

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

Version 6 March 2025

Day 1: Monday, 3 March 2025

10–11:00 a.m.

HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT: TOWARDS THE DECARBONIZATION OF THE OCEAN ECONOMY

Co-Chairs **H.E. Ms. Gina Guillén-Grillo**, Ambassador, Presidential Envoy for the Ocean, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Costa Rica)
Mr. Ashok Adiceam, Deputy Special Envoy, Délégué Général, 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference (France)

Welcoming remarks: **Ms. Rebeca Grynspan**, Secretary-General, UN Trade and Development

High-level panel: **H.E. Mr. Thani Mohamed Soilihi**, Ministre délégué auprès du ministre de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères, chargé de la Francophonie et des Partenariats internationaux (France)
H.E. Ms. Lídia Bulcão, Secretary of State for Maritime Affairs (Portugal)
Ms. Celeste Saulo, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
Mr. Pascal Lamy, Former WTO Director-General and Chair of the Blue Economy and Finance Forum

Ocean Economy and Fisheries and Sustainable Manufacturing and Environmental Pollution (SMEP) Programmes
Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Branch, DITC



11:00 a.m.–13:00 p.m.

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

Introduction of UN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT -FAO background note:

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

Partner Agencies Panel:

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

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

Mr. Vladimir Jares, Director, DOALOS

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

Mr. Suresh Yadav, Senior Director, Trade, Oceans and Natural Resources Division, The Commonwealth

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

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 UN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT 's Ocean and SMEP Programmes event)

Master of Ceremonies: **Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier**, Head, TEDB/DITC, UN Trade and Development

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

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

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

Represented agencies, associations and enterprises: UN Trade and Development, FAO Globe Fish, International Bamboo and Rattan Organization (INBAR), International Seaweed Association (ISA), Busitema University-TEXFAD (Banatex-EA Project), Catchgreen, La Fédération Nationale des Paniers de la Mer, Flipflop, Global Seaweed Coalition (GSC), Go!PHA, Mananasi Fibre, QUELP, Shellworks, Uluu, and Zerocircle

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 UN Trade and Development, Geneva
 - Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier**, Head, Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Branch, DITC, UN Trade and Development
 - Ms. Frida Youssef**, Chief Transport Section, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UN Trade and Development
 - 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, tourism and disaster response and recovery](#)

- Panellists:**
- Ms. Regina Asariotis**, Chief (a.i.) Trade Logistics Branch; Chief, Policy and Legislation Section, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
 - Mr. Ronald Jackson**, Head, Disaster Risk Reduction, Recovery and Resilience Building Team, UNDP Crisis Bureau
 - Mr. Abhilash Panda**, Deputy Chief, Intergovernmental processes, Interagency cooperation and Partnerships Branch, UNDRR

Interactive discussion

5:15–6 p.m.

[Virtual briefing on UNOC 2025 and related voluntary commitments](#)

Moderator: **Mr. David Vivas Eugui**, Chief of Section a.i. TEDB/DITC, UN Trade and Development

- Panellists:**
- Ms. Xin Feng**, UNDESA representative (by video)
 - Mr. Vladimir Jares**, Director, DOALOS

Q&A

6:00 p.m. [Cocktail Reception](#)

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

Day 2: Tuesday, 4 March 2025

10–10:30 a.m.

[KEYNOTE SPEECH: Form Geneva to Nice](#)



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

10:30–12:00 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, UN Trade and Development
 - 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 (China)

Interactive discussion

12:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m. **Side event 2: Social sustainability of the fisheries and aquaculture value chains**

- Moderator:** **Ms. Shirlene Anthonysamy**, 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

12:45-1:45 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:** **Mr. Vladimir Jares**, Director, DOALOS
- Panellists:**
- H.E. Sumbue Antas**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Vanuatu to the United Nations Office at Geneva
 - Ms. Antonella Vassallo**, Managing Director, IOI
 - Mr. Peter Wekesa**, Fisheries Expert, OACPS
 - Mr. Paolo Bifani**, Professor at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and Universidad de Guadalajara México

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)

- Panelists:**
- 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**, Consultant, Marine-based plastic substitutes, UN Trade and Development
 - Mr. Anindya Mukherjee**, Co-Founder and Executive Board Member, GO!PHA

Interactive discussion

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

- Panellists:**
- Ms. Minna Epps**, Director of Global Marine and Polar Programme, IUCN (overview on ocean action and opportunities)
 - Mr. Pierre Bardoux**, Director Nature Assets and Global Fund for Coral Reefs (the One Ocean Finance Facility Concept)

Interactive discussion

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

- Moderator:** **Mr. Vladimir Jares**, Director, DOALOS
- Panellists:**
- Ms. Josefina Bunge**, Chief of Staff, WMO
 - Mr. Cosmin Chivu**, Project Officer, IOI
 - Mr. Peter Wekesa**, Fisheries, Fisheries Expert, OACPS

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 (Haiti)
 - Ms. Usha Chandnee Dwarka-Canabady**, Chair of the 4th 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, UN Trade and Development



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. **Ms. Gina Guillén-Grillo**, Ambassador, Presidential Envoy for the Ocean, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Costa Rica)
Mr. Ashok Adiceam, Deputy Special Envoy, Délégué Général, 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference (France)

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, UN Trade and Development

Moderator: **Mr. Henrique Pacini**, SMEP Programme lead, UN Trade and Development

Panellists: **Mr. James Boyd-Moss**, Founder, Mananasi Fibre (Kenya)
Mr. Dipesh Pabari, co-Founder, The Flipflop project (Kenya)
Ms. Emma Algotsson, Project Lead, Catchgreen (South Africa)
Ms. Julia Reisser, co-Founder and co-CEO, Uluu (Australia)
Ms. Alejandra Allendes, Co-Founder and CEO, Quelp (Chile)
Mr. Alejandro Rivera Rojas, Task Force Coordinator for Blue Industry, UNIDO

Q&A with audience

4:30 pm – 5: 15 pm Side event 7: International Fisheries Access Agreements – challenges and opportunities to optimize development impacts

Moderator: **Mr. David Vivas Eugui**, Chief of Section a.i. TEDB/DITC, UN Trade and Development

Introduction of UN Trade and Development study: **Ms. Johanna Silvander**, Programme Management Officer, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes

Comment: **Mr. Lahsen Ababouch**, Independent Consultant, Former FAO Director for Fisheries Policy and Economics (video)

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

Mr. Yuvan Beejadhur, Senior Adviser to the Director-General, World Trade Organization

Mr. Peter Wekesa, Fisheries, Fisheries Expert, OACPS



5:15 pm- 6:00 pm Side event 8: **Women navigating the Blue Economy - A conversation on challenges and opportunities in the context of value addition**

Organizers: The Republic of Chile and UNCTAD

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

Moderator: **Ms. Ximena Alcayaga**, Division of Multilateral Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile

Panellists: **Ms. Jennifer Gee**, Fishery Officer, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO

Ms. Mariangela Linoci, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade, Gender and Development Programme, UN Trade and Development

Ms. Alejandra Allendes, Co-founder and CEO, QUELP (Chile)

Ms. Jacinta María Ramírez Ramírez, Deputy Secretary of the Conil Fishermen's Guild and member of the Ad Hoc Women's Group of the National Federation of Fishermen's Guilds (Spain)

Ms. Sharleen Oduor, IP and Gender Fellow, Patents and Technology Sector, WIPO

