



UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE NICE, FRANCE 2025

UNOC3 Conference Side Event

Making Waves from Paris to Belém: Accelerating Ocean-Climate Action

June 9, 2.00 PM, Room 2, Blue Zone

Organized by: Government of Brazil, with the support of the Ocean & Climate Platform, and in partnership with the Governments of France, Chile, and Fiji, Kingdom of Belgium, Friends of Ocean and Climate, Greenpeace Brazil, Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, Ocean Conservancy, UN High-level Climate Champions, and WWF-Brazil

Background on the event (one paragraph)

Co-hosted by the Government of Brazil alongside partners such as the Ocean & Climate Platform and WWF-Brazil, the event represented a significant step toward elevating the role of the ocean within global climate policy. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement, the event launched the "Blue NDC Challenge", calling on all countries to integrate ocean-based climate solutions into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by COP30 in Belém. It also reaffirmed the strong political will to embed ocean action in both national climate strategies and broader global climate ambition, advancing the France–Brazil Declaration on Oceans and Climate through concrete actions on the road from Nice to Belém.

Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)

- The ocean is essential to achieving global climate goals and must be recognized as a fundamental component of climate action, especially as nations prepare to update their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for COP30.
- Progress since the Paris Agreement demonstrates the growing role of ocean-based action, yet significant implementation gaps persist.
- Ocean-based solutions provide effective pathways to advance climate mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity goals while supporting ocean-dependent livelihoods.
- The Blue NDC Challenge is a timely and strategic call for governments to embed marine action within their climate ambitions.
- Cross-sectoral cooperation—including governments, Indigenous peoples, civil society, and private sector actors—is essential to scaling impact, fostering innovation, and ensuring accountability.
- Inclusive and equitable governance plays a crucial role in ensuring successful and equitable ocean-climate solutions.

Key recommendations for action / voluntary commitments (5-6 bullet points)

- Integrate ocean-based measures into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and long-term strategies by COP30.
- Enhance governance coherence across climate, biodiversity, and ocean policies to ensure strategic synergies and avoid fragmented implementation.
- Strengthen international cooperation — especially among developing, coastal, and island nations — to scale up ocean-based climate action.
- Mobilize funding — including through innovative mechanisms — to effectively support ocean-based climate solutions.
- Ensure inclusive processes by embedding equity, gender considerations, and Indigenous and local knowledge into policy design and implementation.
- Advance the Nice to Belém Roadmap as a guiding framework to raise ambition, track progress, and deliver tangible results at COP30 and beyond — including building momentum toward COP31 under Australia’s leadership — and position COP30 as a turning point for securing a lasting legacy of ocean-inclusive climate ambition and action.