial mechanisms like:
 - Blue funds design
 - Blue carbon conservation projects
 - Payment for marine ecosystem services

