



UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE NICE, FRANCE 2025

UNOC3 Conference Side Event

“Advancing the Blue Economy and Sustainable Ocean Development through Marine Spatial Planning”

12 June 2025, 12:15 – 13:30, Room 1

Organized by: China Oceanic Development Foundation, China Institute for Marine Affairs, International Seabed Authority, First Institute of Oceanography of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) of China, National Ocean Technology Center of the MNR of China, CCCC Water Transportation Consultants Co., Ltd., China General Nuclear Power Group, Bank of Communications Paris Branch, Ocean University of China, Defontaine Sas

Background on the event (one paragraph)

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) provides a way to integrate human activities without compromising conservation values. Through MSP, the stakeholders can put forward their vision for an area; identify where human activities currently occur and where it might be desirable for them to take place in the future; and identify actual or potential conflicts between different oceans-related uses, as well as desired conservation outcomes. This side event aims to build a platform among governments, enterprises, NGOs and other stakeholders by showcasing typical cases of MSP, discussing its role in boosting the high-quality development of blue economy and in BBNJ Agreement implementation.

Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)

The side event consists of four opening remarks, four keynote speeches, and a panel discussion. Four high level representatives (respectively the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources

of the People's Republic of China, the Director of the Office of Environmental Management and Mineral Resources of the International Seabed Authority, the Secretary-General of China Oceanic Development Foundation and the Head of the Ocean of the World Economic Forum) expressed their commitments on sustainable ocean development and considered MSP important, which is followed by four keynote speeches focused on Clean Energy Innovation for Ocean Sustainability, MSP-driven Blue Economy in the Caribbean, China-Mauritius Collaboration on Blue Economy via MSP and Centralized Sea Use for Blue Growth. Finally, six panelists shared their opinions on challenges and solutions of MSP, enterprises' role in MSP and MSP's implementation in BBNJ Agreement.

1. Clean Energy, MSP & Blue Economy Partnerships, and Sustainable Sea Use

- Advancing renewable energy technologies to support eco-friendly ocean growth.
- Utilizing MSP to foster sustainable blue economy initiatives in the Caribbean.
- Incorporating Chinese expertise in MSP to boost Mauritius' blue economy and sustainable marine strategies.
- Optimizing ocean resource efficiency through coordinated management to enhance blue economy growth.

2. MSP Implementation

- Discusses the key obstacles and proposes strategies to address them.
- Explores how businesses can contribute MSP implementation effectively.
- Examines how MSP can facilitate the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement by promoting cross-sectoral coordination, marine protection, and equitable resource management in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

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

1. Strengthen international and cross-sectoral collaboration to address transboundary ocean challenges.
2. Engage the private sector to drive innovation and sustainable practices.
3. Prioritize support for small island states and vulnerable regions to overcome data gaps and governance fragmentation.
4. Adopt adaptive MSP frameworks.
5. Align MSP with global tools like the BBNJ Agreement to improve governance in international waters.

New Voluntary Commitments:

China Oceanic Development Foundation

- <https://www.cfocean.org/html/web/en/yingwenxinwen/ennewslst/1935889570577915906.html>