Join us to celebrate the champions who are working to build the global cooperation on ocean science needed to protect our shared ocean.

This event highlights key findings from IOC’s first Global Ocean Science Report, to be launched on 8 June. The Report provides key recommendations on how countries need to work together to build capacity in global ocean science.

The Ocean’s 8 Celebration is co-hosted by the United Nations General Assembly, the Governments of Iceland and Peru as co-chairs of the UN Ocean Conference Partnership Dialogue 6 – “Increasing scientific knowledge, and developing research capacity and transfer of marine technology” and by the Government of Monaco, a longstanding supporter of ocean science and sustainable development within the United Nations.

With distinguished panellists from the world of ocean science, ocean plastics and the international media, this discussion will focus on the key question: “Does the Ocean need more science or more action?”

Organized in collaboration with UN Environment and Sky News, this celebration will focus on how we can strengthen the intergovernmental cooperation on ocean science in order to halt the degradation of our shared ocean.

The event will include a 1-hour presentation ceremony in the Delegates Dining Room from 13.00-14.00, hosted by David Eades from BBC World and Irina Bokova the Director General of UNESCO. This celebration will then be followed by a 45-minute panel discussion in the SDG Media Zone, just 2-minutes’ walk from the Delegates Dining Room.
Join our distinguished guests and a panel of world-leading experts as we earn how to build greater intergovernmental cooperation on ocean science.

David Eades, Moderator
For the last 25 years David has worked as a frontline presenter and correspondent for the BBC. He is also a highly experienced moderator who has facilitated many panel discussions involving heads of government, royalty, leading industrialists, scientists and celebrities.

Adrian Grenier
The film actor, Adrian Grenier, is best known for playing Vincent Chase in the TV series Entourage. As founder of the Lonely Whale Foundation and supporter of UNEP’s #CleanSeas campaign Adrian is a key advocate for action on ocean conservation issues.

Irina Bokova
Irina Bokova has been the Director-General of UNESCO since 15 November 2009. As Director-General she is leading efforts by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO to strengthen intergovernmental collaboration on ocean science issues.

Erik Solheim
Erik Solheim was elected to become Executive Director of the UN Environment on May 13, 2016. In February 2017 UN Environment launched the #CleanSeas campaign with governments, the private sector and global civil society to reduce the use of non-recoverable and single-use plastics.

Peter M Haugan
Peter Mosby Haugan is Chair of the IOC of UNESCO and a Professor at the University of Bergen Geophysical Institute. His research includes various aspects of physical oceanography focusing on the North Sea and Arctic Ocean.

Karolina Skog
Karolina Skog has been Sweden’s Minister for the Environment since 25 May 2016. She is a member of the Green Party and served as City Commissioner in Malmö Municipality from 2010 until being appointed cabinet minister.

Thomas Moore
Award-winning journalist Thomas Moore joined Sky News in 1999 and is the channel’s Science Correspondent. He is also spearheading the Sky Ocean Rescue campaign, and recently fronted the Sky documentary, A Plastic Tide.

Peter Thomson
On 13 June 2016, the United Nations General Assembly elected Ambassador Peter Thomson of Fiji to serve as President of its seventy-first session, which runs from September 2016 to September 2017.

Prince Albert of Monaco
H.S.H. Prince Albert of Monaco has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to intergovernmental cooperation on ocean science. In 2009 he was awarded the Roger Revelle Prize by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography for his efforts to protect the environment and to promote scientific research.

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