

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

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10–11:30 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. M. Emmanuel Macron, Président de la République Française, France / H.E. Mr. Stéphane Séjourné, Ministre de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères, France (tbc)

H.E. Mr. Arnoldo André Tinoco, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Costa Rica (tbc)

High Level representative from **Portugal** (tbc)

High Level representative from **Kenya** (tbc)



11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Session 1: Head of Agency Panel Session 1: Current trade-related trends in ocean economy

Introduction of UNCTAD-FAO background note:

Ms. Luz Maria de la Mora Sanchez, Director, Division of International Trade and Commodities (DITC), UNCTAD

Head of Agency Panel (6 minutes each):

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

Ms. Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, Secretary-General, the Commonwealth (tbc)

H.E. Mr Georges Rebelo Pinto Chikoti, Secretary General of the OACPS (tbc)

Ms. Susan Gardner, Ecosystems Division Director, UNEP

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

Mr. Vladimir Jares, Director, DOALOS (tbc)

Mr. Awni Behnam, Honorary President, International Ocean Institute

Interactive discussion

1:10–1:30 p.m.

Ocean Products fair. Location: Palais de Nations, Building E, Exhibition Hall, 2nd floor (tbc)

Inauguration of innovative and marine-based low carbon products exhibition

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

Opening remarks: Mr. Pedro Manuel Moreno, Deputy-Secretary General, UN Trade and Development (tbc)

H.E. Simon Manley, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the WTO and the United Nations in Geneva (tbc)

Mr. Aik Hoe Lim, Director, Trade and Environment, WTO (tbc)

Potentially represented agencies and enterprises: UNCTAD, FAO, INBAR, Catchgreen, Flipflop, Notpla, Mananasi Fibres, Go!PHA

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

Mr. Bruno Maggy G. Pozzi, Deputy Director, Ecosystems Division, UNEP

Ms Frida Youssef, Chief Transport Section, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD (tbc)



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
Mr. Crispin D’Auvergne, OECS Commission (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.

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. Febrin Ruddyard, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva (tbc)
H.E. Guilherme Patriota, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the WTO and UNCTAD (tbc)
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. Mariana Toussaint, 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: Head of Ocean, Commonwealth Secretariat

Scene-setting: UN-OLA/DOALOS representative

Panellists: IOI representative

Ms. Arianna Broggiato, European Commission

Mr. Philippe Raposo, Brazil

Ms. Beatriz Gomez Castro/Ms. Charlotte Germain-Aubrey, CBD Secretariat

Ms. Jyotika Virmani, Schmidt Ocean Institute, or **Mr. Romain Troublé**, Tara Ocean Foundation

Interactive discussion

3–4:30 p.m. Session 4: Trade policies and tools for innovative marine-based and low carbon products by SMEs (foods, nutraceuticals, cosmetics, and non-plastic substitutes)

Panellists: **H.E. Ms. Usha Chandnee Dwarka-Canabady**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

H.E. Mr. Alan Deidun, Malta Oceans Ambassador, Associate Professor, University of Malta, and Member of IOI

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 Expert, on marine based plastic substitutes

Mr. Rick Passenier, 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

Ms. Susan Gardner, Ecosystems Division Director, UNEP

Mr. Torsten Thiele, Consultant, Global Ocean Trust

Representative of Government of Saudi Arabia (tbc)



Representative of 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
Representative, International Ocean Institute (IOI)
State representative, (donor country)
State representative, SIDS

Interactive discussion

7:00 p.m. Cocktail reception

Organized Commonwealth secretariat (tbc). Further information will be provided in due course.

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. Diana Barrowclough, Senior Economist, GDS, UNCTAD
Ms. Yoko Watanabe, Director, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, ADB (tbc)
Mr. Pierre Bardoux, Director Nature Assets and Global Fund for Coral Reefs
Ms. Karen Sack, Executive Director, Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRA) (tbc)
Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the WTO Fish Fund (tbc)

Interactive discussion

12–1 p.m. Closing session: 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

