

Peace Boat – Emilie McGlone, Peace Boat Liaison to the UN

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

I am Emilie McGlone from Peace Boat, a civil society organization with Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC. For over 40 years, Peace Boat has conducted global educational voyages to raise awareness and build capacity for action on the ocean, climate, and peace.

We deliver experiential learning programs for youth, including dedicated initiatives for young people from Small Island Developing States. Our “Youth for the SDGs” programme, endorsed under the UN Decade of Ocean Science, connects young leaders with marine scientists, local communities, and decision-makers. Through hands-on activities at sea—including citizen science and data collection—participants contribute directly to the science-policy interface while building leadership for ocean and climate solutions.

This week, we are proud to announce a new Voluntary Commitment with AOSIS to expand this work, creating more opportunities for SIDS youth to join future voyages and engage in collaborative action to advance SDG 14.

Looking ahead, Peace Boat is preparing to launch Ecoship, our next-generation low-emission vessel. Equipped with renewable energy systems and onboard research and education facilities, Ecoship will serve as a floating platform for sustainability, marine science, and inclusive innovation. Through Ecoship, we aim to deepen scientific partnerships, strengthen ocean literacy, and promote equitable access to marine technology.

To support healthy marine and coastal ecosystems, we respectfully recommend:

- Investing in inclusive, ship-based education programs for underrepresented and frontline communities;
- Supporting innovative, low-emission vessels like Ecoship to connect science, policy, and the public.

We believe that education at sea can play a powerful role in shaping a just, resilient, and sustainable future for all.

The ocean is a shared lifeline. It transcends borders and reminds us of our common responsibility. Multilateral cooperation to protect and restore the ocean is not only critical for sustainability—it is also a vital contribution to lasting peace.

Thank you.