

## BLUE TALKS TOWARDS UNOC3

### **“From Barcelona 2024 to Nice 2025 : Science to Policy and Action at UNOC 3” Dialogue with scientists from UN agencies and International Oceanographic Institutions**

**June 18th, 2024 online from 2 pm to 4 pm (CEST)**

#### CONCEPT NOTE

France and Costa Rica will host the third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) in Nice from 9 to 13 June 2025. Both co-hosts have three priorities for this conference in order to respond to the state of emergency facing the ocean : (i) working for the successful conclusion of ocean-related multilateral processes to raise the level of ambition for ocean protection; (ii) mobilising funding to support a blue sustainable economy; (iii) strengthening and better disseminating knowledge related to ocean sciences for better decision-making.

Fostered by the organizing teams of UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (DESA), Costa Rica and France, UNOC regional and thematic dialogues are organized in this form of webinars from spring 2024 to spring 2025. Co-chaired by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO), this webinar is entitled :

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As claimed in the Barcelona 2024 statement, the **Ocean Decade Conference** recognized that it was taking place at a unique moment in the global ocean governance landscape with the recent emergence of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement), the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the formalization of the Ocean-Climate Dialogue in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the negotiation of the plastics treaty. It recognized the potential of the Ocean Decade to contribute essential science and knowledge to support implementation of these instruments.

Prior to the Nice UN Ocean Conference and as a UNOC special event proposer by France and Costa Rica, the **One Ocean Science Congress** (4-6 June 2025) will bring together international scientists with the aim to provide Heads of State, Government, all participants of UNOC 3, and the broader society, with comprehensive scientific insights on the Ocean's health, dynamics and future trajectory, on its conservation and sustainable uses, and on the services and benefits it provides to humanity. It seeks to bridge the gap between science and action by presenting recent findings from authoritative sources like the IPCC, IPBES, WOA and the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy. It will explore various scenarios for the ocean's resilience and restoration capacity, assessing its ability to support significant transitions outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Participants to this specific webinar will be brought together to provide views and suggestions on :

- (i) The link between policy action and ocean science: What desirable UNOC outcomes should we work towards to bridge the science/policy gap?
- (ii) Enhancing ocean observation, data sharing and applications to measure the health of the Ocean at multiple scales through common metrics and indicators: how to bring it together?
- (iii) What should emerge from the One Ocean Science Congress in Nice (4-6th June) specially commissioned by France and Costa Rica as a UNOC special event?

This webinar is expected to be part of a series of visio consultations, **Blue Talks towards UNOC3**, between Spring 2024 to Spring 2025. The webinars will include the major international scientific institutions and UN-accredited NGOs with scientific expertise, including the SIDS, Europe, the Americas, Africa (during the Blue Africa Summit in Tangiers in October 2024), the Middle East and Asia-Pacific. The aim is to ensure that all stakeholders are consulted regularly to ensure the recommendations achieve the broadest possible scientific and political consensus.

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### PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

#### Introduction

**Ambassador Olivier Poivre d'Arvor**, Special Envoy of the President for UN Ocean Conference 2025, France

**Vidar Helgesen**, Executive Secretary, IOC/UNESCO

**Antoine Petit**, President CNRS - National Centre for Research and Science

**Ani Dasgupta**, President of the World Resources Institute

#### I - Barcelona 2024 Ocean Decade Conference, Outcomes and priorities for the Decade

- Moderated discussion led by **Julian Barbière** (IOC/UNESCO) with **Dr. Vera Agostini** (Deputy Director, Fisheries dept, FAO)/ Co Chair Vision 2030 process / Blue Foods WG **Prof Nadia Pinardi**, Director Decade Collaborative Center on Coastal resilience, Italy, co Chair Vision 2030 process/ Coastal resilience WG **Prof Jacqueline Uku**, KMFRI, Kenya/ Chair, Africa Decade task Force.

#### II - Expectations from the UNOC Conference and its special event: what should emerge from the One Ocean Science Congress?

- Moderated discussion led by **Francois Houllier**, Co-chair of OOSC and President of IFREMER, along with **Prof. Jorge Cortés-Núñez**, UNA Costa Rica (member of the OOSC Scientific committee) with **Alison Clausen** (IOC Unesco), **Peter Haugen**, Director at Norway's Institute of Marine Research (Programme) and Chief scientist at the High Level panel for Ocean Sustainable Economy, **Prof Rashid Sumalia**, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Ocean and Fisheries Economics at the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries, University of British Columbia.

**III- Supporting means and tools to measure ocean health and guide decision-making. Strengthening the value chain to deliver policy relevant information for sustainable ocean management:  
from ocean observations, digital twins of the ocean, and the International Panel for Ocean Sustainability.**

Presentations from **Dr. Françoise Gaill** (Towards IPOS), **Pierre Bahurel** (Mercator international) **Joanna Post**, Head, Ocean Observations and Services, IOC-Unesco (GOOS), and remarks from **Prof. David Obura**, Director of IPBES and of CORDIO East Africa.

- Moderated discussion with **Peter De Menocal**, President of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, **Dr. Muthalagu Ravichandran**, Secretary Science to the Government of India, President of INCOIS, **Prof. Fang Li Qiao**, Director DCCO and FIO China-Qingdao and **Prof. Nathalie Braz-Martial**, Vice-Chancellor Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.

**Concluding Remarks**

DOALOS/WOA, **Vladimir Jares**, Director of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, United Nations,  
**Ambassador Gina Guillen**, Special Envoy to the President of Costa Rica for the Ocean