

## Trade-related aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Ocean economy, trade policy, the climate and development nexus

# 5th United Nations Ocean Forum



## Programme

3–5 March 2025, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (CET)  
Room XIX, E building, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Day 1: Monday, 3 March 2025

*Version 05 February 2025*

10–11:00 a.m.

**HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT: TOWARDS THE DECARBONIZATION OF THE OCEAN ECONOMY**

**Co-Chairs**

**H.E. M. Olivier Poivre d'Arvor**, Ambassadeur pour les Pôles et les Affaires Maritimes et Envoyé spécial du Président pour la troisième Conférence des Nations Unies sur les océans, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères, France

**H.E. Ms. Gina Guillén-Grillo**, Ambassador, Presidential Envoy for the Ocean, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Costa Rica

**Welcoming remarks:** Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

**High-level panel:**

**H.E. Mr. Arnaldo André Tinoco**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Costa Rica

High Level Representative, **France** (tbc)

High Level Representative, **Portugal** (tbc)

**Mr. Pascal Lamy**, Former WTO Director General and Chair of the Blue Economy and Finance Forum



11:00 a.m.–13:00 p.m.

#### SESSION 1: UNITED NATIONS AND PARTNER AGENCIES: CURRENT TRADE-RELATED TRENDS IN OCEAN ECONOMY

##### Introduction of UNCTAD-FAO background note:

**Ms. Luz María de la Mora Sánchez**, Director, Division of International Trade and Commodities (DITC), UNCTAD

##### Head of Agency Panel:

**Mr. Li Junhua**, Under Secretary General, UNDESA (Pre-recorded video address) (tbc)

**Mr. Arjoon Suddhoo**, Deputy, Secretary-General, the Commonwealth (tbc)

**H.E. Mr. Jestas Abuok Nyamanga**, Ambassador, United Republic of Tanzania and Chair of OACPS's Ambassadorial Working Group for Oceans, Inland Waters & Fisheries

**Mr. Audun Lem**, Deputy-Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, FAO

**Mr. Vladimir Jares**, Director, DOALOS (tbc)

**Mr. Arnold Kreilhuber**, Director of the Regional Office for Europe, UNEP

**Mr. Awni Behnam**, Honorary President, International Ocean Institute (IOI)

**Representative of the WMO** (tbc)

##### Interactive discussion

1:10–1:30 p.m.

#### MARINE-BASED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES (MAPS) EXPO

Location: Palais de Nations, Building E, Exhibition Hall, 3rd floor.

Inauguration (joint UNCTAD's Ocean and SMEP Programmes event)

**Master of Ceremonies:** Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier, Head, TEDB/DITC, UNCTAD

**Opening remarks:** Ms. Luz María de la Mora Sánchez, Director, Division of International Trade and Commodities (DITC), UNCTAD

**H.E. Mr. Mxolisi Nkosi**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland (tbc)

**Mr. Mr Hoe Lim**, Director of Trade and Environment Division, WTO

**Represented agencies, associations and enterprises:** UNCTAD, FAO Globe Fish, INBAR, International Seaweed Association, Europeche, Catchgreen, Zerocircle, Shellworks, Flipflop, Fédération Nationale des Paniers de la Mer, Ulluu, Mananasi Fibres, Go!PHA, Texfad, QUELP Chile, and Busitema University.



3–4:30 P.M.

#### SESSION 2: NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDCS) FOR THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF EXPORT-ORIENTED OCEAN ECONOMY SECTORS—FISHERIES, SEAFOOD PROCESSING, COASTAL TOURISM, SHIPPING, AND RELATED MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORT

**Panellists:**

- H.E. Mr. José R Sánchez-Fung**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the World Trade Organization and UNCTAD, Geneva
- Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier**, Head, Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Branch (TEDB), DITC, UNCTAD
- Ms. Frida Youssef**, Chief Transport Section, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD
- Mr. Alfredo Giron**, Head, Ocean Action Agenda and Friends of Ocean Action, World Economic Forum

Interactive discussion

4:30–5:15 p.m.

#### Side event 1: Climate-resilient ports for sustainable trade and tourism

**Panellists:**

- Ms. Regina Asariotis**, Chief, Policy and Legislation Section, UNCTAD
- H.E. Mere Falemaka**, Ambassador of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat to the United Nations, WTO and other International Organizations in Geneva (tbc)
- Mr. Giuseppe Mancinelli**, UNOPS (tbc)

Interactive discussion

5:15–6 p.m.

#### Virtual briefing on UNOC 2025 and related voluntary commitments

**Panellists:**

- UNDESA representative (tbc)
- UNDOALOS representative (tbc)

Q&A

7:00 p.m.

#### Cocktail Reception

Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland (tbc): Further information will be provided in due course (by invitation only)



**Day 2: Tuesday, 4 March 2025**

10–11:30 a.m.

**SESSION 3: THE POTENTIAL FOR SOUTH-SOUTH TRADE IN OCEAN-BASED GOODS, PARTICULARLY FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS**

**Panellists:**

- H.E. Mr. Achsanul Habib**, Ambassador and Charge d'Affaires, Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
- Mr. David Vivas Eugui**, Chief of Section a.i. TEDB/DITC, UNCTAD
- Ms. Sainabou Taal**, Head, Fisheries Subsidies, WTO
- Mr. Christophe Bellmann**, Head of Policy Analysis and Strategy, TESS
- Ms. Yang Wei**, Deputy Director of the Department of Applied Economics, Shanghai Ocean University

Interactive discussion

**11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Side event 2: Social sustainability of the fisheries and aquaculture value chains**

**Moderator:** **Ms. Shirlene, Anthony Samy**, Fishery Officer, FAO

**Panellists:**

- H.E. Mr. Colin Murdoch**, Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
- Ms. Katarina Sipic**, Secretary General, EU Fish Processors and Traders Association and the European Federation of National Organizations of Importers and Exporters of Fish (AIPCE-CEP)
- Mr. Kirill Buketov**, Policy Officer, International Union of Food and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF)

Interactive discussion

**12:15–1:00 p.m. Side event 3: Marine genetic resources of areas beyond national jurisdiction, including the fair and equitable sharing of benefits**

**Moderator:** **Mr. Daniel Wilde**, Head of Ocean, Commonwealth Secretariat

**Scene-setting:** UN-OLA/DOALOS representative

**Panellists:**

- Ms. Antonella Vassallo**, Managing Director, IOI
- Ms. Beatriz Fernandez**, UNEP (tbc)
- Mr. Peter Wekesa**, Fisheries, Fisheries Expert, OACPS
- Mr. Paolo Bifani**, Professor at the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid y Universidad de Guadalajara Mexico

Interactive discussion



3–4:30 P.M.

#### SESSION 4: TRADE POLICIES AND TOOLS FOR INNOVATIVE MARINE-BASED AND LOW-CARBON PRODUCTS BY SMES (INCLUDING FOODS, NUTRACEUTICALS, COSMETICS, AND NON-PLASTIC SUBSTITUTES)

##### Panellists:

**H.E. Mr. Alan Deidun**, Malta Oceans Ambassador and Director of IOI Training Center, Malta.

**Mr. Vincent Doumeizel**, Senior Adviser on Oceans. United Nations Global Compact

**Ms. Bente E. Torstensen**, CEO, Nofima, Norway

**Ms. Emma Algotsson**, Project Lead, Catchgreen; Director, Compostable Plastics Council South Africa

**Mr. Lorenzo Formenti**, UNCTAD Consultant, Marine-based plastic substitutes

**Ms. Anindya Mukherjee** (Co-founder, GO!PHA), Co-founder, Foundation GO!PHA

##### Interactive discussion

#### 4:30–5:15 p.m. Side event 4: Accelerating Ocean finance: Case studies, challenges, and opportunities

**Panellists:** **Mr. Pierre Bardoux**, Director Nature Assets and Global Fund for Coral Reefs

**Mr. Torsten Thiele**, Consultant, Global Ocean Trust

**Representative**, Government of Saudi Arabia (tbc)

**Representative**, UBS Optimus (tbc)

##### Interactive discussion

#### 5:15–6 p.m. Side event 5: Ocean capacity development

**Moderator:** **Mr. Awni Behnam**, (IOI)

**Panellists:** **Representative**, UN DOALOS

**State representative**, (donor country)

**State representative**, SIDS

##### Interactive discussion





## Day 3: Wednesday, 5 March 2025

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### SESSION 5: BLUE FINANCE FOR A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION AND TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE EXPORT-ORIENTED OCEAN-BASED SECTORS

#### Panellists:

**Ms. Jessy Carnelle Petit-Frere**, Former Minister of Commerce and Industry of Haiti

**Ms. Usha Chandnee Dwarka-Canabady**, Chair of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ocean Forum and Former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations Office at Geneva

**Mr. Pierre Bardoux**, Director Nature Assets and Global Fund for Coral Reefs

**Ms. Diana Barrowclough**, Senior Economist, GDS, UNCTAD

**Ms. Commerijn Plomp**, Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the WTO Fisheries Funding Mechanism Trust Fund

#### Interactive discussion

### 12–1 P.M. CLOSING SESSION OF THE FORUM: PRESENTATION OF CHAIR'S SUMMARY WITH PRELIMINARY LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION POINTS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE 2025

**Chairs' summary:** **H.E. M. Olivier Poivre d'Arvor**, Ambassadeur pour les Pôles et les Affaires Maritimes et Envoyé spécial du Président pour la troisième Conférence des Nations Unies sur les océans, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères, France

**H.E. Ms. Gina Guillén-Grillo**, Ambassador, Presidential Envoy for the Ocean, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Costa Rica

#### Open discussions

#### Closing remarks by the Chairs

### 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Side event 6: From Land to Sea: Scaling Innovations to Tackle Marine Pollution

**Opening Remarks:** **Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier**, Head, Trade and Environment, UNCTAD

**Moderator:** **Mr. Henrique Pacini**, SMEP Programme lead, UNCTAD

#### Panellists:

**Mr. Kimani Muturi**, Banatex-EA, Uganda & **Mr. James Boyd-Moss**, Mananasi Fibre

**Mr. Dipesh Pabari**, The Flipflop project, Kenya

**Ms. Emma Algottson**, Catchgreen, South Africa



**Ms. Michelle Wheeler**, Head of Communications, Uluru Australia  
**Mr. Nima Bahramalian**, Industrial Development Expert, UNIDO

#### Q&A with audience

4:00 pm – 4: 45 pm Side event 7: International Fisheries Access Agreements – challenges and opportunities to optimize development impacts

4:45 pm- 6:00 pm Side event 8: Women navigating the Blue Economy - A conversation on challenges and opportunities in the context of value addition

Moderator: Olivia Cook, Permanent Mission of Chile to the WTO

#### Panellists:

**Ms. Mariangela Linoci**, Trade, Gender and Development Programme,,  
UNCTAD

**Representative from FAO**

**Representative from WIPO (tbc)**

**Ms. Alendra Allendes**, QUELP (Chile)

**Ms. Monica Maldonado**, Ecuadorian Chamber of Manufacturers and  
Tuna Processors (CEIPA)

