

Oceans Day at COP 21 Paris

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



OCEANS DAY AT COP 21, December 4, 2015, Rio Conventions Pavilion

PRE-FINAL PROGRAM¹

10:30-11:00 AM Arrival and Registration (All participants must be registered)

11:00 AM-12:05 PM

Panel 1. Setting the Stage: The Climate and Oceans Context—Challenges and Opportunities

High-level leaders present the imperative of recognizing, and acting on, the central role of oceans in planetary survival and in human economic and social well-being, in the global context of Sustainable Development Goal 14 on Oceans and Seas, the 2014 SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, and other developments in the global agenda. Leaders speak about the problems as well as the opportunities that lie ahead such as Blue Economy approaches emphasizing renewable energy.

The policy brief summarizing findings by the international working group to develop a strategic five-year action plan on oceans and climate is presented.

Co-chairs:

H.E. Mr. Ronald Jumeau, Ambassador for Climate Change and Small Island Developing State Issues, Seychelles

Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO

H.E. Mr. Manuel Pulgar-Vidal, Minister of Environment, Peru, President, UNFCCC COP 20
From COP 20 to COP 21 and Beyond: Challenges and Solutions

H.E. Mr. Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, France, President UNFCCC COP 21
The Imperatives of UNFCCC COP 21 and Oceans in the Post COP 21 Process (TBC)

H.E. Mr. Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President, Republic of Palau
Pacific Islands, Profoundly Affected by Climate Change, Take Charge of Ocean and Climate Issues

¹ Timing subject to small adjustments.

H.E. Mr. Karmenu Vella, Commissioner on Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission

European Perspectives on Ocean Governance in a Changing Climate – The Importance of the Blue Economy in a Healthy Ocean

Ms. Catherine Novelli, Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment, Department of State, United States

US Perspectives on Oceans and Climate: Initiatives Arising from Our Ocean Conferences

Dr. Hans Hoogeveen, Vice-Minister for Agriculture, The Netherlands

Perspectives on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation and the Blue Economy

Dr. Andi Eka Sakya, Chairman, Agency for Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics, Indonesia

Climate Change Issues, Challenges, and Initiatives: Perspectives from the Archipelagic State of Indonesia

Dr. Biliana Cicin-Sain, President, Global Ocean Forum, Professor and Director, University of Delaware Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy

Toward a Strategic Action Plan on Oceans and Climate for the Next Five Years

12:05 PM-1:00 PM

Panel 2. Addressing the Effects of Climate Change on Oceans and on Coastal and SIDS Populations: The Scientific Evidence, Scenarios, and Choices for Decisionmakers

The challenges oceans and coastal and SIDS populations are facing due to climate change, including choices for decisionmakers, are highlighted, featuring government leaders and noted natural and social scientists.

The environment/people issues, challenges, and opportunities, are illustrated, using some salient examples:

- Fisheries and food security
- Responses to ocean warming and acidification
- Blue Economy approaches

Co-Chairs:

H.E. Dr. Angus Friday, Ambassador to the United States, Grenada

H.E. Ms. Yuriko Koike, Member, House of Representatives, Japan

Setting the Stage: Addressing the Effects of Climate Change on Oceans and on Coastal and SIDS Populations: The Scientific Evidence, Scenarios, and Scientific Perspectives

Prof. Carol Turley, Plymouth Marine Laboratory, UK

Sir David King, Foreign Secretary's Special Representative for Climate Change, United Kingdom

Climate Change as a Security Issue

Dr. Helena Semedo, Deputy Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Climate, Fisheries and Food Security

Dr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat

Ecosystem-based Adaptation and the Role of Ecosystems in Disaster Risk Reduction

Dr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary General, World Meteorological Organization
Information and Services to Assist Governments and Civil Society in Achieving Climate Change Resilience

Prof. Hans Pörtner, Co-Chair, Working Group II (Impacts and Adaptation), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
Professor, Marine Biology, Alfred-Wegener-Institute and University of Bremen
The Oceans: Present and future issues for the IPCC

Ambassador Angus Friday, Grenada
Investing in the Blue Economy: Options for Decisionmakers

1:00-1:45 PM LUNCH

Film Screening

The Nature of People: A documentary film (10 mins) focused on people adapting in changing coastal communities. Meet Maricruz Mendoza, a leader of an ecotourism cooperative in Punta Allen, Mexico where the Mesoamerican reef is both a lifeline and defense to her community—and Grayson Chesser, a lifelong resident and community leader of The Eastern Shore, Virginia who, along with his community, have “come to grips” with the changes in their environment and their home. These are stories of human resilience in a changing climate—where nature is a key element of people’s success now, and in the future.

*Introduction by Maria Damanaki, Managing Director, Global Oceans, The Nature Conservancy
Moderator: Kathy Baughman McLeod, Director, Climate Risk and Resilience, The Nature Conservancy*

1:45-2:40 PM

Panel 3. Mitigation and the Oceans

Leaders address how to accelerate mitigation of CO2 emissions, and evaluate, accelerate, and finance promising mitigation efforts relevant to the oceans, coastal areas, and SIDS and other island jurisdictions. Two stage-setting presentations start off this panel: The first one provides an overview of the major issues related to Mitigation and Oceans, the second provides an overview of the financing challenges, options, and opportunities, since financing is essential to all topics related to climate and oceans—mitigation, adaptation, capacity development, scientific monitoring, and outreach to the public and decisionmakers

- Achieve stringent reductions in greenhouse gas emissions to avoid disastrous consequences on coastal communities, marine ecosystems, and ocean chemistry
- Accelerate efforts to reduce emissions from marine industries, including efforts by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and others
- Conserve and sustainably manage coastal ecosystems (e.g., mangroves, seagrass beds, salt marshes) as major carbon sinks, and further integrate the management of the coastal carbon ecosystems (Coastal Blue Carbon) into the policy and financing processes of the UNFCCC as a major tool for climate change mitigation
- Sustainably develop ocean-based renewable energy (such as offshore wind power, wave energy, tidal power, and aquatic biofuels); and accelerate efforts to implement these approaches through integrated marine planning and enhanced regulatory frameworks
- Consider, and, if appropriate, further develop regulatory systems for carbon capture and storage using the oceans and its resources.

-- Examine assessments of the costs of ocean-based mitigation; for example, costs to integrate Blue Carbon into coastal and ocean management, costs of mitigation efforts by the shipping industry, costs of renewable energy, and costs of carbon capture and storage

--Obtain sufficient financing to support a range of mitigation measures using the oceans, through integrated coastal and ocean management institutions, as appropriate

Co-Chairs:

Dr. Monde Mayekiso, Deputy Director-General of Environmental Affairs, South Africa

H.E. Mr. Heremoana Mamaatuaiahutapu, Minister of Environment and Culture, French Polynesia

Setting the Stage: Issues and Prospects for Mitigation Efforts Relevant to the Oceans, Coastal Areas, and SIDS and other Island Jurisdictions

Ms. Dorothée Herr, Manager, Oceans and Climate Change, IUCN

Setting the Stage: Financing for Mitigation, Adaptation, Capacity Development, Scientific Monitoring, and Public Education: Issues and Options

Mr. John Virdin, Director, Oceans and Coastal Policy Program, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University

H.E. Mr. Greg Hunt MP, Minister for the Environment, Australia

Building Resilience for the Future: the Great Barrier Reef

Ms. Inger Andersen, Director General, International Union for the Conservation of Nature

Blue Carbon and Nature-based Mitigation

Dr. Edmund Hughes, Head, Air Pollution and Energy Efficiency, Subdivision for Protective Measures, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization

Future Directions in Addressing Air Emissions from Ships and the Potential for Ocean-based Sequestration and Marine Geoengineering

Mr. Rawlestone Moore, Senior Climate Change Specialist, Global Environment Facility

Advancing Renewable Energy in SIDS

2:40-3:40 PM

Panel 4. Adaptation and Financing for Adaptation

Leaders address how to ensure successful adaptation efforts, at what costs, and with what financing.

-- Implement ecosystem-based adaptation strategies through integrated coastal and ocean management institutions at national, regional, and local levels to reduce vulnerability of human settlements and build the management capacity, preparedness, resilience, and adaptive capacities of coastal and island communities.

-- Apply innovative approaches to coastal defense, especially for green infrastructure to provide natural system protection for defense against sea level rise, storms, and flooding.

-- Promote and apply Blue Economy approaches with emphasis on low-carbon solutions and economic benefits to developing countries and SIDS (following SDG target 14.7).

-- Establish and effectively manage networks of marine protected areas to protect marine biodiversity and to enhance resilience of marine ecosystems to climate change, with the aim of achieving the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Biodiversity Target of conserving at least 10% of marine and coastal areas by 2020. Ensure scientific monitoring of MPAs and resilience to climate change processes.

-- Develop and support measures to address the issues associated with the displacement and resilience of coastal and island populations as a result of climate change. Identify what financing measures need to be developed and supported to address the issues associated with the displacement of coastal and island populations as a result of climate change.

-- Examine assessments of the costs of adaptation in coastal countries and in small island developing States (SIDS) to inform planning and implementation of adaptation programs. Existing estimates of the costs of adaptation in coastal areas and SIDS have been found to underestimate the investment needed, and to be fragmented and incomplete. For example, most cost estimates for sea level rise focus on infrastructure damage but do not address saltwater intrusion in coastal aquifers and the destruction of habitats that support fisheries and aquaculture;

-- Consider how to ensure the provision of sufficient funding to support adaptation for coastal and island communities that are at the frontline of climate change in 183 coastal countries and SIDS, considering the creation of a special coastal adaptation fund, directing a significant portion of the current climate funds to coastal and SIDS issues, also developing alternative forms of financing

Co-Chairs:

Dame Meg Taylor, Secretary-General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and Pacific Ocean Commissioner

Ms. Paula Caballero, Senior Director, Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice, World Bank

Setting the Stage: Issues and Prospects for Adaptation

Dr. Raphael Bille, Secretariat of the Pacific Community

Mr. Luke Daunivalu, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Fiji, Member, SIDS, UNFCCC Adaptation Committee
Adaptation Opportunities within the UNFCCC

Ms. Maria Damanaki, Global Managing Director for Oceans, The Nature Conservancy
Ecosystem-Based Adaptation

Ambassador Mary Seet-Cheng, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore, Chair, East Asian Seas Partnership Council
Adaptation through Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management: The East Asian Seas Experience

Dr. Hashali Hamukuaya, Executive Secretary, Benguela Current Commission
Climate Change Challenges to Fisheries and Responses in Africa

Mr. Francis Vallat, President, European Network of Maritime Clusters
Adaptation Initiatives by the Maritime Industry

H.E. Ms. Ngedikes Olai Uludong, Ambassador to the European Union, Ambassador on Climate Change, Palau
Addressing Loss and Damage

Mr. Angus Garrett, Head of Seafood Foresight, Seafish, UK
Adaptation to Climate Change in the Seafood Industry

3:40-4:00 PM

Special Address:

H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco
Moving Forward on Oceans and Climate

Special Address:

H.E. Ms. Mary Robinson, President, Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice
Issues and Responses in Climate-Induced Population Displacement

4:00-4:55 PM

Panel 5. Capacity Development, Scientific Monitoring, and Public Education

Leaders address financing of capacity development for mitigation and adaptation measures related to oceans and coastal and SIDS communities as essential elements of success, including the building of scientific monitoring capacity, management capacity, and public education.

-- Provide technical and financial assistance to SIDS and developing countries to build capacity to implement mitigation and adaptation measures, early warning systems and disaster risk reduction, in the context of integrated coastal and marine planning and management

-- Enhance scientific capacity in all countries for marine environmental assessment, monitoring, and prediction, including the implementation of a global ocean acidification observing network as part of the global ocean observing system

-- Expand public outreach and education efforts to enhance public understanding of the ocean's role in planetary survival and in global and national well-being, of the risks posed to SIDS and coastal communities by climate change and to catalyze support for mitigation and adaptation responses, echoing the call on education and awareness-raising made by the Lima Declaration on Education and Awareness-raising (COP 20, 2014)

-- Improve awareness and understanding among policymakers, especially at the UNFCCC and other high-level decision making bodies, of the importance of oceans and climate issues and the need to take bold policy measures to avoid disastrous impacts on the world's coastal and island communities.

Co-Chairs:

Mr. Philippe Vallette, Director General, Nausicaá National Sea Center, France, and Co-President, World Ocean Network

Ms. Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli, Director, United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

Setting the Stage: The Imperatives of Capacity Development, Scientific Monitoring, and Public Education

Mr. Hiroshi Terashima, President, Ocean Policy Research Institute, Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan

Mr. Samuel Kame-Domguia, Coordinator, 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (AIM-Strategy) Task Force, African Union Commission
What is Needed to Achieve Capacity for Stable and Secured Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) for Lasting Stability and Development in Africa

Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO
Enabling Capacity in Scientific Monitoring for Climate Resilience

Mr. José Soares dos Santos, Executive Director, Sociedade Francisco Manuel dos Santos, Portugal
Private Sector Initiatives to Build Ocean Governance Capacity: The Vision for the Oceano Azul Foundation

Mr. David Bresch, Global Head, Sustainability, Swiss Re
Estimating and Communicating Risks in Coastal and Island Areas: Perspectives from the Insurance Industry

Dr. Marco Lambertini, Director General, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) International
Civil Society Initiatives in Enhancing Capacity on Oceans and Climate

Mr. Langston James "Kimo" Goree, Founder and Chief Executive, Earth Negotiations Bulletin, Vice-President, Reporting Services and United Nations Liaison, International Institute for Sustainable Development
Outreach to Global Decisionmakers: Some Lessons I have Learned Since the 1992 Earth Summit

4:55-5:50 PM

Panel 6. Bringing it All Together: A Five-Year Agenda for Action

Leaders present the way forward on the challenges and solutions, and on mobilizing the political will and the financing that will be needed to implement the solutions effectively.

Next steps for priority oceans and climate issues, including mitigation, adaptation, financing, capacity development, public education, and scientific monitoring, are outlined.

Co-Chairs:

Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Dr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme

Hon. Rimbink Pato, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration, Papua New Guinea
The Political Will is Present: Tangible Actions Now Needed

H.E. Mme. Ségolène Royal, Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, France
Climate and Oceans Initiatives for the Next Phase

Ms. Naoko Ishii, Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility
Oceans and Climate in the Next Phase: Building Sustainability and Resilience through Strategic Adaptation Financing

Hon. Dr. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister, Grenada
2015 to 2020: The Essential Progress on Oceans and Climate We Must Jointly Realize

Remarks by:

H.E. Dr. Hakima El Haite, Minister Delegate in charge of Environment, Morocco (expected to host UNFCCC COP 22)

Mr. Romain Troublé, Secretary General, Tara Expeditions, and Ms. Catherine Chabaud, President, Innovation Bleues, Representatives of the Ocean and Climate Platform

Closing Remarks

Dr. Biliana Cicin-Sain, President, Global Ocean Forum

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6:00 to 6:30 PM
Press Conference

6:00 to 6:45 PM
Reception

Featuring: *Moana Rua: The Rising of the Seas*, written, directed, and performed by Pacific Islanders.

“Moana Rua” is a unique way of exploring the human dimensions of climate change and conveying the urgency of this for Pacific Islanders, through music, dance, poetry and video projections. When the sea rises on stage and islanders drown as islands are taken over by the ocean’s forces, the audience becomes witness to tragedy and are compelled to feel with their hearts, as the immediacy of what climate science predicts becomes real for those most concerned. This is a 56-minute film of a live stage performance given at the Bergen International Festival in Norway, 31 May 2015.

Moderators: Tuilagi Seiuli Allan Alo, Pacific Outreach Coordinator–Polynesia, and Edvard Hviding, University of Bergen, Norway, Executive Producer