

Panel 1: Ocean based measures in NDCs

Thank you, Co-Facilitators.

I speak on behalf of Djibouti.

As a small coastal country on the Horn of Africa, Djibouti is already experiencing the effects of sea-level rise, coastal erosion, and saltwater intrusion. Ocean based adaptation is not a side issue, it is essential to our national survival and development.

In our updated climate strategies, several concrete initiatives reflect this commitment:

- the restoration and protection of mangrove forests to enhance coastal resilience and blue carbon storage;
- the Djibouti Blue Carbon Project, which aims to restore over 2,500 hectares of mangroves and create sustainable livelihoods;
- and the implementation of integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) and flood defenses in vulnerable regions such as Tadjourah and Dikhil.

We are also working to ensure that ocean based measures are reflected in our forthcoming National Adaptation Plan (NAP), as well as aligned with our national biodiversity and sustainable development goals.

Djibouti is simultaneously advancing a 100% renewable energy strategy by 2035, which includes coastal infrastructure, electrification of port activities, and potential for green hydrogen production and export via maritime corridors. We see this transition as closely linked to ocean based climate action and regional low-carbon development.

Our experience shows that while political commitment is strong, we face persistent challenges, especially in technical capacity, marine data availability, and access to ocean-related climate finance.

We therefore call on this Dialogue to produce practical recommendations, including:

- dedicated access to blue climate funds,
- the development of regional ocean climate data-sharing platforms, especially involving coastal neighbors like Somalia and Eritrea. While platforms already exist for maritime security, climate specific regional systems remain limited and should be developed,
- and long-term capacity-building partnerships for coastal LDCs.

Djibouti stands ready to collaborate with regional partners and global institutions to pilot an ocean climate data sharing platform focused on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

Djibouti believes that integrating ocean action into national planning, while fostering regional cooperation and cross-sectoral synergies, is essential to deliver effective and equitable climate resilience.

Panel 2: The Ocean under the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)

The Global Goal on Adaptation must fully reflect the needs and vulnerabilities of coastal nations.

Djibouti is already facing the impacts of sea-level rise, coastal erosion, and saltwater intrusion challenges that directly affect our food security, infrastructure, and health systems.

While we welcome the efforts under the UAE - Belém work programme, we are concerned that the current list of headline indicators does not adequately represent the realities of coastal and marine adaptation.

Ocean-based adaptation must be fully integrated into the GGA framework, with specific indicators on:

- the protection and restoration of coastal ecosystems (such as mangroves and coral reefs),
- access to early warning systems for coastal communities,
- and the resilience of livelihoods tied to marine resources.

We also call for indicators that reflect the gender dimension of coastal adaptation, including the leadership and knowledge of women and youth in building local resilience.

Finally, we underline the need for technical and financial support to enable small coastal states like ours to report on these indicators in an inclusive and consistent manner.

Panel 3: Ocean Climate Biodiversity Synergies

Djibouti welcomes this Dialogue's focus on the ocean climate biodiversity nexus. We must move toward integrated planning that connects our climate commitments, biodiversity strategies, and ocean conservation efforts.

We support stronger cooperation between the UNFCCC and the CBD, especially around NDCs and NAPs. Djibouti is also engaged in the regional Nairobi Convention, and we see value in enhancing coordination with marine governance frameworks.

Finally, we highlight the importance of ensuring that gender and human rights are fully embedded in these synergies. Coastal women are key actors in marine stewardship and must be fully included in ocean action.

Thank you.

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