



Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Information Note¹

Who is eligible to participate

Representatives of accredited organizations that have been duly registered and approved by the Secretariat can participate in the Ocean Conference.

Collection of grounds passes for the Ocean Conference

In order to enter the UN premises, **all** participants need to be in possession of a valid UN grounds pass issued by the United Nations Pass and ID Unit.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council with valid annual United Nations grounds passes can use their existing passes to enter the United Nations premises and attend the Conference.

Eligible and approved stakeholder participants *without* a valid United Nations grounds pass will be issued a temporary Conference grounds pass by the UN Pass and Identification Unit at 320 East 45th Street. To collect a grounds pass, you must bring **the confirmation letter from the Secretariat** approving your participation and **valid government-issued photographic identification** (i.e., passport, driver's licence).

The office of the Pass and Identification Unit (320 East 45th Street) will be open:

Saturday and Sunday, 3 and 4 June from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday and Tuesday, 5 and 6 June from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday to Friday, 7 to 9 June from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants **are strongly encouraged to collect their temporary grounds passes on Saturday, 3 and Sunday, 4 June** to avoid large crowds.

How to enter the UN

All stakeholder participants with valid UN grounds passes will go through security screening at the 46th street and 1st avenue UN entrance.

After the security screening, the participants will proceed to the UN conference building.

¹ This information note should be read in conjunction with the Information note for participants (A/CONF.230./INF/1*)

The programme, including information about Conference Rooms can be found on the website:

<https://oceanconference.un.org/programme>

Plenary Meetings

All plenary meetings will be held in the General Assembly Hall.

General seating area in the balcony section of the General Assembly Hall

Stakeholder participants will be able to observe the plenary meetings in the balcony section located on the 4th floor of the General Assembly Hall. To access the balcony, please use the elevators located in the visitors' entrance hall. Please note that seating in the balcony section will be on a first come first served basis, except during the *World Oceans Day Celebration*, when special tickets will be required (for more information, please see the relevant section below).

Designated seats for stakeholders on the main floor of the General Assembly Hall

In addition, there will be 24 designated seats for stakeholders' use on the main floor of the General Assembly Hall. *The use of these 24 seats will require a dedicated main floor ticket.* Tickets will be distributed by the Secretariat on a first come first served basis during the daily morning meetings for the following plenary sessions:

Tuesday, 6 June, AM and PM plenary sessions

Wednesday, 7 June, AM and PM plenary sessions

Please note that alternate arrangements will be in place for the plenary sessions on Thursday PM and Friday AM and PM - the Secretariat will liaise directly with the concerned organizations for these sessions, including the organizations that will speak in plenary sessions.

Partnership dialogues

All partnership dialogues will be held in Conference Room 4.

General seating in the gallery section of Conference Room 4

Stakeholder participants will be able to observe the partnership dialogues in the gallery section of Conference Room 4 (entrance located in the visitors' hall). Seating in the gallery will be on a first come first served basis.

Designated seats for stakeholders on the main floor of Conference Room 4

Furthermore, there will be 12 designated seats with microphones for stakeholders on the floor of Conference Room 4. *The use of these seats will require a special floor ticket and are to be used primarily by representatives who have been invited to address the partnership dialogues.* The Secretariat will liaise directly with the invited speakers about their seating arrangements. In addition, the Major Groups and other Stakeholders are invited to inform the secretariat if they wish to use one of the seats (without speaking) by completing [this form](#) no later than 8pm on the day before the relevant Partnership Dialogue.

World Oceans Day Celebration

There will be a special event to celebrate World Oceans Day on Thursday, 8 June from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the General Assembly Hall.

Entry in the General Assembly Hall for the World Ocean Day celebrations will require a valid UN grounds pass and a secondary special ticket. The secondary special tickets will be distributed to representatives of Major Groups and other stakeholders in the General Assembly Visitors Entrance Lobby on a first come, first served basis on Wednesday, 7 June, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Major Groups and other stakeholders will have seats in the balcony section (located on the 4th floor) and the Mezzanine (accessible through the 3rd Floor). *Major Groups and other stakeholders with special tickets for the Mezzanine are kindly requested to arrive at 9 a.m. in order to facilitate the seating process.*

To collect a special ticket, please bring:

- A valid grounds pass (Either NGO annual grounds pass or Temporary grounds pass for the Ocean conference)
- Your Confirmation letter (Your organization name is on the bottom left side)

Conference Room 1 will serve as an overflow room for the World Ocean Day celebrations for participants without special tickets.

Web cast

The conference proceedings will be web cast at webtv.un.org.

Side events

For a detailed side event programme, please visit: <https://oceanconference.un.org/programme>

Speaking in the plenary sessions

Representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations, whose work is relevant to the Conference and who have been accredited in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/303, were invited to indicate their interest to speak during the plenary meetings, subject to time availability, by using an [online form](#), by the deadline of Friday, 26 May, 5 pm EDT. Preference will be given to statements that are delivered on behalf of groups of organizations. **The Secretariat will liaise and provide further details to stakeholders selected to address the plenary, including on timing and access to the General Assembly Hall.**

Speaking in the partnership dialogues

Based upon nominations received through an open application process, a number of representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations, whose work is relevant to the Conference and who have been accredited in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/303, have been invited to address the seven partnership dialogues and highlight their voluntary commitments. The selected representatives have all been notified by the Secretariat and will be contacted about the seating arrangements.

06/06/2017

Morning briefings

There will be morning briefings for stakeholders including on logistical matters in Conference room 4 during the following hours:

8 to 8:30 a.m., Monday 05/06/2017

8:30 to 9 a.m., Tuesday 06/06/2017

8:30 to 9 a.m., Wednesday 07/06/2017

8 to 8:30 a.m., Thursday 08/06/2017

8:30 to 9 a.m., Friday 09/06/2017
