

14 LIFE BELOW  
WATER



# Ocean Forum on Trade-related aspects of SDG 14 & UN Oceans Conference (2017)

UNECE - UN CEFAC

XXIII Session

Geneva, 04 April 2017

David Vivas Eugui

Legal Officer TED/DITC

UNCTAD



UNITED NATIONS  
UNCTAD



THE  
**OCEAN**  
CONFERENCE  
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 5-9 JUNE 2017

# Ocean Forum on Trade-related aspects of SDG 14



- \* **Objective:** to discuss policy and regulatory options for advancing the implementation of trade related targets under SDG 14 by drawing on experiences, lessons, & partnerships
- \* **Partners:** UNCTAD, FAO, UNEP, ComSec, ACP and IOI
- \* **Themes discussed:**
  - \* SDG 14.4: IUU and sustainable management
  - \* SDG 14.6: Fish subsidies
  - \* SDG 14.b: Access to markets and resources by Small scale fishers

See: <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=1299>



# Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources

## Trade related targets:

**By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices**, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics

**By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing**, eliminate subsidies that contribute to (IUU) fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation

**Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets**

# Key issues on SDG 14.4

OCEANS FORUM ON  
TRADE-RELATED  
ASPECTS OF  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOAL 14  
21-22 MARCH 2017  
Palais des Nations, Geneva



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



- \* Reverse current trends towards depletion and overfishing;
- \* More emphasis on implementing existing international instruments rather than creating new ones;
- \* Fish is not only a "good" but also an "ecosystem service";
- \* Promote better traceability systems (e.g. FLUX standard)
- \* Undertake action to tackle IUU fishing by:
  - \* Improving institutional & regulatory capacity
  - \* Enhancing better management of the resource
  - \* Expanding international coordination & cooperation
  - \* Addressing the harvesting phase, but also along value chains

# Key issues on SDG 14.6

OCEANS FORUM ON  
TRADE-RELATED  
ASPECTS OF  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOAL 14  
21-22 MARCH 2017  
Palais des Nations, Geneva



- \* Policy lines under SDG 14.6 are there to be implemented not debated;
- \* Make use of existing hard and soft law fisheries instruments;
- \* Prohibitions on fish subsidies need to be specific, clear, coherent & enforceable in order to be effective;
- \* Subsidies to IUU fishing must be prohibited;
- \* More States should join UNCTAD/FAO/UNEP Joint Statement on Fisheries Subsidies (UNCTAD 14 Conference, 2016).
- \* Concerns on lack of S&DT in paragraph 8 (q) of the Zero Draft of the Call for Action of the UN Oceans Conference.

# Key issues on SDG 14.b

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT  
**UNCTAD**

OCEANS FORUM ON  
TRADE-RELATED  
ASPECTS OF  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOAL 14  
21-22 MARCH 2017  
Palais des Nations, Geneva



- \* Improve small scale and artisanal fishers (SSAFs) capacities to:
  - \* adopt of low cost technologies for sustainable management,
  - \* reach markets, and
  - \* remove value chains participation barriers.
- \* Fisheries and seafood products are exposed 2.5 times more to non-tariffs measures (NTMs) than industrial products.
- \* Members need technical cooperation to address seafood related NTMs;
- \* The aquaculture will fill the gap arising from lower wild catch & increases demand for fish and seafood products;

# The Ocean Conference



- \* **Main theme:**

Our oceans, our future: partnering for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14.

- \* **Key objective:**

Support the implementation of SDG14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

- \* **Dates and venue:**

5 to 9 June 2017, United Nations Headquarters, New York  
To be kick-started by World Environment Day on 5 June

# Official events



- \* 8 plenary meetings
- \* 7 partnership dialogues
- \* special event commemorating World Oceans Day on 8 June

## Parallel events and activities:

- \* Side events
- \* Exhibitions
- \* Off-site events
- \* Ocean village



# Expected outcomes



1. **"Call for Action"** - A concise, focused, intergovernmental agreed declaration by consensus. Zero draft:  
[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/12959Zero\\_Draft.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/12959Zero_Draft.pdf)
2. Co-chairs' summaries of **seven partnership dialogues**.
3. List of **voluntary commitments** for the implementation of SDG 14.  
Ocean Conference Registry of Commitments:  
<https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/>

# Themes for the partnership dialogues



THE  
**OCEAN**  
CONFERENCE  
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 5-9 JUNE 2017

1. Addressing marine pollution.
2. Managing, protecting, conserving and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems.
3. Minimizing and addressing ocean acidification.
4. **Making fisheries sustainable.**
5. **Increasing economic benefits to SIDS and LDCs and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.**
6. Increasing scientific knowledge, and developing research capacity and transfer of marine technology.
7. Enhancing the conservation **and sustainable use of oceans and their resources** by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

# Voluntary Commitments



THE  
**OCEAN**  
CONFERENCE  
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 5-9 JUNE 2017

## Register Voluntary Commitment for implementation of Goal 14

### BASIC INFORMATION

#### Title/name of voluntary commitment

#### Lead entity name

#### Lead entity type

- Government  United Nations entity  Partnership  Major groups & other stakeholders  
 Intergovernmental organization  Non-governmental organization (NGO)  Civil society organization  Academic institution  
 Scientific community  Private sector  Philanthropic organization  Other relevant actor  
 Partnership

### CONTACT INFORMATION (REQUIRED)

First name	<input type="text"/>
Last name	<input type="text"/>
Title	<input type="text"/>
Telephone	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>

### Description of voluntary commitment (objectives, implementation methodologies, follow-up mechanisms, governance, etc) up to 500 words

### Ocean basins targeted by commitment (multiple options, optional)

- Global  Arctic Ocean  Southern Ocean  South Pacific  
 North Pacific  North Atlantic  South Atlantic  Indian Ocean

### Deliverables

Please add at least one, and up to four, tangible and time based deliverable(s).

Description of deliverable	Date (Month/year)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### Resources mobilized towards commitment

Type of resource	Details
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

<https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/register/>

# Cross-cutting issues



1. The “fundamental” role of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);
2. Effective partnerships and voluntary commitments;
3. Education and awareness raising;
4. Coordinated, coherent and integrated approaches at all levels; and
5. The need for increased scientific research, data collection and data sharing, including to support decision making.



UNITED NATIONS  
UNCTAD



*"The only problem with nature is human nature"*

THANK YOU