



Building Communities of Ocean Action on Marine pollution

6 December 2017, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Conference Room 14, UN Environment Assembly, Nairobi, Kenya

Concept note

At the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) - The Ocean Conference - held in June 2017 at UN headquarters in New York, close to 1,400 voluntary commitments for concrete action to advance implementation of SDG 14 were made by governments, the United Nations system, civil society organizations, academia, the scientific community, and the private sector. These commitments, together with the Conference outcome document Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action, mark a global breakthrough on the path to sustainable management and conservation of our oceans, seas and marine resources.

To support implementation of the voluntary commitments, the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean Ambassador Peter Thomson, with the support of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), is establishing nine clusters of Communities of Ocean Action among all stakeholders making ocean voluntary commitments to spur further action and maintain momentum until the next anticipated Ocean Conference in 2020. Marine pollution, which is addressed through SDG target 14.1, is one of the Communities of Ocean Action that have emerged through the process.

On 6 December 2017 at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in Nairobi, Kenya, the Special Envoy for the Ocean, Ambassador Peter Thomson and UN DESA, in collaboration with UN Environment, will hold an event on Communities of Ocean Action on Marine Pollution. The event aims to hear from various stakeholders on their innovative solutions for tackling marine pollution through their voluntary commitments, and build up the Communities of Ocean Action practitioners on marine pollution.

Participation

The event is open to all participants of UNEA.

If you are interested in providing an update on your marine pollution related Voluntary Commitment at the event, please contact Mr. Ola Goransson, Partnerships Coordinator, Division for Sustainable Development, UN DESA at goranssono@un.org.

Tentative programme

Opening panel	
10.30 AM – 10.35 AM	Welcoming remarks - Ms. Mette Wilkie, Director of the Ecosystems Division, UN Environment (tbc)
10.35 AM – 10.45 AM	Keynote address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambassador Peter Thomson, Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean
10.45 AM – 11.05 AM	Remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Karolina Skog, Minister for the Environment, Sweden Mr. Alain de Comarmond, Principal Secretary, Environment Department, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, Republic of Seychelles
Presentation	
11.05 AM – 11.15 AM	Presentation - Overview of analysis of voluntary commitments & Launch of the enhanced The Ocean Conference Voluntary Commitments Registry – Mr. Ola Goransson, Partnerships Coordinator, Division for Sustainable Development, UN DESA
Open dialogue – Voluntary Commitments for tackling marine pollution	
11.15 AM – 12.00 PM	<p><i>Interactive dialogue with all participants on innovative voluntary commitments and solutions for tackling marine pollution</i></p> <p>Moderated by Ms. Lisa Emelia Svensson, Coordinator of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch, UN Environment</p> <p><u>Discussants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Keondra Bills Freemyn, Manager of International Government Relations, Ocean Conservancy Mr. David Osborn, Director, Environment Laboratories, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Ms. Cristiana Pasca Palmer, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Mr. Habib El-Habr, Coordinator, Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
