>540 voluntary commitments relate to the reduction of marine pollution; strong focus on plastics, as well as on nutrient management

Support to members in implementing voluntary commitments by exchanging progress reports, experiences, lessons learned and good practices

Two webinars held, in June and September 2018, the latter on marine litter from land

Focal Points:
- Mr. Andreas Merkl, President, Ocean Conservancy
- Mr. Kitack Lim, Secretary-General, International Maritime Organization (IMO)

https://oceanconference.un.org/coa/MarinePollution
Launched in 1974

143 countries in 18 Conventions and Action Plans

A “shared seas” approach, engaging neighbouring countries in actions to protect their common marine environment
OceanAction15986

Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia
Progress in delivering #OceanAction15986

COBSEA Strategic Directions 2018-2022 adopted in April 2018, focusing on
- land-based pollution including marine litter, nutrients and waste water
- ecosystem-based coastal and marine planning and management with a focus on marine spatial planning and marine protected areas
- leveraging COBSEA as an intergovernmental policy mechanism in support of delivering ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals

COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter 2008 remains the only intergovernmental adopted policy framework on marine litter in the region
- draft revision prepared, taking into account recent global policy development and to ensure the plan is fit-for-purpose
- countries have agreed steps towards its finalization
Regional project/initiative launched: "Reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in Southeast Asia"

COBSEA and UN Environment, supported by Sida
USD 6.5M; inception phase in 2018, implementation 2019 to 2022

Multi-stakeholder initiative to reduce marine litter from land-based sources
- identify and scale up market-based solutions and regulatory and fiscal incentives;
- strengthen the science basis for decision making;
- increase public awareness and promote consumer behavioural change; and
- facilitate regional networking, coordination and stakeholder engagement.
#OceanAction17490:
Strengthening regional cooperation for the protection of the marine and coastal environment in the Northwest Pacific
Progress on Commitment’ Deliverables in 2018

- Adoption of the NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy 2018-2023

- Implementation of the NOWPAP Regional Oil and Hazardous and Noxious Substances Spill Contingency Plan: Activation and effective use of Pollution Reporting System and coordination of regional response in the aftermath of oil tanker “Sanchi” incident in Jan-2018

- Adoption of the Northwest Pacific Ecological Quality Objectives and targets: Five Objectives defined, SDG-relevant indicators are being reviewed

- The Third State of the Marine Environment Report for the Northwest Pacific: Regional List of Red List Species, Microplastics Assessment with River Discharge in the Russian Far East
In 2020, Strategy’s progress will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Coordinating regional implementation of the ocean-related SDGs
- Implementation of the NOWPAP based on ecosystem approach and agreed Ecological Quality Objectives (EcoQOs)
- Strengthened regional and global partnerships
- Engaging in global processes and mechanisms supporting effective measures towards achieving SDGs
Other Regional Seas VCs

#OceanAction15962: Clean Seas for a Cleaner Pacific
SPREP and UN Environment, delivering the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, a #CleanSeas Campaign for the Pacific and the Cleaner Pacific 2025 Strategy.

• Improved data collection and information sharing: e.g. identification of sources and collection points of marine debris
• Policies and regulatory frameworks: e.g. national and regional marine debris action plans
• Best practices including enhanced private sector engagement: e.g. piloting integrated marine debris management
• Enhanced human capacity

#OceanAction15445: Capacity development of SAS member countries for the preparation of specific policies to implement goal 14
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)

• A scoping study of nutrient pollution on the coastal and marine systems
• Regional oil and chemical spill contingency plan
• Development of a marine and coastal biodiversity strategy for the region
• A regional strategy and task force to address ballast water management
Regional Seas Programme for ocean-related SDGs

- SDG implementation outlooks
- indicator-based assessment
- cooperation with RFBs
- effectiveness assessments