

MEETING REPORT

**FIFTH
ASIA-PACIFIC
DAY FOR THE OCEAN**

30 November 2022

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Background

In line with resolution ESCAP/RES/76/1 on “Strengthening cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific”, the Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean provided a platform for member States, and key stakeholders, for systematic and inclusive dialogue on priority areas and challenges in our region. The Day for the Ocean was co-hosted as a tripartite event of ESCAP, UNEP and UNDP, within the framework of a Joint Contribution to the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

This “super year” for the ocean brought the One Ocean Summit (Brest), Our Ocean Conference (Palau), the Second UN Ocean Conference (Lisbon), the review of SDG14 during the High-level Political Forum and the 9th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development. The Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean provided an opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of these major developments, and to discuss accelerated action in the Asia-Pacific region to meet the targets of SDG14 by 2030.

This year the Day for the Ocean coincided with ESCAP’s hosting of the Seventh Session of the Committee on Environment and Development at ministerial level, with a focus on “Protecting our Planet through Regional Cooperation and Solidarity in Asia and the Pacific”, held from 29 November to 1 December 2022, and the outcomes of the discussions held during the Day for the Ocean informed a Ministerial Roundtable that took place on 1 December

2022. The Day for the Ocean was designed to stimulate inclusive regional dialogue on the future of our Ocean in Asia-Pacific. It offered Participants a platform to showcase ocean initiatives and benefited them in mutual exchange with other sectoral groups.

In anticipation of the event, a campaign was launched, inviting participants to register nominees for the award of “2022 Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion”. During the event, the inaugural winner of the Ocean Youth Champion award was announced, thereby bringing attention to the vital role that young people and their initiatives play for a healthy maritime environment.



Highlights

Opening Plenary

This year's iteration of the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean was the first to feature a call for nominations for the recognition of Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion. Underlining the appreciation of the youth as a key constituency, the event opened by screening a short video clip that brought together the submissions received in response to the call. Including initiatives on coral reef restoration, upcycling of plastic waste and the protection of sea turtles, the youth-led projects set an inspirational tone for the event.

The opening address by Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, noted that the Asia-Pacific region remains off track to meet the targets of SDG 14 on Life below Water by 2030. She further underscored the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which plays an important role in maintaining the international order and peace in the region, and noticed progress on the process to realize the so-called BBNJ Treaty on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction.

Taking confidence from the growing support for ocean-centered issues evident at the 2022 UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon and the positive steps made during the 2022 meeting of G20 leaders in Bali, she expressed hope for continued progress towards the resolution to protect 30% of habitats by 2030 during the Biological Diversity COP 15 held in Montreal in December.

In anticipation of the event's four interactive dialogues, the Executive Secretary of ESCAP underlined the following issues: on (1) ocean governance, the two persisting issues of marine pollution and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing; relating to (2)

maritime connectivity, logistical challenges affecting Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the underutilized opportunities that lie in low- and zero-emissions green shipping; pertaining to (3) ocean data and statistics, the need of pooling and standardizing reliable measures covering a broad spectrum of relevant issues; concerning (4) ocean and climate synergies, the necessity of promoting bluer economies through leveraging innovative financing for sustainable investments.



She concluded her opening remarks by emphasizing the continued centrality of ocean policy work by highlighting the initiatives on: (1) nature-based solutions for the preservation of key ocean ecosystems like mangroves and coral reefs; (2) the support to the advancement of sustainable maritime transport through the provision of an inclusive multistakeholder platform to strengthen multilateral and regional initiatives; (3) ESCAP's leadership in ocean accounting through the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership, which constitutes a vital tool to better grasp the complex interactions between human societies, economies and ocean ecosystems, and contributes to the evidence base necessary to align national and regional policies with the sustainable development of the ocean.

In his intervention, H.E. Honourable Toeolesulusulu Cedric Salesa Pose Schuster, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment and Samoa Tourism Authority, underscored the impact that climate change and rising sea levels are projected to have, particularly on those living in low-lying coastal zones. The populations of Samoa and other SIDS are

directly implicated here, along with an estimated 10 percent of the global population or nearly 680 million people.

Extreme weather events, the increasing frequency and intensity of which are being felt already today, are impacting every sector of the SIDS and developing states in the Pacific. In showing how these concerning trends have mobilized action in the region, he mentioned how in 2015, Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum published a Declaration on Climate Change Action, in which they expressed their deep concern about the serious impacts of, and growing threat, posed by climate change to the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being and security of Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), and their peoples.

He further mentioned the “2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent” approved by Pacific Leaders in July 2022 as recent testimony to the region’s awareness of climate change risks and the concomitant determination to progress on the commitments made under the Paris agreements, drawing attention to ocean acidification and its correlation with decreasing fish stocks.

Elaborating on the various threats to the sustainability of the ocean, he referred to the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC), ocean warming, acidification, deoxygenation, ice melt, and sea level rise are systemic changes that are already having devastating impacts on ocean and coastal life and coastal communities’ lives and livelihoods. With recent estimates stating that nearly 50% of the population of the Pacific resides within 10 km of the coastline, he underscored the urgency that these trends hold, particularly for nations in the Pacific region. During the 2022 UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon, the active role of several Pacific delegations was visible, including Palau, Fiji and Samoa who called for a moratorium on deep seabed mining noting that the risks could outweigh any potential benefits.

Furthermore, he reiterated the clear stance that Samoa’s Prime Minister took at COP 27 in Egypt, on the inseparability between the health of the ocean and the lives of the Samoan people. Hence, Samoa urges putting ocean sustainability at the core of pursuing SDG 14 on life under water and the assurance of committed financing for ocean action. In the same vein, he urged to acknowledge the food security dimension inherent in ocean health and sustainable management of fisheries.



He further elaborated on Samoa’s Ocean Strategy 2020-2030, which pursues an integrated management for a healthy and abundant future of Samoa’s ocean and Samoa’s determination to protect 30 percent of its ocean and land area by 2030. He underscored the importance of a shared stewardship of the Ocean by Pacific nations and their commitment to its protection as an integral constituent of their identity and responsibility. He acknowledged the support of ESCAP and other UN agencies and development partners for projects on ocean accounting, research, policy planning and capacity development.

Ambassador Olivier Poivre d’Arvor, Special Envoy of French President, and Ambassador for Polar and Maritime Issues noted that France, as a founding member of ESCAP, has long engaged in the regional work done on the ocean. He reaffirmed his appreciation for ESCAP’s initiatives and expressed France’s readiness to engage in regional cooperation on preservation and sustainable management of the ocean as an essential asset that lies at the heart of the challenges of the 21st century.

Appreciating the ocean's significant role in the fields of security, economics, and ecology, he underscored France's ambition to play the role of a balancing power in the ocean. France aspires to work together with other stakeholders in a multilateralism of proofs and results, based on firm commitments to shared values and results. As concrete examples of France's commitment to the ocean on areas from improving ocean governance to the exploration of ocean climate synergies, Ambassador Poivre d'Arvor pointed to the One Ocean Summit held in Brest in February 2022, which resulted in the Brest Commitment. Emphasizing the importance of accountability, he noted that the momentum of the Brest Commitment has carried over into the United Nations Ocean Conference 2022 held in Lisbon, where it has undergone its first assessment. As further proof of their commitment to the ocean, he noted that France will be co-hosting the 2025 UN Ocean Conference with Costa Rica.



KEY MESSAGES FROM INTERACTIVE DIALOGUES

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE A: OCEAN GOVERNANCE

Led by UNEP, the session was moderated by Natalie Harms, Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) Secretariat.

The discussants approached the topic of ocean governance by noting that it encompasses targeted action geared towards achieving a healthy ocean through

targeted initiatives on crucial topics, including sustainable food and nutrition for all people; restoring and protecting coastal areas; resilience to extreme weather; sequestering carbon; drawing on indigenous knowledge; ocean based renewable energy; and green shipping. Regional and local ocean and coast assessments were noted as tools that can effectively inform ocean governance. Against this comprehensive list of the goals ocean governance needs to achieve, it was affirmed that environmental rights, including the right to access to information related to the ocean play a vital role in ocean governance.

The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), was acknowledged as an important foundation for ocean governance cooperation. Another key delivery mechanism for healthy oceans is the application of integrated coastal management (ICM) including regulation of human activities on land that impact marine ecosystems.

It was noted that there is scope to leverage existing regional mechanisms to coordinate ocean governance, including Regional Seas programmes such as the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) and South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and other regional initiatives such as Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) for effective and collaborative ocean governance.

Regarding important ambitions of ocean governance, the discussants pointed out the need to increase the number of marine protected areas with a target of 30% by 2030. This includes increasing the capacities of local and indigenous communities as well as mobilizing funds.

There is also a need to strengthen management frameworks of fisheries including for IUU fishing, which goes hand in hand with the recognition that issues such as

fisheries cut across different aspects of ocean governance and hence necessitate an integrated approach.

Referring to the 'Net Free Seas project', a community-inclusive initiative to address plastic fishing net pollution, the discussion also noted the importance of supporting and scaling up community-based action as well as local ownership and leadership. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) launched by the UN Environment Assembly to develop a legally binding instrument on plastics pollution by end 2024 was mentioned as another valuable initiative that includes multi stakeholder consultations.



INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE B: SUSTAINABLE MARITIME AND PORT CONNECTIVITY FOR RESILIENT AND EFFICIENT SUPPLY CHAINS

Led by UN ESCAP, the session was moderated by Mr. Sooyeob Kim, Economic affairs Officer, Transport Division (ESCAP).

The discussions on maritime and port connectivity were framed by the recent crisis that has hit supply chains in the last couple of years has affected the Asia Pacific region greatly,

highlighting the need for greater resilience and for ensuring sustainable maritime connectivity. The region is advancing in this direction through (i) investment in sustainable infrastructure, such as automated terminals, which increase efficiency, safety and reduce the environmental impacts of port operations, (ii) digitalization initiatives in various member states, and (iii) considering ways to cope with the challenge of lowering the environmental impact of shipping. Initiatives under leadership of ASEAN were presented by panelists as examples of how multilateral cooperation can help in the realization of connectivity goals and port extension.

It was noted how ongoing port development projects for leveraging further sustainable port and maritime connectivity in the region, for example by linking of smaller, secondary ports, could improve resilience and shipping capacity. In this context, it was noted that such integrative processes stand to benefit from developing regulatory frameworks for enabling regional operators to connect archipelagic port cities. In light of the need for keeping abreast of global trends, such as those related to autonomous ships and autonomous port infrastructure, the central role of securing investments was highlighted. As financing is also directly linked to the fleet upgrades required to realize important goals of emission reduction, the relevance of ensuring an environment conducive to long-term



investments in the sector was underlined as crucial. The predictability of legal and tax frameworks was singled out as an important factor in ensuring such a conducive investment

environment. Concurrently, there was a recommendation to refrain from overburdening the most vulnerable, such as SIDS with excessive taxes and financial burdens.

Discussants stressed that processes of automation need to go hand in hand with the promotion of further innovation and cybersecurity, in order to ensure the long-term competitiveness of the region's shipping sector. It was stressed that taxes and levies must be carefully gauged in their impacts on much needed investments, the potential of levies as a tool to incentivize the move towards lower greenhouse gas emissions was also reiterated by participants. This includes the adoption of carbon taxes at the multilateral level.

Drawing attention to further action needed on gender equality in the maritime sector, an intervention stressed the underutilized potential that enhanced gender diversity stands to bring to the maritime sector. This applies at both, private sector and government environments and it constitutes a prerequisite for a more resilient and competitive sector.

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE C: EVIDENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE OCEAN MANAGEMENT

Led by ESCAP and the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (GOAP), the session was moderated by Ms. Rikke Munk Hansen. The discussion centered on the overarching topic of bringing together data for the effective measurement of progress toward sustainable ocean development across countries. In this context, it was recommended to push for a shared understanding of data as evidence for decision making. It was noted that for evidence to effectively guide good decision making, it needs to be conceived as the product of standardized processes. This type of evidence is distinguishable from other forms of ocean-related information by virtue of its (i) consistency, (ii) comparability and (iii) coherence. These minimal requirements for

actionable evidence apply across different sub-fields, including ocean related maps, data, statistics, and indicators in the environmental, social and economic domains.

It was pointed out that compatibility with relevant international standards and approaches is crucial, including but not limited to the System of National Accounts (SNA), System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), and Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Compatibility with these standards can ensure that statistics are fit-for-purpose to play their critical role in policy and securing trust in governance.

Besides stressing standards on the quality of data, the panelists emphasized the need to change measures of economic success to guide us on a more sustainable path. The awareness of this need is already present in commitments to measure and manage progress “beyond Gross Domestic Product”, which are embedded in the Sustainable Development Goals, the first draft Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and 2020 commitments of the sixteen Heads of Government represented on the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy (Ocean Panel).



As a powerful tool to facilitate meeting such commitments, the compilation and use of Ocean Accounts was suggested. Ocean Accounts provide a coherent, agreed information base for strategic and spatial planning of the ocean and coasts, regulation of ocean-based economic

activities and sectors, and associated investment decisions. Ocean Accounts do this by connecting social, economic and environmental information about the ocean in coherent and comparable formats, in line with international statistical standards. Accounts can also provide impartial evidence to monitor and evaluate progress towards international commitments such as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Further, Ocean Accounts can be used to identify gaps in knowledge and help focus research and analysis on filling those gaps. The critical role of ocean accounting in underpinning measurement, innovation, investment, management, and planning of progress towards sustainable ocean development was noted.

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE D: OCEAN AND CLIMATE SYNERGIES

Led by UNDP, the session was moderated by Ms. Xin He, Regional Technical Specialist on Chemicals & Waste at UNDP. The discussion in dialogue D focused on the opportunities that lie in finding adequate investment sources for solutions to the maritime challenges, while considering the interlinkages of ocean health and ecosystem health in the broader context of post-covid recovery.

With the existence of deep connections between the ocean and climate established as scientific fact, the exploration of nature- and ocean-based solutions becomes an urgent area of focus. In exploring these, the cross-cutting nature of ocean climate synergies must be considered. Approaching the maritime environment through the lens of *One Health* was explored as a uniquely suitable way to do this. One Health constitutes an integrated and unifying perspective to grasp human, animal and ecosystem health in a way that emphasizes the interlinkages between these. It thus enables the transcendence of disciplinary boundaries in getting to comprehensive solutions that consider the multifaceted implications of environmental issues. While it was stressed that

the aspiration of the One Health approach is to generate a coherent set of actions that is based on dialogue between science and policies, research into central policies related to the attainment of SDG 14 on life underwater has shown that it remains underutilized.

The complex interlinkages aside, the procurement of financial resources often remains a bottleneck for ocean health initiatives. The possibility of combining public and private funding in blended financing arrangements was illustrated in the context of addressing the endangered state of coral reefs as one suitable way to address this shortfall.



An intervention on a joint initiative by ADB, UNEP and UNDP stressed the need to facilitate access of small and medium enterprises to sources of Blue Finance in the Asia-Pacific. To overcome the specific challenges that SMEs face in securing capital, which mostly stem from their small size and heterogeneity, the creation of a capital raising platform was presented. Such a platform, currently under development as SME BlueImpact Asia, could help SMEs in the blue economy to create propositions that are more easily bankable and that can thus attract financing at better conditions.

A presentation on the private sector's interest in supporting net-zero ambitions recognized the crucial role of the ocean in allowing developed nations to meet their net-zero goals. It noted the need for a better policy framework and the importance of standards in mobilizing private sector

support in financing the Blue Economy. In this context, impact monitoring and reporting were stressed as determinants of private sector willingness to invest in these initiatives. An intervention from the floor urged further research into the potential of seaweed farming as a component of carbon sequestration efforts in the context of carbon trading in the Asia-Pacific.

CLOSING PLENARY

Ambassador Peter W. Thomson, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean, opened the closing plenary with a prerecorded speech from the sidelines of the COP 27, where he was ensuring the representation of ocean concerns. Citing the G20 Summit in Bali and a number of other high-level meetings coming up during the month of November, Ambassador Thomson highlighted the growing recognition of ocean issues on the agendas of global leaders. He expressed his hope to be working more directly with the constituents of the Pacific in the future.



Ambassador Thomson noted that the UN Ocean Conference 2022 in Lisbon acknowledged the vital importance of implementing the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular the goal to limit the global

temperature increase to well under two degrees Celsius. This reaffirmation came with the recognition that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change and help to ensure the health, productivity, sustainable use and resilience of the ocean.

Such affirmations notwithstanding, Ambassador Thomson noted that recent numbers suggest the world is currently on a trajectory that will lead to average temperature increase of three degrees Celsius. He urged to consider the implications of this by suggesting that the greed and apathy that could keep us on this current trajectory will condemn our children and grandchildren to trying to live in an unlivable world.

He applauded the active participation of representatives from the Asia-Pacific at the UN Oceans conference and noted their tangible action in the form of voluntary commitments, many of which have been completed already. Ambassador Thomson further pointed out that Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an Internationally legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment is a positive sign. Following the mandate in the UNEA 5.2 resolution, the ambition of completing a draft global agreement by the end of 2024 gives reason for optimism that this important aspect of ocean health is being addressed.

In closing, he pointed out that the collaboration of a broad group of constituents, including civil society, the private sector, academia and the scientific community and the youth as it is evident in the Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean is essential in devising the transformational initiatives that are needed for the health of our marine environments.

Following the intervention by Ambassador Thomson, the four rapporteurs from the

interactive dialogues took the floor, each reporting the main points of their respective session. Subsequently, the moderator invited H.E. Mr. Juvencio de Jesus Martins Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Timor-Leste to UNESCAP in his role as the rapporteur for the Ministerial Roundtable on the Future of our Ocean to address the participants. He expressed his resolve to deliver the Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean's key messages to the ministers and to thus ensure that the takeaways of the discussions and interventions will carry over into the leaders' deliberations.



He emphasized the relevance Timor-Leste as an island nation attaches to ocean health and expressed his appreciation to the co-organizers of the Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean for providing a platform for open and transparent dialogue that brings diverse stakeholder together. In this context, he stressed the importance of cross-sectoral partnerships for the delivery of SDG 14 on life under water.

The final intervention of the day linked back to the Call for Nominations for the award of Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champions. Ms. Pynbhairoh Snidvongs Kruesopon, President of the initiative Care for Coral was invited to address the plenary as the 2022 Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion.

Representing the youth as a key constituency, Ms. Pyn introduced the goals of Care for Coral, a youth-led initiative which aims to involve young people in the restoration of coral reefs in ways that are

educational, engaging and conducive to the long-term health of these key underwater ecosystems. She noted the diverse functions of coral reefs in climate mitigation and as homes to exceptional biodiversity as well as their interlinkage with food security and sustainable fisheries.

Given the fact that young people will disproportionately face the consequences of present environmental degradation, they have a tangible reason to be motivated to address these issues. Ms. Pyn put forth that through involvement and collaboration, young people can find a passion to act on this reason mobilize their sustained engagement for a bright and clean future despite the momentous challenges that they are facing.



ACTIONABLE OUTCOMES

There was broad consensus across the different interactive dialogues that the growing momentum of ocean actions must be kept going to overcome the significant challenges that our ocean is facing. Key areas of action that stand as takeaways of the exchanges during the Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean are:

On Ocean Governance

- Conduct regional and local ocean and coast assessments to better plan interventions on crucial topics
- Protect environmental rights, including access to information to ensure all stakeholders can contribute to ocean governance
- Extend application of integrated coastal management (ICM) for regulation of human activities and their impacts
- Leverage existing regional ocean governance mechanisms to build on what has already been achieved
- Increase number of marine protected areas with target of 30% by 2030
- Employ integrated approaches to tackle challenges related to fisheries and IUU fishing
- Support and scale up community-based action and local leadership

On Sustainable Maritime and Port Connectivity

- Facilitate investment in sustainable fleets and port infrastructures, including autonomous systems
- Engage in multilateral cooperation to improve regional port connectivity
- Integrate smaller and secondary ports into the transport networks to improve resilience
- Improve regulatory frameworks to facilitate interconnection of archipelagic port cities
- Ensure the predictability and transparency of legal and tax frameworks to lower risks and ease investments in the maritime sector
- Expedite efforts to improve cyber security and innovation to secure the region's competitiveness

- Consider the implementation of levies as an incentive structure for the acceleration of the shift to greener fleets
- Embrace gender equality as a normative goal with the potential to bring increased resilience and competitiveness to a male-dominated sector

On Ocean Data and Statistics

- Work towards consistent, comparable, and coherent ocean evidence to establish an objective foundation for policy making
- Engage in ocean accounting with the help of the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership to provide a robust base for strategic planning on ocean health
- Look beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to manage progress towards SDGs
- Ensure the respect for international standards and approaches including the System of National Accounts (SNA), System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)

On Ocean Climate Synergies

- Explore nature-based solutions that leverage the interlinkages between oceanic ecosystems and climate, including seaweed farming
- Apply One Health framework to the ocean to address the connections between human, animal, and ecosystem health
- Explore the potential of blended financing for its broader application in ocean health projects
- Consider the crucial role of and specific challenges faced by SMEs in their efforts to contribute to ocean health
- Ensure standards in impact monitoring and reporting to facilitate private sector engagement



ANNEX I: Program

Wednesday, 30 November 2022

14:00 to 16:30 (Bangkok Time)

14:00 – 14:30 OPENING SESSION	
<p><i>Moderator:</i> Katinka Weinberger Chief, Environment and Development Policy Section (ESCAP)</p> <p>Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP</p> <p>H.E. Hon. Toeolesulusulu Cedric Salesa Pose Schuster Minister of Natural Resources and Environment and Samoa Tourism Authority</p> <p>Ambassador Olivier Poivre d'Arvor Special Envoy of French President, and Ambassador for Polar and Maritime Issues</p>	
14:30 – 16:00	INTERACTIVE DIALOGUES
A. Ocean Governance	B. Sustainable Maritime and Port Connectivity for Resilient and Efficient Supply Chains
C. Evidence For Sustainable Ocean Management	D. Ocean and Climate Synergies
16:00-16:30 CLOSING	
<p>Ambassador Peter W. Thomson UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean</p> <p>Feedback from interactive dialogues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Rapporteur from Dialogue A: Salisa Traipipitsiriwat, Project Manager (SE Asia), Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF)▪ Rapporteur from Dialogue B: Luisa Antonia Rodriguez Ortega, Economic Affairs Officer, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD▪ Rapporteur from Dialogue C: Michael Burnside, Secretariat Manager – Programs, Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (GOAP)▪ Rapporteur from Dialogue D: Tharuka Dissanaikie, Regional Technical Advisor for Water and Oceans, UNDP Asia and the Pacific <p>H.E. Mr. Juvencio de Jesus Martins Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Timor-Leste to UNESCAP Rapporteur for Ministerial Roundtable on <i>The Future of our Ocean</i></p> <p>Pynbhairon Kruesopon President, Care for Coral Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion 2022</p>	
16:30-17:00	SOCIAL COFFEE + Photos

**INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE A:
OCEAN GOVERNANCE**

14:30-14:35	Moderator: Natalie Harms, Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) Secretariat, UNEP
	Speakers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Puri Canals, EU Ocean Governance Project in South-East Asia 2. Subrata Sinha update on behalf of the Plastics International Negotiating Committee Secretariat, UNEP 3. Dr. Russell Reichelt, High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy 4. Salisa Traipipitsiriwat, Project Manager (SE Asia), Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF) 5. Ms. Aimee Gonzales, PEMSEA, Executive Secretary
15:50-16:00	Closing Remarks

**INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE B:
SUSTAINABLE MARITIME AND PORT CONNECTIVITY
FOR RESILIENT AND EFFICIENT SUPPLY CHAINS**

14:30–14:40	<p><i>Opening Session</i></p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Sooyeob Kim Economic affairs Officer Transport Division (ESCAP)</p> <p>Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina Chief, Transport Connectivity and Logistics Section Transport Division (ESCAP)</p> <p>Mr. Somchai Sumanuskajonkul, Deputy Director General, Marine Department, Thailand</p> <p>Mr. Kuk-il, Choi, Director, Port Investment Cooperation Division, Ports and Harbours Bureau, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, Republic of Korea</p>
14:40-15:50 hrs.	<p><i>Panel Discussion: Sustainable maritime and port connectivity</i></p> <p>Maritime Transport Review (2022) focusing on Liner Shipping Connectivity Index and Port connectivity in the Asia Pacific region Ms. Luisa Antonia Rodriguez Ortega Economic Affairs Officer, Division on Technology and Logistics (DTL), UNCTAD</p> <p>Regional plans to enhance sustainable maritime connectivity in the ASEAN Cdr Ang Chin Hup, Senior Researcher, Maritime Institute of Malaysia</p> <p>Women in Maritime: Leading change and opportunities for sustainable maritime transport Ms. Sanjam Sahi Guptag Director, Sitara Shipping Ltd</p> <p>IMO's historical opportunity to promote conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources in line with ESCAP Resolution 76/1.</p>

	Mr. Pierre-Jean Bordahandy , Associate Professor, School of Law, The University of the South Pacific
15:50-16:00 hrs.	Conclusions



INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE C: OCEAN DATA AND STATISTICS

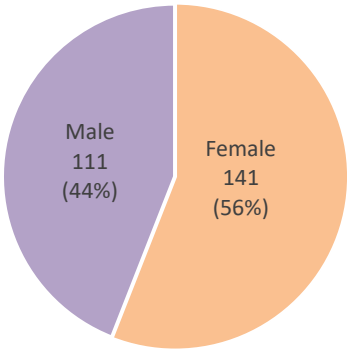
14:30–14:35	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Rikke Munk Hansen, UN-ESCAP, Co-Chair, Global Ocean Accounts Partnership
14:35–14:40	A global call for better ocean data collection and organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Michael Burnside, Secretariat Manager – Programs, Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (GOAP)
14:40-15:55	Data for a healthy and wealthy ocean Facilitator: Ms. Rikke Munk Hansen , UN-ESCAP, Co-Chair, Global Ocean Accounts Partnership Data for better ocean management in Indonesia (15 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Firdaus Agung, Director of Marine Conservation and Biodiversity, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Panel discussion: Integrated evidence for ocean health and wealth (45 minutes) Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Kim Thi Thuy Ngoc, Head, Division of Science and International Cooperation, Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE), Viet Nam Ms. Ilham Atho Mohamed, Assistant Director, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Republic of the Maldives Ms. Moira Faletutulu, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Environment Sector Coordination Division, Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment, Samoa Q&A with the audience
15:55–16:00	Session summary and closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Michael Burnside, Secretariat Manager – Programs, Global Ocean Accounts Partnership

**INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE D:
OCEAN AND CLIMATE SYNERGIES**

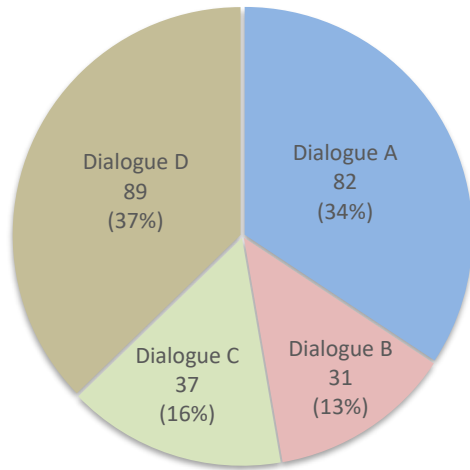
14:30-14:35	<p><i>Moderator:</i> Ms. Xin He, Regional Technical Specialist, Chemicals & Waste, UNDP</p> <p><i>Opening Remarks:</i> Dr. Katinka Weinberger Chief, Environment and Development Policy Section, ESCAP</p>
	<p>Ocean-based Climate Solutions and Innovative Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Claire Lajaunie. Inserm, LPED, Marseille/Affiliate researcher at SCELG Strathclyde, Glasgow “Protect biodiversity and the health of the ocean using the One Health approach as a way to tackle climate change” ▪ Asad Maken. “Blue Economy and SMEs”: UNDP Climate Finance ▪ Yabanex Batista, Deputy Head of Fund Secretariat, Global Fund for Coral Reefs ▪ Ms. Feng Chang, Global Sustainable Finance Group, Bank of America <p>Q&A</p>
15:50-16:00	Closing Remarks

ANNEX II: Participation and Engagement

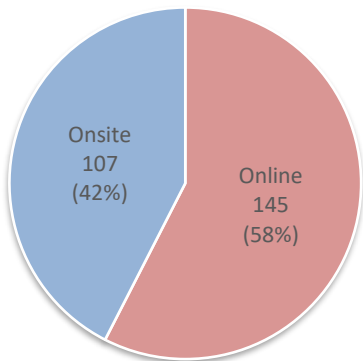
Gender Balance



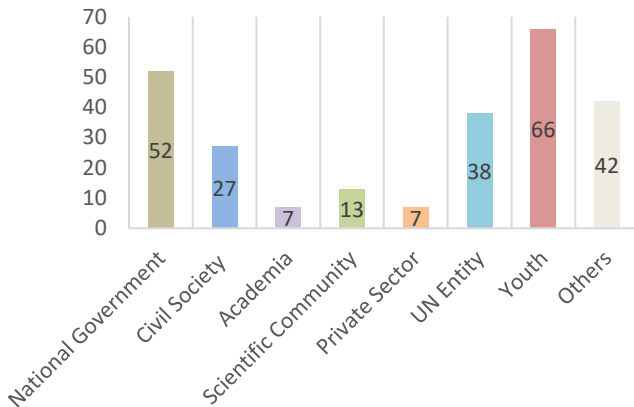
Dialogue Distribution



Modality of Participation



Participants by Sector



Geographical Representation

Armenia	Iceland	Mexico	Spain
Australia	India	Morocco	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	Indonesia	Nepal	Sweden
Belgium	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Netherlands	Switzerland
Brunei Darussalam	Italy	New Zealand	Thailand
China	Japan	Nigeria	Trinidad and Tobago
Egypt	Kazakhstan	Pakistan	Tunisia
Fiji	Kenya	Philippines	United States of America
France	Korea, Republic of	Samoa	Vanuatu
Georgia	Malaysia	Senegal	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Germany	Maldives	Serbia	Viet Nam

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