

How Are the Communities of Ocean Action Addressing Climate Change?

**Friday, 7 December 2018, 4-5 p.m.
SDG Pavilion, E-34, COP24**

Concept

At the Ocean Conference, held in June 2017 at UN headquarters in New York, close to 1,400 voluntary commitments for concrete action to advance implementation of SDG 14 were made by governments, the United Nations system, civil society organizations, academia, the scientific community, and the private sector.

These commitments, together with the Conference outcome document *Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action*, mark a major breakthrough on the path to sustainable management and conservation of our oceans, seas and marine resources.

Each of the Ocean Conference voluntary commitments addresses one or several of the SDG 14 targets, with associated positive impact on other SDGs, including for example SDG13 on climate action, SDG 3 of good health and well-being among others.

The United Nations has launched nine thematic multi-stakeholder Communities of Ocean Action to follow-up on the implementation of these voluntary commitments; to generate new voluntary commitments; and to facilitate collaboration and networking among different actors in support of SDG 14.

This event will focus on the work of various COAs and how their work is contributing to alleviate the negative impacts of climate change.

Programme

Opening remarks (8 min):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean
Panelists (5 min each) (Moderator: H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary, IOC and Assistant Director General of UNESCO (Science)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Susan Ruffo, Managing Director, International Initiatives, Ocean Conservancy (Marine Pollution)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Manuel Barange, Manuel Barange, Director of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Resources Division, FAO (Sustainable Fisheries)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Ali Raza Rizvi, Programme Manager, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, IUCN (Mangroves)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Tamara Thomas, Ocean Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy (Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Management)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Maria Rivera, Senior Advisor for the Americas, Secretariat Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Mangroves)
Observations from COA member (3 min):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Masanori Kobayashi, Senior Research Fellow, Policy Research Department, Ocean Policy Research Institute, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
Questions and answers (16 min)
Wrap-up (3 min)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean