

Statement for the 2025 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue

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The year 2025 will be pivotal. It has been **ten years since the adoption of the Paris Agreement** – a decade marked by growing urgency. Indeed, the Global Stocktake showed that we are **not on track to meet the 1.5°C target**. With the Paris Rulebook finalised and the first full cycle of the Agreement complete, we must now enter a **new, decisive phase of implementation and accountability**.

The Ocean & Climate Platform welcomes your commitment to using the 2025 Dialogue as a **lever to transform ambition into concrete action**, guided by the conclusions of the Global Stocktake.

In support of this effort, we would like to propose **four way of moving forward**:

1. Strengthen the impact of the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue.

Over the past two years, the Dialogue has played an important role in highlighting successes, challenges and needs in the implementation of ocean-based climate measures. It has created a valuable space for countries to share experiences and learn from one another. This must continue.

However, there is still significant potential to amplify the Dialogue's impact – particularly in fulfilling the COP26 mandate to integrate the ocean across all UNFCCC processes and mechanisms (as it was intended). Among the many ways to achieve this¹, the following stand out:

- Request the UNFCCC Secretariat a three to five year roadmap for the Dialogue to enable longer-term planning and ensure a coherent progression of topics addressed over the years²;
- Discuss during the Dialogue how to mainstream the ocean in ongoing climate negotiation, with a view to prepare for the following COP. For instance, for the 2025 Dialogue, this meant ensuring ocean-specific indicators are integrated into the UAE – Belém Work Programme's final list for the Global Goal on Adaptation, and securing ocean-related funding under the New Collective Quantified Goal on Finance and the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T^{3,4};
- Invite representatives from relevant UNFCCC work programmes and constituted bodies to attend and participate in Dialogue discussions, as well as report out on progress to integrate and strengthen ocean-based action in their mandates and work plans.

2. Support the “Blue NDC Challenge” to integrate ocean-based climate measures in NDCs.

With NDCs due by COP30, in November 2025, we have a critical window of opportunity to correct course and steer our climate trajectory back on track. The ocean is our best ally in this effort – capable

¹Views on the 2025 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue. Submitted by the Ocean & Climate Platform, with the support of Conservation International, Ocean Conservancy, the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), Rare, The Nature Conservancy, the UN High-level Climate Champions, and WWF. Available [here](#).

²Rochette, J., Lecerf, M., Wemaëre, M., Picourt, L. (2024). Integrating the ocean into the climate regime: Future prospects. Issue Brief N°04/24, IDDRI. Available [here](#).

³Joint submission to the UNFCCC. 21 March 2025. Available [here](#).

⁴Ocean & Climate Platform (2024). Unpacking Ocean Finance for Climate Action. A roadmap for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. p1-22. Ocean & Climate Platform. Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance. Available [here](#).

of delivering up to 35% of the emissions reduction needed by 2050 while also enhancing climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development.

In this context, we invite all Parties to join the “Blue NDC Challenge”, launched by Brazil at the third UN Ocean Conference, and already supported by an initial group of seven countries: Australia, Fiji, France, Kenya, Mexico, Palau and the Republic of Seychelles. By joining the Challenge, these countries have committed to integrating ocean-based solutions into their updated NDC by COP30.

Moreover, we further encourage countries to match their commitments with robust means of implementation and clear, measurable targets to ensure effective delivery on the ground.

The Ocean & Climate Platform, together with Ocean Conservancy and the World Resources Institute, stand ready to support all countries participating in the Challenge.

3. Leverage the Ocean Breakthroughs to catalyse ocean action for Climate, Nature and People.

The Ocean Breakthroughs⁵ can serve as a blueprint to fast-track action and investments from non-state across in the five sectors of marine conservation, aquatic food, offshore renewable energy, shipping and coastal tourism. By identifying turning points to reach by 2030 in each sector, the Breakthroughs act as a powerful catalyst to deliver ocean action for Climate, Nature and People.

Beyond mobilising non-state actors, the Ocean Breakthroughs are intended to support countries which have committed to the Blue NDC Challenge – by providing clear guidelines to implement ocean-based solutions in a holistic, effective and equitable manner.

4. Build a “blue thread” across global frameworks, conventions and agreements.

Ocean-based climate solutions have the potential to contribute not only to the Paris Agreement, but also to the Global Biodiversity Framework, positioning the ocean as a great connector across the Climate and Biodiversity Conventions. These solutions can support policy alignment and unlock greater impact on the ground – and thus should be leveraged across national strategies.

About the Ocean & Climate Platform

The Ocean & Climate Platform (OCP) is an international network of more than 115 organisations from civil society, working at the science-policy interface to enhance understanding and integration of ocean, climate and biodiversity interactions in decision-making. OCP’s Executive Director, Loreley Picourt, serves as the Ocean focal point for the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and leads the Ocean Taskforce of the Sharm el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda.

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⁵More information is available on the [Ocean Breakthroughs website](#).