

OCEAN AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIALOGUE
10-11 JUNE 2026

PLENARY STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

Co-Facilitators,

Singapore thanks and appreciates the co-facilitators' efforts to convene this important dialogue.

2. Since its inauguration, this dialogue has provided a dedicated space for participants to discuss issues on the ocean and climate change. This is important to Singapore because climate change is an existential challenge for a small low-lying island nation like ours. Rising sea levels and extreme weather events threaten us and small island developing States are already experiencing the effects of climate change through the oceans.

3. Singapore values this dialogue on ocean and climate change, to learn, share our experiences, and hear what others are doing, to mitigate and adapt. We readily share our experiences in addressing the impacts of climate change with other Parties through the capacity-building courses we conduct under the Singapore Cooperation Programme and at forums, such as this dialogue. Let me take this opportunity to share some of our recent ocean-based measures in the context of our efforts to implement our obligations under the Paris Agreement.

4. From the mitigation angle, we supported the Blue NDC challenge launched by Brazil and France last year. As part of Singapore's plans to decarbonise our domestic maritime sector, we introduced a new target for all new harbour craft operating in our port waters to be fully electric, be capable of using B100 biofuels, or be compatible with net zero fuels from 2030. We are also working with partners, e.g. World Wide Fund for Nature to enhance monitoring, reporting and verification capabilities for blue carbon projects in Asia. In 2026, we will also commission a demonstration-scale facility to remove carbon dioxide from seawater and the atmosphere. In this regard, we continue to work with partners to research ocean-based carbon dioxide removal technologies in an environmentally safe manner, as part of our broader efforts to identify novel decarbonisation pathways towards our net zero 2050 target.

5. From the adaptation angle, Singapore has designated 2026 as the year of climate adaptation to galvanise collective effort from the community and businesses. We introduced new legislation under the Coastal Protection Bill (CPB). The CPB safeguards Singapore's coastline against rising sea levels and extreme weather events by establishing clear responsibilities of landowners for coastal protection and ensuring compliance with coastal protection standards. We are also undertaking technical studies and public engagements for the 'Long Island' project along our Southeastern coast, which will strengthen Singapore's flood resilience and create additional land to meet future development needs. Our efforts to protect our coasts are supported by natural solutions and nature-based enhancements. For example, revetments between original mangroves along our shoreline encourage accreting of mud for mangrove enhancement, while biodiversity tiles on our sea walls support marine life. Projects such as these can yield mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity co-benefits.

Co-Facilitators,

6. The work of this dialogue provides a valuable forum for Parties to share experiences and foster international cooperation by supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement policy cycle. Singapore looks forward to contributing to discussions, sharing our experience as a low-lying island State, and more importantly, learning from the experience of others, because we face many similar challenges. We hope all Parties will engage meaningfully at this dialogue as we cooperate and look for synergies to tackle climate change.

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