

2020 UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE

KEEPING THE MOMENTUM FOR OCEAN ACTION: PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

21 MAY 2020

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM (EDT, NEW YORK)

Concept Note and Draft Agenda

As of 20 May 2020

BACKGROUND

Convened under the auspices of the United Nations and co-hosted by the Governments of Kenya and Portugal, the [“2020 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”](#) will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, under the overarching theme: *“Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions”*¹.

The 2020 UN Ocean Conference will involve all relevant stakeholders, bringing together Governments, the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, other interested international bodies, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector, philanthropic organizations and other actors to assess challenges and opportunities relating to, as well as actions taken towards, the implementation of SDG 14.

In light of the global coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and as per the General Assembly decision 74/548 of 13 April 2020, the 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference has been postponed. The co-hosts of the Conference, the governments of Kenya and Portugal, in consultation with the General Assembly, will decide on possible future dates for the Conference, including timelines for the preparatory process.

The substantive preparations for the Conference will continue and keeping stakeholders mobilized to bring their contribution and commitment will be critical in the lead up to the event.

In preparation to the Conference, The UN DESA Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) has coordinated [two open webinars](#), bringing perspectives from stakeholders from different sectors and all regions of the world in support to SDG 14 implementation.

With the aim of keeping the momentum towards Ocean action, DSDG is working with partners in the organization of a series of sectorial webinars to connect, mobilize and bring new ideas from stakeholders towards the preparation and outreach of the UN Ocean Conference, including the compilation of new Commitments of Ocean Action and progress on previous commitments. Webinars are being planned to mobilize youth, local and regional governments, Asia-Pacific stakeholders and the private sector.

¹ According to A/RES/73/292

PRIVATE SECTOR WEBINAR – 21 MAY 2020

As a part of DSDG’s four-part series “Keeping the Momentum for Ocean Action” and co-convened with the UN Global Compact and in collaboration with the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS), the webinar will mobilize representatives from the private sector, share information and collect ideas and proposals on how to keep the momentum towards Ocean Action and the engagement of private sector stakeholders in the preparatory process of the 2020 UN Ocean Conference.

As a new world will emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, the webinar will particularly assess the role of the ocean and ocean-based industries for the world to recover better and implement the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

The Private Sector webinar will begin with a keynote message from UNSG’s Special Envoy for the Ocean Peter Thomson, followed by a session with interventions from 2-3 key private sector stakeholders (To be identified in partnership with co-convenor). An interactive session will follow based on the ideas and challenges presented by the speakers. DSDG will prepare summaries of all webinars and post recordings, presentations and interventions online.

OBJECTIVES

- Analyze and assess the impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak on the ocean and ocean-related economies
- To keep the momentum in preparation for the 2020 UN Ocean Conference through the mobilization of the private sector;
- To collect ideas and recommendations on the necessary adjustments of the political declaration and how to strengthen outreach and mobilization for the Ocean Conference

PARTICIPATION

The webinar is open to all. Registered participants will receive the connection link via email.

Connection link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84989451036>

DRAFT AGENDA

9:00 – 9:05	<p>Opening Address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the United Nations General Assembly
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<p>9:05 – 9:20</p>	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lotta Tahtinen, Chief, Outreach and Partnerships Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), UNDESA • Ambassador Lazarus O. Amayo, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations (TBC) • Ambassador Duarte Lopes, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations • Mr. Sturla Henriksen, Special Advisor, Ocean, UN Global Compact
<p>9:20– 09:45</p>	<p>The role of the Ocean to recover better: mobilizing the private sector for ocean action</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Sturla Henriksen, Special Advisor, Ocean, UN Global Compact UN Global Compact</p> <p>Key Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How ocean industries can contribute to recover better by providing new jobs and businesses through a clean, green and just transition?</i> • <i>What are the private sector expectations and ambitions for the UN Ocean Conference as we build back better?</i> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Alfredo Tello, Technical and Sustainability, Manager, Camanchaca • Mr. Jay Borkland, Senior Engineering Manager, Lloyd’s Register • Mr. Jay Collins, Citigroup
<p>9:45 - 9:55</p>	<p>Keeping the Momentum towards Ocean Action for the Private Sector</p> <p>Keynote address by UNSG’s Special Envoy for the Ocean Ambassador Peter Thomson</p>
<p>09:55 – 10:25</p>	<p>Interactive dialogue</p> <p>Moderator: UNDESA/DSDG</p>
<p>10:25 – 10:30</p>	<p>Next Steps and Closing Remarks</p> <p>Amb. Peter Thomson, UNSG’s Special Envoy for the Ocean</p>