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## **2022 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development**

Lisbon, 27 June–1 July 2022

Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*

**Organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary organs, and other organizational matters**

### **Organizational and procedural matters**

#### **Note by the Secretariat**

1. The proposals set out in the present note have been prepared on the basis of General Assembly resolution [73/292](#) and decision [75/578](#).

#### **I. Election of officers**

2. The Conference shall elect two Presidents and other officers in accordance with its rules of procedure. As stipulated in rule 6, the Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: two Presidents, one from Kenya and one from Portugal, each of whom shall preside separately. The Conference shall also elect 13 Vice-Presidents,<sup>1</sup> one of whom shall be designated as Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chair for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. The officers shall be elected with a view to ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

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\* [A/CONF.230/2022/1](#).

<sup>1</sup> Three from each of the following groups: African States; Asia-Pacific States; Eastern European States; Latin American and Caribbean States; and Western European and other States. The election of the two Presidents will, however, have the effect of reducing by one the number of Vice-Presidents allocated to the regions from which each of the Presidents is elected.



## **II. Adoption of the rules of procedure**

3. The Conference shall adopt its rules of procedure. The provisional rules of procedure, as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution [73/292](#), are contained in document [A/CONF.230/2022/2](#).

## **III. Adoption of the agenda**

4. The Conference will have before it for adoption the provisional agenda ([A/CONF.230/2022/1](#)), as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution [73/292](#).

## **IV. Organization of work**

### **A. Dates and venue**

5. The Conference will be held in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022. The overarching theme of the Conference shall be “Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions”.

6. The venue of the Conference will be the Altice Arena Convention Centre, located at Parque das Nações, Rossio dos Olivais, Lote 2.13.01A, 1990-231, Lisbon.

### **B. Plenary meetings**

7. The Conference will consist of a total of nine plenary meetings, to be held as follows:

Monday, 27 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, 28 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 29 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Thursday, 30 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Friday, 1 July, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

8. All plenary meetings will be held in the Plenary Hall.

9. At the opening of the Conference, to take place during the first plenary meeting, on the morning of Monday, 27 June, consideration will be given to all procedural and organizational matters, including the adoption of the rules of procedure and the agenda, the election of the two Presidents of the Conference, the election of officers, the establishment of subsidiary organs, as appropriate, the appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee, arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Conference and other matters. Also at the first plenary meeting, statements will be made by the Presidents of the Conference, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Secretary-General of the Conference.

10. The plenary meetings will then be devoted to statements in the general debate. The list of speakers for the plenary meetings will be established on a first-come, first-served basis, under the customary protocol that ensures that Heads of State or Government speak first, followed by other heads of delegation. The European Union will be included in the list of speakers. It is proposed that a time limit of five minutes

be established for each statement. The live list of speakers will be announced in the 2022 Ocean Conference edition of the *Journal of the United Nations* and circulated through the e-deleGATE portal.

11. The plenary meetings, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [73/292](#), will also hear statements from representatives of other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, international bodies and United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, as well as major groups and other stakeholders, in accordance with the practices of the Assembly.

12. At the final plenary meeting, to be held on Friday, 1 July, the Conference is expected to conclude with, inter alia, reporting on the interactive dialogues, to be followed by the adoption of the brief, concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed declaration and of the report of the Conference.

### C. Interactive dialogues

13. The Conference will include eight interactive dialogues, to be held in parallel with the plenary meetings, as follows:

Monday, 27 June, from 3 to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 28 June from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 29 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Thursday, 30 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Friday, 1 July, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

14. All interactive dialogues will be held in the Tejo Hall.

15. The interactive dialogues will address the following themes:

Monday, 27 June, from 3 to 6 p.m.: “Addressing marine pollution”

Tuesday, 28 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: “Promoting and strengthening sustainable ocean-based economies, in particular for small island developing States and least developed countries”

Tuesday, 28 June, from 3 to 6 p.m.: “Managing, protecting, conserving and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems”

Wednesday, 29 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: “Minimizing and addressing ocean acidification, deoxygenation and ocean warming”

Wednesday, 29 June, from 3 to 6 p.m.: “Making fisheries sustainable and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets”

Thursday, 30 June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: “Increasing scientific knowledge and developing research capacity and transfer of marine technology”

Thursday, 30 June, from 3 to 6 p.m.: “Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”

Friday, 1 July, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: “Leveraging interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 14 and other Goals towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda”

16. The background note and concept papers for the interactive dialogues are contained in documents [A/74/630](#), [A/CONF.230/2022/4](#), [A/CONF.230/2022/5](#),

[A/CONF.230/2022/6](#), [A/CONF.230/2022/7](#), [A/CONF.230/2022/8](#), [A/CONF.230/2022/9](#), [A/CONF.230/2022/10](#) and [A/CONF.230/2022/11](#).

17. Each interactive dialogue will be presided over by two Co-Chairs at the ministerial level and above – one from a developing country and one from a developed country, to be appointed by the Presidents of the Conference – and will be facilitated by a moderator. The dialogues will be open to all conference participants, with designated seating. A letter from the President of the General Assembly<sup>2</sup> transmitting the announcement by the co-hosts of the Conference (Kenya and Portugal) about the eight Co-Chairs of the interactive dialogues was sent to all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations in New York on 20 May 2022.

18. The interactive dialogues will be collaborative and multi-stakeholder in nature and will focus on recommendations to support the implementation of Goal 14, including through strengthened cooperation, building on existing successful partnerships and stimulating innovative and concrete new ones, taking into account the theme of the Conference. The interactive dialogues will begin with a panel discussion, followed by an interactive dialogue among participants. Interventions in the interactive dialogue will be limited to three minutes. Participants are encouraged to focus on concrete solutions to addressing challenges and gaps in the implementation of Goal 14 targets by presenting voluntary commitments and partnerships, as well as policy recommendations to support the implementation of Goal 14. In this regard, participants may wish to address the guiding questions set out in the interactive dialogue concept papers available on the Conference website.<sup>3</sup>

19. The order of speakers for each interactive dialogue will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis, bearing in mind equitable geographical distribution while allowing for some flexibility, with priority given to States according to the level of representation, followed by intergovernmental organizations and other entities, associate members of regional commissions, United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, major groups and other relevant actors. It is envisaged that up to 27 States and eight other participants will be accommodated to speak in the interactive debate of each interactive dialogue.

20. Summaries of the interactive dialogues will be presented by the respective Co-Chairs to the Conference at its closing plenary meeting and included in the final report of the Conference.

#### **D. Main Committee**

21. The Main Committee, if established in accordance with rule 46, will meet, if necessary, in parallel with plenary meetings, except during the opening and closing meetings, and will be responsible for finalizing any outstanding matters.

#### **E. Timetable for the work of the Conference**

22. A proposed timetable for the work of the Conference is contained in the annex to the present note. Updated information will be posted on the Conference website and announced in the daily Ocean Conference edition of the *Journal of the United Nations*.

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<sup>2</sup> Available at [un.org/pga/76/2022/05/20/letter-from-the-president-of-the-general-assembly-oceans-conference-co-chairs-of-interactive-dialogue](https://un.org/pga/76/2022/05/20/letter-from-the-president-of-the-general-assembly-oceans-conference-co-chairs-of-interactive-dialogue).

<sup>3</sup> <https://un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022>.

## **F. Organization of meetings, parallel meetings and other events of the Conference**

23. Meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. To ensure the most efficient utilization of available resources, it is essential that all meetings start promptly.

24. Parallel meetings and other events, including those of major groups and other stakeholders, will be held during the same hours as the plenary meetings and interactive dialogues, space permitting. Interpretation services will be provided for such meetings, as available.

25. Side events, including briefings, seminars, workshops and panel discussions on issues related to the implementation of Goal 14, will be organized by participants in the Conference. Guidelines for organizing such events and the calendar of those events will be made available on the Conference website.

## **V. Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee**

26. Rule 4 provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

## **VI. Participants**

27. The General Assembly, in its resolution [73/292](#), encouraged participation in the Conference at the highest possible level. States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the Assembly to participate in the capacity of observers in the sessions and work of the Assembly, associate members of the regional commissions, specialized agencies and related organizations, other intergovernmental organizations and other international bodies, United Nations organs, non-governmental organizations and other major groups will participate in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference.

## **VII. Secretariat**

28. The Secretary-General of the Conference will serve as focal point within the Secretariat for providing support to the organization of the Conference, in cooperation with the representatives of the two Presidents. In May 2019, the Secretary-General of the United Nations nominated the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs as the Secretary-General of the Conference.

29. The Special Adviser to the Presidents of the Conference on oceans and legal matters will support the achievement of the goals of the Conference by providing both substantive and procedural advice.

30. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management will serve as the Secretary of the Conference.

## VIII. Documentation

31. In accordance with the practice followed at previous United Nations conferences, the official documentation of the Conference will include documents issued before, during and after the Conference.

32. In accordance with the practice followed at previous United Nations conferences and set out in annex II to General Assembly resolution [73/292](#), it is recommended that the Conference adopt a report consisting of the decisions of the Conference, including the intergovernmentally agreed declaration, a brief account of the proceedings and a reportorial account of the work of the Conference and the action taken at the plenary meetings.

33. Summaries of the plenary meetings and interactive dialogues and a list of voluntary commitments registered after 9 June 2017 and those announced at the Conference should also be included in the report of the Conference.

34. All Conference documentation will be available on the Conference website and in the Ocean Conference edition of the *Journal of the United Nations*.

## IX. Media coverage

35. Press materials will be prepared by the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat for journalists covering the Conference. In addition, regular press releases will be issued on the results of the plenary meetings and the interactive dialogues. All relevant documentation will be made available on the Conference website.

36. The plenary meetings, the interactive dialogues and the press conferences will be broadcast live to the media area and also available on United Nations Web TV.<sup>4</sup> A programme of special media briefings and press conferences will be announced.

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<sup>4</sup> Available at <http://webtv.un.org>.

## Annex

**Proposed timetable for the work of the 2022 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development**

**Lisbon, 27 June–1 July 2022**

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/programme</i>
<b>Monday, 27 June</b>	
<b>1st plenary meeting</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	1 Opening of the Conference
	2 Election of two Presidents
	1 Opening statements
	3 Adoption of the rules of procedure
	4 Adoption of the agenda of the Conference
	5 Election of officers other than the Presidents
	6 Organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary organs, and other organizational matters
	7 (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
	8 General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>	
3–6 p.m.	9 Interactive dialogue on “Addressing marine pollution”
<b>Tuesday, 28 June</b>	
<b>2nd plenary meeting</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	8 General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	9 Interactive dialogue on “Promoting and strengthening sustainable ocean-based economies, in particular for small island developing States and least developed countries”
<b>3rd plenary meeting</b>	
3–6 p.m.	8 General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>	
3–6 p.m.	9 Interactive dialogue on “Managing, protecting, conserving and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems”

<i>Date/time</i>		<i>Agenda item/programme</i>
<b>Wednesday, 29 June</b>		
<b>4th plenary meeting</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	8	General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	9	Interactive dialogue on “Minimizing and addressing ocean acidification, deoxygenation and ocean warming”
<b>5th plenary meeting</b>		
3–6 p.m.	8	General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>		
3–6 p.m.	9	Interactive dialogue on “Making fisheries sustainable and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets”
<b>Thursday, 30 June</b>		
<b>6th plenary meeting</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	8	General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	9	Interactive dialogue on “Increasing scientific knowledge and developing research capacity and transfer of marine technology”
<b>7th plenary meeting</b>		
3–6 p.m.	8	General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>		
3–6 p.m.	9	Interactive dialogue on “Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”
<b>Friday, 1 July</b>		
<b>8th plenary meeting</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	8	General debate
<b>Interactive dialogue</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	9	Interactive dialogue on “Leveraging interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 14 and other Goals towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda”

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*Date/time**Agenda item/programme*

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**9th plenary meeting**

3–6 p.m.	8	General debate
	9	Report of the interactive dialogues
	7 (b)	Report of the Credentials Committee
	10	Outcome of the Conference
	11	Adoption of the report of the Conference
	12	Closure of the Conference

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