

**THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE**  
**OCEAN ACTION PANEL 2:**

**STRENGTHENING OCEAN-RELATED SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, KNOWLEDGE,  
CAPACITY BUILDING, MARINE TECHNOLOGY, AND EDUCATION**

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**Hon. Chairperson,**

**Your Excellencies,**

**Distinguished delegates,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

1. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important topic. Ghana recognizes the critical role of science, technology, and education in ensuring the sustainable management of our oceans. As a coastal nation with a thriving blue economy, we are committed to enhancing scientific cooperation, knowledge sharing, and capacity building to safeguard ocean health and improve the well-being of our people.
2. Ghana is strengthening regional collaboration through partnerships with member countries of the Fisheries Committee of the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) under the Abidjan Convention to advance joint marine research and data sharing.
3. In the area of capacity building, Ghana has prioritized marine science education, with institutions like the University of Ghana's Department of Marine and Fisheries Sciences and the Regional Maritime University training the next generation of ocean experts. Ghana, with the support of Development Partners, is enhancing the capacities of fisheries observers and inspection officers to improve performance.
4. We are also enhancing monitoring, control, and surveillance systems and leveraging technology, such as the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and Automatic Identification System (AIS), to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, thereby ensuring sustainable fish stocks for future generations. Additionally, Ghana has piloted an Electronic Monitoring System

through the installation of cameras onboard vessels for real-time monitoring of vessel activities at sea.

5. Ghana urges the international community to:

- i. Increase investments in ocean science, research infrastructure, and technology transfer to strengthen Africa's capacity for sustainable ocean management.
- ii. Expand regional and international partnerships for ocean monitoring, climate resilience, and marine biodiversity conservation.
- iii. Ensure inclusive and equitable participation of developing nations, women, and youth in marine research and decision-making.
- iv. Support inclusive ocean governance that incorporates Indigenous and local knowledge systems, ensuring a holistic approach to ocean sustainability.

6. Ghana further calls for greater South-South and North-South scientific collaboration, particularly in deep-sea research, coastal erosion mitigation, and sustainable fisheries management.

7. We urge developed nations and international organizations to fulfill commitments under UNCLOS and SDG 14 by supporting technology transfer for real-time ocean monitoring, aquaculture innovation, and marine spatial planning.

Presented By Fred Kwasi Antwi-Boadu

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Ocean Action Panel 2

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