

2024 Ocean Decade Conference Satellite Event

Advancing the United Nations World Ocean Assessment: supporting future ocean sustainability and informing decision making and ocean policy

**A panel discussion organized by
UN DOALOS**

10 April 2024, 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm

Centro de Convenciones Internacionales Barcelona (CCIB)
Meeting Room 120-121 - ARCTIC OCEAN, Level P1

Objective

1. To increase awareness of the World Ocean Assessment (WOA) in bridging the science-policy interface.
2. To highlight the new components of the third WOA, specifically the integration and consideration of socio-economic and environmental aspects, and development of sustainability pathways for ocean sectors.
3. To identify synergies and opportunities for collaboration with relevant UN bodies, other intergovernmental processes and the Ocean Decade community on these topics.

Expected outcome

1. Expanded awareness of the role of the WOA in bridging science and policy and the new components of the assessment being introduced in the third cycle.
2. Identification of opportunities for Ocean Decade community involvement in the assessment.
3. Identification of opportunities for enhancement of content of the assessment from the Ocean Decade community, particularly with a focus on sustainable pathways for ocean sectors.

Targeted audience

The target audience includes Governments, UN Bodies, intergovernmental processes, the UN Ocean Decade scientific community, NGOs and the public.

Format

This on-site event will be 75 minutes long.

Draft programme

The event will consist of an opening segment which will provide an overview of the Regular Process and its World Ocean Assessments, a moderated discussion on how other relevant assessments' processes can support the WOA and vice versa, followed by moderators' concluding remarks.

1. Opening

- Ms. Karen Evans, Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts - MC -
- Mr. Adam J. Bloomquist, Senior Marine Environment Officer, Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs, U.S. Department of State/OES
- Mr. Marco Boccia, Team Leader, Regular Process | World Ocean Assessment, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS)

2. Background on the Regular Process and its World Ocean Assessments

- Ms. Maria Bebianno, Member of the Group of Experts

3. Video on WOA

4. Panel discussion

Moderator: Mr. Roberto De Pinho, Member of the Group of Experts

- The moderator will set the scene for the panel discussion, providing an overarching framework on the importance of WOA III in contributing to informed decision-making on ocean sustainability pathways and supporting other global processes and agreements.

Panellists:

- IPCC - Ms. Ines Camilloni, Vice-Chair, IPCC Working Group I
- IOC - Mr. Yutaka Michida, IOC Chairperson
- UNEP - Ms. Susan Gardner, Director, Ecosystem Division
- WMO - Mr. Johan Stander, Director of Services
- FAO - Ms. Vera Agostini, Deputy-Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department

Guiding questions targeted towards how each of the bodies being represented can support the WOA and how the WOA can support those bodies and what strategies they have employed in delivering content digitally:

1. *How might the WOA contribute to the activities and outputs from your Organisation in identifying and promoting sustainable pathways for ocean sectors?*
2. *In what specific ways might your Organisation collaborate with the Regular Process over the short and medium-term to enrich its WOA in relation to bolstering ocean science input to support informed decisions for an inclusive ocean economy?*
3. *What strategies has your Organisation employed in delivering content digitally that have proven effective in engaging your audience and spreading your message that might be applicable to the WOA?*

5. Concluding remarks

- Ms. Karen Evans, Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts