



The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

Report of Activities, 2005-2007 and Future Directions

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GEF/MSP: Fostering a Global Dialogue on Oceans, Coasts, and SIDS,
and on Freshwater-Coastal-Marine Interlinkages

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The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

Oceans, seas, islands and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are critical for global food security and for sustaining economic prosperity and the well-being of many national economies, particularly in developing countries.

— 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development
Plan of Implementation, Paragraph 30



I. Introduction

1. The Importance of Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States

Oceans, coasts, and islands represent an integral aspect of global sustainable development. The oceans—comprising 72% of the Earth's surface—provide essential life-support functions without which life on earth would not be possible and support a wide array of activities with significant benefits to humankind. Coastal areas are the home of 50% of the world's population. Forty-four of the world's nations are small island developing states (SIDS), which are especially dependent on oceans. Oceans, coasts, and islands support a wide array of uses with significant economic and social value. Marine transportation accounts for 90% of international trade. Exploitation of coastal and offshore mineral resources provides 25 to 30% of the world's energy supplies and continues to expand, especially in deeper waters. Fisheries are important socially and economically, providing direct and indirect livelihood for 400 million people. Marine aquaculture represents a rapidly growing industry and globally accounts for 30% of the world's fish consumption. The travel and tourism industry is the fastest growing sector of the global economy, especially with regard to coastal and marine areas. Furthermore, oceans perform functions that are vital to life on earth. The oceans modulate short- and long-term climate. On the other hand, they also generate hazards such as storms, earthquakes, and tsunamis.

The multitude of ocean activities is placing increasing pressure on the integrity of coastal and marine ecosystems and many oceanic, coastal, and island resources are threatened through overexploitation. Seventy-five percent of global fisheries are either fully utilized or over utilized. Seventy percent of 126 marine mammal species are threatened. Fifty percent of the world's mangroves have been lost and important seagrass habitats are rapidly being destroyed. Twelve billion tons of ballast water containing at any one time around 10,000 marine species are shipped around the globe each year, spreading alien and invasive species. Over the past decade, the frequency of recorded harmful algal blooms resulting in mass mortality and morbidity of marine organisms has increased significantly. Food security for a growing human population drives the intensification of agricultural production and results in the increased application of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides, resulting in the

degradation of coastal ecosystems. Various reports have highlighted that oceans, coasts, and islands are experiencing severe degradation due to overfishing at sea, overdevelopment along the coasts, and increasing pollution from cities and fields. This situation is reaching a crisis state and in many places may lead to significant declines of ocean wildlife and to the irreversible collapse of ocean ecosystems.

These problems are exacerbated by the effects of climate change. The 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) notes that climate change will have profound effects on ocean ecosystems and coastal populations around the world, especially among the poorest peoples. It is expected that developing nations in Africa (which accounts for less than three percent of global carbon emissions) and in Asia would be most affected and the developed wealthy nations far from the equator least affected. Asia will be particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, especially in major population centers at low elevations such as Mumbai, Shanghai, Jakarta, Tokyo, and Dhaka. The impacts of climate change on developing nations, especially SIDS, will be significant; the implications of these effects range from changes in ocean chemistry and forecasted sea level rise to impacts on ecosystems and human health. The need to address these issues in the oceans community is a vital first step in combating potentially severe effects of climate change focusing especially on the developing world and SIDS.

The pressing issues affecting oceans, coasts, and SIDS call for the mobilization of a broad coalition of interests from developed and developing countries and including all the relevant actors: governments, UN agencies and other international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, and scientific groups. No one can solve these problems alone. A coming together of all parts of the international community is urgently needed.

2. Brief History of the Global Forum

The Global Forum was first mobilized in 2001 to help the world's governments place issues related to oceans, coasts, and SIDS on the agenda of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa (the ten-year review of progress achieved (or lack thereof) in the implementation of the outcomes of the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro), and was later formalized at the 2002 World Summit.

In the preparatory process for the WSSD, it became evident that ocean issues were not on the World Summit agenda. Hence, the Global Forum was mobilized to hold the first Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands (in December 2001 at UNESCO, Paris) to lay the groundwork for the inclusion of an oceans perspective at the WSSD by calling attention to the economic and social importance of oceans, coasts, and small island developing States and the serious problems besetting these areas. These efforts were successful in assisting governments in putting oceans on the WSSD agenda. At the World Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2002, Government delegates agreed on an action plan for oceans, coasts, and islands, with specific targets and timetables for action, to address the problems and threats to sustainable development noted above. The ocean targets and timetables found in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (see Box 1) represent an important advance because there is now a global consensus reached at the highest political levels that there is an urgent need to take specific actions to achieve the sustainable development of oceans, coasts, and of small island developing States.

The Global Forum is a response to perceived needs for fostering cross-sectoral dialogue on ocean issues among governments, NGOs, international organizations, and the



BOX 1.

WSSD Ocean Targets and Timetables*

Integrated ocean and coastal management

- Encourage the application of the ecosystem approach by 2010 for the sustainable development of the oceans, particularly in the management of fisheries and the conservation of biodiversity
- Establish an effective, transparent and regular inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system
- Promote integrated coastal and ocean management at the national level and encourage and assist countries in developing ocean policies and mechanisms on integrated coastal management
- Assist developing countries in coordinating policies and programs at the regional and sub-regional levels aimed at conservation and sustainable management of fishery resources and implement integrated coastal area management plans, including through the development of infrastructure

Fisheries

- Implement the FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing by 2004
- Implement the FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity by 2005
- Maintain or restore depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce their maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and where possible no later than 2015
- Eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and to overcapacity

Conservation of biodiversity

- To achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth
- Develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, including the ecosystem approach, the elimination of destructive fishing practices, the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks by 2012

Protection from marine pollution and maritime safety

- Advance implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities in the period 2002-2006 with a view to achieve substantial progress by 2006
- Enhance maritime safety and protection of the marine environment:
 - a) Ratify, accede to and implement IMO instruments
 - b) Accelerate the development of measures to address invasive species in ballast waters

Science and observation

- Improve scientific understanding and assessment of the marine environment
- Establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, by 2004

Small island developing States

- Follow-up on the implementation of the results of the Mauritius 2005 review of the Barbados Programme of Action

Water Resources Management

- Development of integrated water resources management (IWRM) plans by 2005

**United Nations. 2002. Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development*



BOX 2.

Major Ocean and Coastal Needs Addressed by the Global Forum

Promotion of cross-sectoral dialogue on ocean and coastal issues. Existing fora related to oceans are largely sectoral in nature. The Global Forum addresses oceans, coasts, and islands issues in a cross-sectoral and comprehensive manner, examining the interrelationship among issues, as emphasized in both the Law of the Sea, the 1992 Earth Summit, and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Promotion of dialogue among governments, NGOs, international organizations, the private sector, and scientific groups building consensus on how to address international ocean issues. Existing fora are either intergovernmental or dominated by private sector, NGO interests, or scientific groups. The Global Forum provides a mechanism where participants from nongovernmental organizations, governments, intergovernmental and international organizations, the private sector, and scientific groups can interact together, share information, draw lessons from existing practice, consider emerging issues, and engage in dialogue in relatively equal numbers and on equal terms on potential solutions to problems.

Oceans advocacy at the highest political levels. Ocean, coastal, and island issues can become lost amongst complex international agendas. Members of the Global Forum serve as advocates for inclusion of oceans, coasts, and islands issues in important global and regional negotiations on sustainable development.

Linking freshwater and ocean concerns. Discussions of freshwater management and oceans management typically take place separately in different fora. The Global Forum aims to bridge these separate yet intrinsically linked issues.



private and scientific sectors; constant advocacy for oceans at the highest political levels; and the imperative of taking an ecosystem-based and integrated approach to oceans governance at national, regional, and global levels, including treating the water system—from freshwater, to coasts, to oceans—as the interlinked system that it is. See Box 2.

Since 2001, the Global Forum has brought together ocean leaders from governments, non-governmental organizations, international and intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, and scientific associations from 93 countries (Figure 1 is a map showing Global Forum participants, Steering Committee members and collaborators); organized three Global Conferences (in 2001, 2003, and 2006 at UNESCO in Paris); organized the Ocean Policy Summit in Lisbon in 2005 documenting experiences with integrated oceans governance in over 20 countries and 4 regions around the world; prepared analyses on the implementation of the WSSD ocean targets, on ocean issues in island states for the 2005 Mauritius International Meeting on Small Island Developing States, and on capacity development needs in ocean and coastal management in eight world regions; and provided a series of Internet information services, including periodic newsletters. The work of the Global Forum is directed by a Steering Committee of more than 80 members, and run by a small Secretariat, the International Coastal and Ocean Organization, an international NGO accredited to the UN Economic and Social Council (discussed in section IV of this report).

3. Goals and Objectives of the Global Forum

The major goals of the Global Forum are to:

- Advance the global oceans agenda by:
 - 1) promoting the implementation of international agreements related to oceans, coasts, and small island developing States (SIDS), especially the goals emanating from the 2002 WSSD;
 - 2) analyzing emerging issues such as improving the governance regime for ocean areas beyond national jurisdiction; and
 - 3) promoting international consensus-building on unresolved ocean issues;
- Work as a catalyst to mobilize knowledge, resources, and organizational action to advance the global oceans agenda and to promote integrated oceans management;

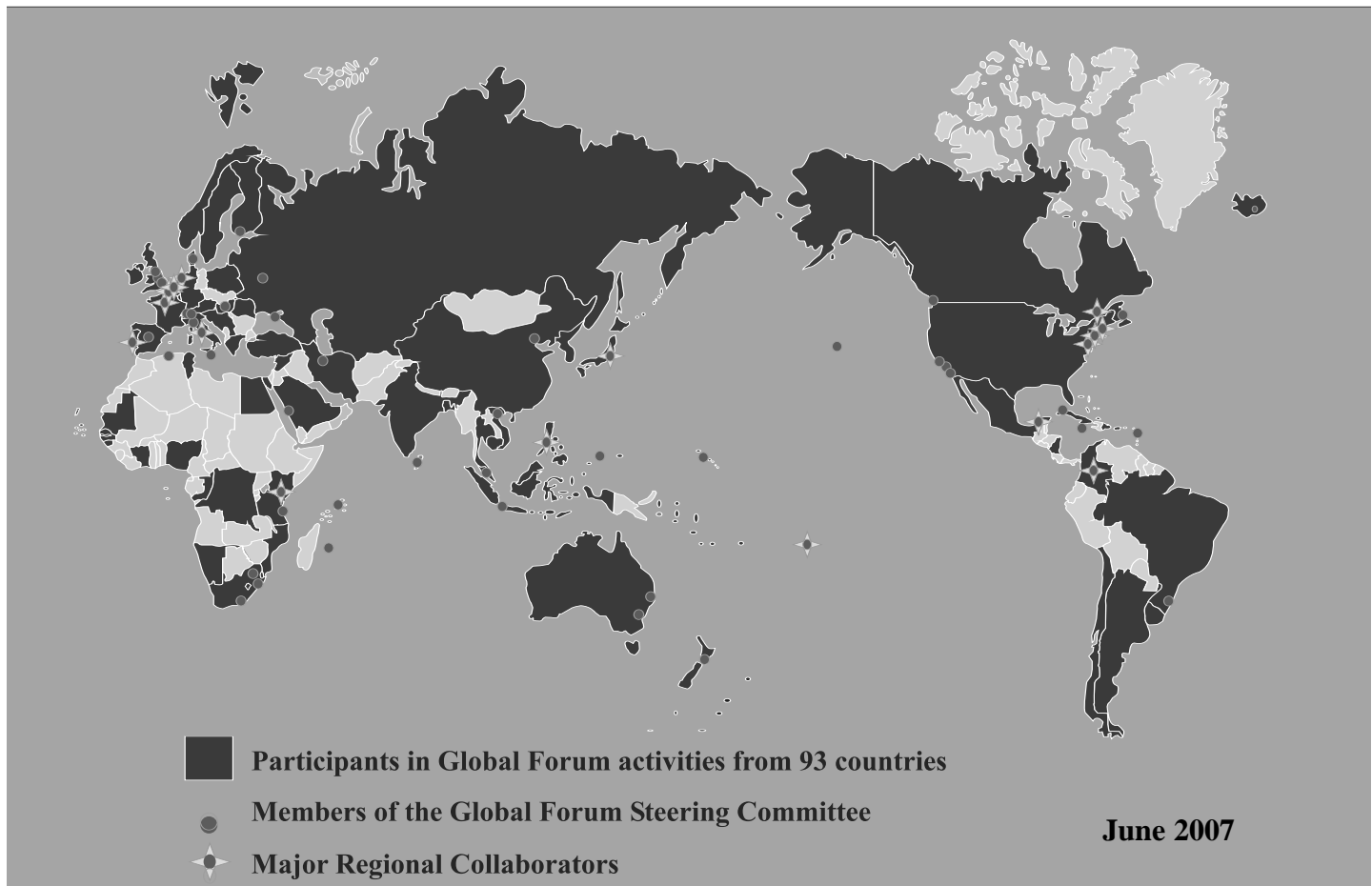
- Foster a mutually-supportive global network of ocean policy leaders with the capacity to implement integrated oceans management;
- Raise the international profile of oceans, coasts, and SIDS in relevant global, regional, and sub-regional fora;
- Mobilize public awareness on global issues related to oceans, coasts, and islands, and promote information sharing and dissemination.

4. Perspectives on the Global Forum

Noted actors in the marine policy field have underscored the importance of the availability of an informal process that can bring together all relevant perspectives to advance the global oceans agenda. For example:

The Global Forum was born at Johannesburg to address the interdependent issues of oceans, coasts, and islands. Since its inception we have witnessed a remarkable change in the attitude and engagement of the international community. The Global Forum had spurred and focused the attention of policy makers in a very short time and the impact of the Forum was

Global Forum Participation



soon felt at the very centre of multilateral diplomacy and decision making i.e. the General Assembly of the United Nations and its Subsidiary bodies.

-- Awni Behnam, President, International Ocean Institute, June 13, 2006

In my experience every formal, multi-lateral negotiating process needs an informal process which feeds into it, and where ideas can be taken forward in a less formal way. That seems to me to be perhaps the key role for the Global Forum as the years go by.

-- John Richardson, European Commission, June 17, 2006, New York

The Global Forum assists, encourages, and facilitates ongoing discussions on very important and sensitive ocean issues, so that eventually we will achieve better management for the ocean. In this process, the Global Forum plays a very important role because it is a Forum where various stakeholders can discuss issues and exchange views without being bound by some formalities. It's an open discussion that facilitates and helps everyone. The Global Forum serves as an excellent platform at which you can have industry, civil society, and member States exchanging views in a very informal atmosphere. This provides for a comprehensive approach, a cross-sectoral approach, and this is a new trend. The Global Forum should strengthen this approach.

--Vladimir Golitsyn, former Director, UN-DOALOS, June 17, 2006, New York

5. Purpose of this Report

This report provides an overview of the activities of the Global Forum since its inception in 2001 focusing especially on accomplishments under the Global Environment Facility project on *Fostering a Global Dialogue on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)*, and on *Freshwater-Coastal-Marine Interlinkages* (GEF/MSP) (September 2005-September 2007). This is a Medium-sized Project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) with the UN Environment Programme as the Implementing Agency, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission as the Executing Agency, and the International Coastal and Ocean Organization (the Global Forum Secretariat) as the Co-Executing Agency. Collaborating partners providing financial and/or in-kind support for this GEF/MSP project, as well as additional funding support received generated by the GEF/MSP project are listed in Box 3.

BOX 3. Sources of Global Forum Support, 2005-2007

Global Environment Facility MSP project:

Global Environment Facility
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)
IOC Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE)
Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)
New Partnership for Africa's Development/Coastal and Marine Coordination Unit (NEPAD/COSMAR)
Centro de Ecología, Pesquerías y Oceanografía del Golfo de Mexico, Mexico (EPOMEX)
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT), Mexico
Consejo Consultivo del Agua (CCA), Mexico
GEF International Waters Learning, Exchange and Resource Network Program (IW:LEARN)
The Nippon Foundation, Japan
Portuguese Committee for Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
The Nature Conservancy
International Coastal and Ocean Organization
World Ocean Network

Additional Partners/Support Generated by the GEF/MSP

General Directorate for Nature Protection, Ministry for the Environment and Territory, Italy
Flemish Government and Flemish Minister for Economy, Enterprise, Science, Innovation and Foreign Trade, Belgium
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Port Authority of Lisbon
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal
Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Services Center (NOAA CSC)
Secretary of State for Maritime Affairs, Portugal
Oceanário de Lisboa
Associação Industrial Portuguesa
Banco Espírito Santo
Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian
Fundação Oriente

The support of the organizations noted above is acknowledged with sincere thanks.

The project aims to foster a global South-to-South and South-to-North dialogue on oceans through the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, focusing especially on the implementation of the WSSD targets and timetables related to oceans, coasts, and SIDS.

This report also includes activities of the Global Forum to be undertaken in 2008-2009 well as strategic planning activities to 2016.

II. GLOBAL FORUM ACTIVITIES 2001-2007

1. Advancing the Global Oceans Agenda

2001-2005:

Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10: Toward the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg December 3-7, 2001, UNESCO, Paris

The Global Forum organized the first global conference on oceans and coasts with a focus on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10: Toward the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg (at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on December 3-7, 2001). Convened nearly ten years after the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, the Global Conference assessed the status of oceans and coasts and progress achieved over the previous decade, identifying continuing and new challenges, and laying the groundwork for the inclusion of an oceans agenda at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

The 2001 conference involved 424 participants from 61 countries, with leading experts from governments, United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector.

The conference found that significant progress had indeed been made in ocean and coastal management (ICM) since the 1992 Earth Summit, especially in terms of: the adoption and implementation of a number of major international ocean agreements; new funding initiatives in ocean and coastal management; many new initiatives in ICM by governments at national and local levels; and significant progress in the development of knowledge, data, and information systems on oceans and coasts. However, the “on-the-ground” condition of marine resources (including fisheries, marine mammals, coral reefs) experienced

declines during this period and was threatened. Similarly, poverty continued unabated in coastal communities in the developing world. The conference noted that ICM programs must fully incorporate poverty reduction goals and address issues of public health in coastal areas (e.g., 90% of sewage in the developing world is untreated posing serious health risks).

Box 4. 2001 Conference Reports

The outcomes of the 2001 conference were reported in four volumes:

- ***Co-Chairs' Report, Ensuring the Sustainable Development of Oceans and Coasts: A Call to Action***

<http://globaloceans.org/globalconferences/2001/pdf/CoChairsReport.pdf>

- ***Concluding Statement by the Conference Co-Chairs***

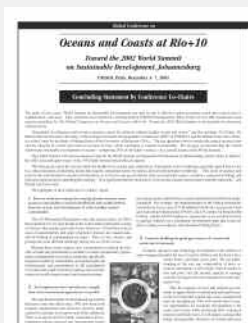
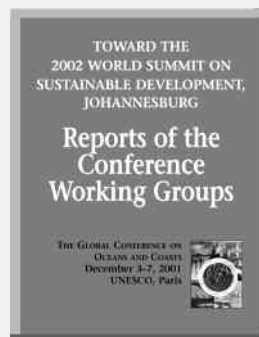
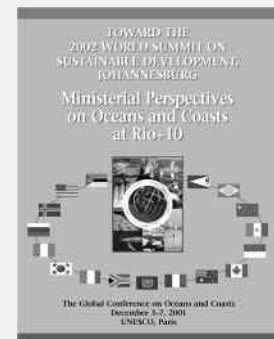
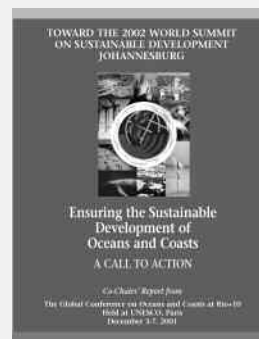
<http://globaloceans.org/globalconferences/2001/pdf/ConcludingStatement.pdf>

- ***Ministerial Perspectives on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10***

<http://globaloceans.org/globalconferences/2001/pdf/MinisterialPerspectives.pdf>

- ***Reports of the Conference Working Groups***

<http://globaloceans.org/globalconferences/2001/pdf/ReportoftheWorkingGroups.pdf>



The conference noted that “we are in a critical situation of declining trends that requires immediate actions by nations and by governing bodies worldwide.....It is essential that we link economic development, social welfare, and resource conservation in order to achieve sustainability of oceans and coasts.” The conference issued an urgent Call to Action to decisionmakers in the WSSD process to develop a detailed action plan for the sustainable development of the world’s oceans and coasts.

The 2001 conference is perceived as having been catalytic in placing ocean, coastal, and island issues on the WSSD agenda which resulted in the adoption of an extensive set of global targets and timetables related to oceans, coasts, and small island states (See Box 1), as the following comments suggest:

The persistent efforts of all interested groups, beginning with the Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10, persuaded the preparatory meetings for the Johannesburg Conference that not only was UNCLOS not the end of the road, but also that many of the commitments of the UNCED at Rio remained unfulfilled.

UN Secretary General’s report on
Oceans and the Law of the Sea
(March 3, 2003, A/58/65, p.7):

The Global Conference in 2001 was one of the most informative and important international events and really shaped what happened at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in a positive way. The Conference was very valuable in placing ocean, coastal, and SIDS issues on the global agenda, and it produced so much important information that the international community kept using the information generated for a least a year.

--Phil Burgess, former Co-Chair,
UN Open-ended Informal Consultative
Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea,
June 13, 2006, New York City

Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Mobilizing for Implementation of the Commitments Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States

December 10-14, 2003, UNESCO, Paris, France

Following the WSSD, the Global Forum organized the second international conference, the *Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Mobilizing for Implementation of the Commitments Made at the 2002 World Summit on*

Sustainable Development on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States, held on December 10-14, 2003 at UNESCO, Paris to spur rapid initial implementation of the WSSD oceans commitments. The Conference involved 223 participants from 48 countries, representing intergovernmental organizations, government organizations, academic and research institutions, non-government organizations, and private sector organizations and individuals.

The conference reviewed what had been done to date in implementing the WSSD commitments and to catalyze action on WSSD implementation through collaboration

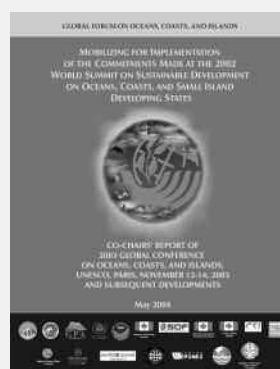


among governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. The conference focused attention on early successful efforts to put into effect several of the WSSD goals with the intent of adaptation and replication. The conference report reviewed in some detail progress achieved (or lack thereof) on each of the WSSD

ocean goals up to May 2004 (the publication date for the report) pointing out areas of good early success as well as areas where little action had taken place.

The conference was useful in spurring the process of WSSD implementation. This meeting proved especially important because the UN Commission on Sustainable Development is not scheduled to examine progress on the oceans and coasts targets of the WSSD until 2014.

Box 5. 2003 Conference Report



Mobilizing for Implementation of the Commitments Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States, Co-Chairs’ Report of the 2003 Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, UNESCO, Paris, November 12-14, 2003, and Subsequent Developments

(May 2004), (<http://globaloceans.org/globalconferences/2003/pdf/2004WSSDImplementationReport.pdf>).

2005-2007 (GEF/MSP):

Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Moving the Global Oceans

Agenda Forward

January 23-28, 2006, UNESCO, Paris, France

The *Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Moving the Global Oceans Agenda Forward*, organized by the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, was held on January 23-28, 2006 at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France. The Conference included 403 participants from 78 countries, with 38 ministers and high level government representatives in attendance. The Conference brought together key national level officials, regional organizations, UN agencies, donors, industry, non-governmental organizations, and scientists to assess progress achieved and obstacles faced in the implementation of international targets on oceans, coasts, and small island developing states (SIDS), especially those related to the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and other related agreements.

The conference and the ensuing report, *Meeting Global Commitments on Oceans, Coasts, Freshwater, and Small Island States: How Well Are We Doing?* reviewed the available information and provided a bottom line of progress achieved so far—a “report card”—on each of the WSSD and MDG ocean-related goals. The report underlined the difficulties involved in assessing progress, especially the lack of evaluation frameworks, including indicators; the fact that no one institution has been charged with collecting, on a periodic basis, national and international data on the entire range of issues related to oceans, especially regarding the cross-cutting goals (e.g., ecosystem management and integrated ocean and coastal management); the lack of regular collection and assessment of information on the social and economic well-being of coastal communities; and the absence of linkage among the WSSD/MDG goals which are related to one another.

Generally, participants at the Global Conference agreed that progress toward implementation of the global oceans targets has been slow, but that there are many promising developments. In some areas, such as integrated coastal and ocean management, GPA, protection of marine biodi-

versity, integrated water resources management, and UN coherence, one must conclude that some very tangible progress is being made, often with specific efforts underway in a growing number of countries.

In other areas such as fisheries and global marine assessment, the progress has been slower, but especially in fisheries, the groundwork seems to have been established for enhanced progress in the next phase. On small island developing states and oceans, while the 2005 Mauritius International Strategy has been adopted, its implementation is in doubt if financial resources and institutional capacity are not enhanced. As the custodians of large areas of the world's oceans, SIDS need assistance and collaboration from the international community to enhance their capacity to delimit, manage, and enforce these areas. The least progress appears to be taking place in meeting the MDGs. In this regard, it is imperative that, increasingly, ocean and coastal management programs address poverty reduction as central goals. It is imperative, as well, that the welfare of coastal populations—their health, food security, quality of life, and the benefits they derive from the coastal and marine resources they own be periodically measured to assess the extent to which any of the MDG and WSSD goals are making the needed difference on the ground.

With regard to the next phase of further evolution in implementation of the WSSD and MDG goals, it is important, as well, to establish for each WSSD/MDG goal intermediate and readily measurable targets and timetables at the national level, as some countries such as the United Kingdom have done. The issue of coordinating the local implementation of various international mandates should also be addressed. With the WSSD and MDG mandates, nations are being asked to implement a variety of programs related to the ocean, coastal, and freshwater environments—integrated coastal and ocean management, ecosystem-management, integrated water resources management, GPA and control of land-based activities, biodiversity protection and networks of marine protected areas. On the-ground, these efforts, address similar issues and cover, to some extent, similar areas. As further implementation of these efforts gets underway, it will be important to assist nations in rationalizing and bringing synergy among these efforts.



Box 6. 2006 Global Conference Reports

The outcomes of the conference are reported in two volumes:

1) *Meeting the Commitments on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development: How Well Are We Doing?* Co-Chairs' Report – Volume 1, presents a summary of available information on progress made (or lack thereof) and obstacles faced in the implementation of the ocean, coasts, and SIDS targets of the WSSD and MDG, and other related agreements.

2) *Reports from the Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Moving the Global Oceans Agenda Forward*, Co-Chairs' Report – Volume 2, provides the highlights of the Global Conference and summaries of discussions related to the attainment of major WSSD and MDG ocean goals.

The two-volume conference report were presented during the 7th Meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea in June 2006.



http://www.globaloceans.org/globalconferences/2006/pdf/WSSDReport_100406d.pdf



<http://www.globaloceans.org/globalconferences/2006/pdf/ParisConferenceReportsFINAL.pdf>

2. Promoting Integrated Oceans Governance

While most coastal nations of the world already have a variety of sectoral policies in place to manage different uses of the ocean (such as shipping, fishing, and oil and gas development), it has only been in the last decade that coastal nations have undertaken concerted efforts to articulate and implement an integrated vision for the governance of ocean areas in their 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs)--to harmonize existing uses and laws, to foster sustainable development of ocean areas, to

protect biodiversity and vulnerable resources and ecosystems, and to coordinate the actions of the many government agencies that are typically involved in oceans affairs.

This is a very encouraging development, responding, as it does, to the reality of serious conflicts of use in most national ocean zones and to the prescriptions articulated in both the Law of the Sea and in the 1992 Earth Summit (given the interrelationship among uses and processes in the coast and ocean, ocean and coastal governance must be "integrated in content and precautionary and anticipatory in ambit").

As they develop integrated and ecosystem-based national ocean policies, national authorities are often plowing new ground, in terms of the principles that apply in EEZs: management approaches: means of ensuring interagency and intergovernmental coordination; approaches to regional marine planning and governance; means of sustainable financing. It is thus useful for national authorities from various countries to come together to compare approaches, draw lessons from existing practice and assess their possible suitability in other contexts, and begin to develop international guidance on emerging best practices in the development and implementation of national and regional ocean policies, and to encourage further dissemination of ecosystem-based integrated approaches to oceans.

2001-2005:

In 2001, the Global Forum assessed progress achieved on oceans, coasts, and SIDS since the 1992 Earth Summit, focusing especially on the implementation of the prescriptions contained in Chapter 17 (the oceans, coasts, and SIDS chapter of Agenda 21) which emphasize integrated management of oceans and coasts. At the *Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10: Toward the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg*, December 3-7, 2001, UNESCO, Paris, working group discussions emphasized the need to build capacity for integrated coastal and ocean management in order for actual implementation to take place. In the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, integrated ocean and coastal management was featured prominently as was the allied concept of ecosystem-based management (see wording in Box 1).

Following the WSSD, the Global Forum has carried out a number of activities to help achieve the WSSD targets of achieving integrated ocean and coastal management and ecosystem-based management.

2005-2007 (GEF/MSP):

TOPS 2005: The Ocean Policy Summit October 10-14, 2005, Lisbon, Portugal

As part of the GEF-MSP, and with the support of the Nippon Foundation and other partners, the Global Forum organized the TOPS 2005: The Ocean Policy Summit *International Conference on Integrated Ocean Policy: National and Regional Experiences, Prospects, and Emerging Practices* held on October 10-14, 2005, in Lisbon, Portugal, to present and analyze the experiences of 20+ nations and 4 regions of the world that have taken concrete steps toward cross-cutting and integrated policy (cross-national study undertaken by the Nippon Foundation Research Task Force on National Ocean Policies). The conference also presented other work on integrated national and regional ocean policies, such as work undertaken by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the UNEP Regional Seas Programme, Large Marine Ecosystems supported by the Global Environment Facility; and other regional experiences. The conference drew lessons from the comparative analyses and began to develop international guidance on best practices.

The conference brought together 218 participants from governments, regional organizations, UN agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations, donor agencies, and industry representatives, representing 53 countries.

Through conference working groups, international guidance on emerging best practices in the development and implementation of national/regional ocean policies was drawn from the experiences reported, and subsequently featured during a one-day Ocean Strategy Workshop for decision makers on ocean policy development and implementation, with a special emphasis on decision makers from small island developing States, developing countries, and countries with economies in transition.



Book on Integrated Ocean Policy

A book on *Integrated Regional and National Ocean Policies: Comparative Practices and Future Prospects*, resulting from the work reported at TOPS 2005: The Ocean Policy Summit will be published by the United Nations University Press. The book, which brings together the experiences of 18 countries and 4 regions in integrated ocean policy, includes 23 chapters authored by 53 authors (see Box 3).



In bringing together key national level officials, regional organizations, UN agencies, scholars specializing in national ocean policy, donors, nongovernmental organizations, and industry to examine the growing experience around the world with the formulation and implementation of integrated ocean policies at national and regional levels, the Global Forum was able to produce important work from which we were able to draw lessons and suggest emerging best practices for the development of the national ocean policy of Mexico.

-- Antonio Diaz de Leon, Director-General,
Environmental, Regional Integration and
Sectoral Policy, Environment and Natural
Resources Ministry (SEMARNAT), Mexico

The work that the Global Forum completed on comparative national and regional ocean policies, funded by the Nippon Foundation and the Global Environment Facility as partners, was very useful in our effort in Japan in drafting and achieving enactment of the Japanese Basic Ocean Law.

-- Hiroshi Terashima, Executive Director,
Ocean Policy Research Foundation, Japan

BOX 7. Book on

**INTEGRATED NATIONAL
AND REGIONAL OCEAN POLICIES:
COMPARATIVE PRACTICES AND
FUTURE PROSPECTS**

**Biliana Cicin-Sain, David VanderZwaag, and
Miriam C. Balgos, Editors**

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**3. Facilitating Consensus-Building on International Issues
2005-2007 (GEF/MSP)**

As noted in the discussion above, a major emphasis of the Global Forum has been, and continues to be, collaborating with governments and other international actors in promoting effective implementation of international ocean goals.

In addition to this major emphasis, the Global Forum is concerned with anticipation of important issues that will be facing the international oceans community and/or will be the subject of important UN negotiations in the next decade. The intent here is to contribute—through policy analyses and multistakeholder policy dialogues-- to clarifying the issues, developing options, laying out various perspectives, and identifying possible avenues for consensus-building among disparate interests.

One such issue is the problem of governance of marine areas beyond national jurisdiction. Almost two thirds of the world's oceans are found more than 200 miles from the coast of any nation, and therefore, in principle beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. While in the past the ocean's capacity to resist or recover from human impacts was thought to be limitless, it is becoming increasingly apparent that humans are impacting all aspects of the ocean system. Key issues in areas beyond national jurisdiction include illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, overfishing, destructive fishing practices, extraction of marine genetic resources, pollution (including ocean acidification) and climate change, among others. To date there is no consensus on the various legal and policy issues surrounding marine areas beyond national jurisdiction, and there are many different options being elaborated and discussed about how these issues should be resolved. This issue will no doubt be the subject of intense UN negotiations in the next decade.

Prior to the 2006 Global Conference, the Global Forum organized a Working Group on Improving Governance of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction to facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue prior to, at the Global Conference itself, and beyond, and to provide input to other fora addressing these issues. The Working Group approached the issue of governance of areas beyond national jurisdiction broadly and through an expert panel and two multi-stakeholder dialogue sessions, addressed issues relating both to the high seas (defined in part VII of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea) and the deep seabed, or the "Area" as defined by Part XI of the Convention. The Working Group includes about 70 members (from both developed and developing nations),

and from a broad range of sectors including national governments, academia, UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and industry.

According to a number of representatives from governments, UN agencies, and nongovernmental organizations, the work of the Global Forum's Working Group was very useful in laying the groundwork for the subsequent UN Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction which took place in February 2006. Participants noted that the informal nature of the policy dialogues that took place at the January 2006 Global Conference and the informal interchange of perspectives which took place both before and during the Third Global Conference very much facilitated the cooperative nature of the discussions at the UN February meeting by providing a venue for the sharing of perspectives among governments (both developed and developing), UN and other international agencies, NGOs, and industry without the pressure of formal institutional positions.

The work of the Global Forum's Working Group on Improving Governance of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction was very useful in laying the groundwork for the subsequent UN Informal Working Group that took place in February 2006. The informal interchange of perspectives that took place both before and during the 2006 Global Conference very much facilitated the cooperative nature of the discussions at the UN February meeting by providing a neutral and informal venue for the sharing of perspectives among governments (both developed and developing), UN and other international agencies, NGOs, and industry, in a candid and direct manner.

--Lorraine Ridgeway, Director-General,
International Coordination and Policy
Analysis, Department of Fisheries and
Oceans, Canada, and Co-Chair, UN Open-
ended Informal Consultative Process on
Oceans and the Law of the Sea,
June 17, 2006, New York



4. Work with Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

2001-2005:

While typically small in land size, small island developing States (SIDS) can be characterized as large ocean states due to establishment of 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), resulting in these small islands being custodians of much of the world's ocean space. An issue of major concern to SIDS is the threat of climate change and the associated sea level rise predictions. The significant vulnerability of the natural environment, economy, and social structure of SIDS has been well established. Even though similar problems are present in most developing countries, because of the inherent characteristics of SIDS, they are felt more acutely by these countries.

While most SIDS are keenly aware of the importance of the marine environment and its resources to their sustainable development and economic stability, many SIDS nations lack specific institutions or administrative processes to implement cross-cutting approaches to planning and management of oceans and coasts. Among the 44 SIDS nations, no SIDS has delimited its Exclusive Economic Zone, only eight SIDS (20%) have dedicated coastal management institutions; and only three (7%) have enacted coastal legislation.

The Global Forum has worked with the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) since 2001 when SIDS states and ocean interests became particularly active in advancing the SIDS, oceans, and coasts agenda at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Global Forum participated in and provided analytical input to the 2005 Mauritius International Meeting to review the 1994 Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and has worked with SIDS representatives in assessing and responding to capacity development needs in ocean and coastal management.

2001-2005 (GEF/MSP):

Global Forum Towards Mauritius 2005 Paper Series

The Global Forum contributed to the oceans agenda at the 2005 Mauritius International Meeting to review the 1994 Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States by preparing a series of policy analyses on ocean and coastal management issues in SIDS. The reports of the policy analyses were presented at the Mauritius International Meeting. This work was sponsored by the UNEP/GPA.

The Reports include:

Voluntary Partnership Initiatives from the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and Small Island Developing States Toward Mauritius 2005 Paper Series No. 2003-1

Iniciativas de Asociación Voluntarias Derivadas de la Cumbre Mundial 2002 sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible y los Pequeños Estados Insulares en Desarrollo Toward Mauritius 2005 Paper Series No. 2004-1

Global Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Small Island Developing States Toward Mauritius 2005 Paper Series No. 2004-2

Small Islands, Large Ocean States: A Review of Ocean and Coastal Management in Small Island Developing States since the 1994 Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Toward Mauritius 2005 Paper Series No. 2005-1

Island Bellwether: Climate Change and Energy Policy Strategy for Small Island Developing States Toward Mauritius 2005 Paper Series No. 2005-2

The Global Forum also devoted a conference panel and discussion groups on SIDS during the 2nd Global Conference in Paris in November 2003 in preparation for the Mauritius International Meeting. At the Meeting, a side event was also organized by the Global Forum focusing on SIDS ocean and coastal management issues highlighted in the policy analyses reports.

2005-2007 (GEF/MSP):

Working Group on SIDS on the Implementation of the Mauritius International Strategy

A Working Group composed of SIDS ocean experts from the Pacific, Caribbean, and AIMS (Indian Ocean, Atlantic, Mediterranean, and South China Sea) has been formed to work with AOSIS, UNDESA, and others on the rapid implementation of the decisions made at the Mauritius International Meeting, and to address issues related to capacity development in SIDS.

The Working Group met in Lisbon, Portugal, during the *TOPS 2005 The Ocean Policy Summit*, to discuss the implementation of ocean and coastal issues specified within the Mauritius Implementation Strategy and the Barbados Programme of Action and to examine the issues of capacity building. Panels and dialogue sessions on SIDS issues were featured at the 2006 *Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands*, with experts from the three SIDS regions deliberating on how to go forward in the development of implementation strategies for the

Mauritius International Strategy. A major obstacle emphasized at the Global Conference was insufficient institutional support for systematic follow-up to the Mauritius Strategy—including the absence of a mechanism for assessing implementation at national and regional levels; the need to integrate the Mauritius Strategy into the work programs of the UN agencies; establishing indicators for implementation success; and strengthening the capacity of AOSIS to assess progress on implementation and to eliminate obstacles to implementation.

Thank you to the Global Forum for capturing the issues that are facing small island developing States. These issues were well covered in both in the Third Global Conference and in the reports coming out of the conference.

-- Ambassador Enele Sopoaga, former UN Permanent Representative of Tuvalu to the United Nations and Vice-Chair, Alliance of Small Island States, January 27, 2006, Paris

Regional Assessments on Capacity Building in 4 SIDS Regions

Under the framework of the Global Forum GEF-MSP on *Fostering a Global Dialogue on Oceans, Coasts, and SIDS, and on Freshwater-Coastal-Marine Interlinkages*, the Global Forum has organized four regional capacity assessments on the specific steps that can be taken to rapidly implement the Mauritius Strategy (2005) in four SIDS regions: Caribbean; Pacific Islands; Indian Ocean, and Atlantic SIDS, with leadership from regional SIDS experts, as follows:

Implementing the Pacific Islands Regional Oceans Policy: A Rapid Assessment on the Status of Ocean and Coastal Management in the Pacific Islands Region with Recommendations for Immediate Priority Actions

Cristelle Pratt and Mary Power, Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), and Alf Simpson, Independent Consultant (2006)

Strategies for Implementing Coastal and Ocean Management in the Wider Caribbean Region

Peter Edwards (Jamaica), University of Delaware, and Franklin McDonald, United Nations Environment Programme/Caribbean Environment Programme, (2007) (in draft)

Implementation Strategy for Advancing Ocean and Coastal Management in the Atlantic SIDS

Marina Pereira Silva, Independent Consultant (Cape Verde), and Isabel Torres de Noronha, Community of Portuguese-Speaking Nations (CPLP) Oceans Strategy Advisor, (2006)

Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, and the South China Sea (AIMS) SIDS Rapid Assessment: Policy Analysis on Strategies for Implementation of Ocean and Coastal Management Priorities

Nirmal Jivan Shah, Nature Seychelles, Peter Edwards (Jamaica), LaVerne Walker (St. Lucia), Lindsey Williams (US) (2006)

Strategic Ocean Policy Workshop for Pacific Island Decisionmakers, Late 2007, Suva, Fiji

Allied Workshop on Enhancing the Ocean and Coastal Management Curriculum of the SIDS Consortium of Universities, Late 2007, Suva, Fiji

The Strategic Ocean Policy Workshop for Pacific Island Decisionmakers is being organized by SOPAC (Pacific Islands Applied Geosciences Commission) through the Marine Sector Working Group of the Council for Regional Organizations of the Pacific, the Global Forum and other partners. The workshop is intended to provide a forum for high-level government officials of Pacific SIDS countries to discuss and consider information, approaches and tools for the implementation of the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy at the national level, specifically looking at



potential appropriate institutional structures and processes for integrated ocean and coastal management in the Pacific Island context. The workshop will highlight the salient problem of formally delimiting EEZ and continental

shelf boundaries in the Pacific island nations as a prerequisite for effective EEZ management by establishing the legal boundaries for management interventions.

An allied workshop on the enhancement of higher education programs on integrated ocean and coastal management presently conducted by members of the SIDS University Consortium will be conducted following the Strategic Ocean Policy Workshop.

5. Long-term Capacity Building in Ocean and Coastal Management

Integrated management of the coast and the marine environment is altogether an essential aspect of improving the social and economic conditions of communities which are mostly established in such coastal zones— hence the need for vigilance

on the part of all those involved in development to ensure better management of the marine and coastal environment, a revenue source that must be managed in an ecologically rational way.

-- Honorable Thierno Lo, Minister for the Environment and Protection of Nature, Senegal, January 25, 2006, Paris

2001-2005:

Capacity building for the governance of ocean and coastal areas has been an important priority focus area of the Global Forum since its formation in 2001. Capacity development is essential for achieving integrated management of the oceans, especially in developing countries, SIDS, and countries with economies in transition.

Participants at the 1st and 2nd Global Conferences in 2001 and 2003 made key recommendation on capacity development:

- 1) Carry out capacity building that would support the involvement of both the national and sub-national levels of government in the development and implementation of integrated coastal management programs;
- 2) Increase the capacity of local governments and community-based groups to manage coastal and marine areas with appropriate scientific inputs and participatory processes; and
- 3) Promote the formulation of policies for the management of EEZs as a new frontier to maximize the economic return from ocean resources, in particular through the development of common vision for sustainable development across all ocean.

The Global Forum GEF/MSP has addressed these priority areas especially in SIDS, developing countries, and countries with economies in transition, as noted below.

2005-2007 (GEF/MSP):

Assessment of Capacity-building Needs for the Development and Implementation of Ecosystem-based National and Regional Ocean Policies Among Developing Countries and Regions

Capacity building in light of national ocean policy development and improved ocean governance involves capacity development at three levels: Individual, institutional, and societal level. Individually there is a need to develop ocean policy expertise through human resource development programs. Institutional capacity development involves providing support from internal and external sources to advance the design, implementation, and evaluation of ocean legislation, including the development of implementation strategies such as intergovernmental and

cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms and conduct of targeted research and development projects. At the societal level, capacity building involves the development of public awareness and empowerment to be able to take part in decision-making in ocean governance.

Ultimately, to be successful, the good practice principles of capacity building need to be followed which, in spite of their context-specificity and complexity, are clear. Similarly, sufficient resources (both skills and money) need to be set aside as it is a long process, institutional and societal. Only within this understanding and framework will sufficient capacity be built and lead to efficient and effective ocean governance. This will involve risk and demand courage and requires that government, private organizations, local civil society organizations, international non-governmental organizations, and donors take responsibility for addressing their contributions to capacity building.

- Ali Mohammed and James Kamula, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Coastal and Marine Coordination Unit (COSMAR) Secretariat, from Draft assessment, June 15, 2007

The Global Forum has organized eight regional capacity assessments related to ocean and coastal management to examine:

1. Gaps and problems in capacity and determine their relative importance to current and future ocean governance initiatives, including national and regional integrated policy development
2. The presence (or absence) of university formal programs related to ocean and coastal management in countries in the region, as well as needs for enhancing these
3. The presence (or absence) of informal programs of ocean and coastal management targeted to decision-makers in countries in the region, as well as the needs for enhancing such programs
4. Approaches to institutionalizing "Extension" services at the community/local level for problem-solving and community education regarding ocean and coastal resources
5. Strategic solutions to the identified gaps and needs through the development of an implementation strategy for capacity building in the regions, including funding sources

The following assessments have been carried out or are nearing completion:

- Four rapid assessments on the specific steps that can be taken to rapidly implement the Mauritius Strategy (2005) in four SIDS regions including assessing the associated capacity development needs (see discussion and report titles in the section on SIDS);
- A capacity assessment on ocean and coastal management by the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Nations (CPLP) (8 nations) (see details in Box 8);

Assessment of Needs in Capacity Development for Ocean and Coastal Management in the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Nations

Community of Portuguese-speaking Nations (CPLP) (2006)

- Regional capacity assessments on integrated ocean and coastal management in Africa, East Asia, and Latin America.

Assessment of East Asia's Capacity Building in Oceans and Coastal Governance PEMSEA, UNESCO-IOC, and the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, (2007)

Assessment of Africa's Capacity Building Needs for the Development and Implementation of Ecosystem-based Ocean Governance

Ali Mohammed and James Kamula, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Coastal and Marine Coordination Unit (COSMAR) Secretariat (in draft)

Capacity Assessment in Ocean and Coastal Management in Latin America

Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), Mexico, and Patricia Muñoz, National Polytechnic Institute (IPN), Mexico (Assessment underway)

The next step in this process is for the Working Group on Capacity Building to develop a global strategy for action in capacity development to be formulated in consultation with a variety of key stakeholders, including donors. While this process is ongoing, it is clear that the process of self-evaluation involved in the regional capacity assessments may also itself lead to initiatives in the region and to South-to-South cooperation in capacity development. This has taken place, for example, in the context of the 8 Portuguese-speaking nations as noted in Box 8.



Box 8. South-to-South Cooperation on Capacity Development among 8 Portuguese Speaking Nations

The Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) organized the first-ever workshop on *The Seas of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries* during the Global Forum's The Ocean Policy Summit (October 10-14, 2005), to identify the common needs of its member states--Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, and East Timor-- in the development of national ocean policies as a major strategy for strengthening their national economies as well as their external relations. The total area of the Exclusive Economic Zones of the member States of the CPLP is approximately 10 million sq. km, and for centuries the histories of these countries have been closely related to the oceans, rendering their oceans as a major cultural and socio-economic asset.

The workshop *The Seas of the CPLP*, which took place on October 10, 2005, constituted a historic meeting where high level representatives of the CPLP Member States discussed, for the first time, the sustainable management of oceans; prioritized common major issues on oceans management; and identified avenues for cross-national collaboration to address these issues. The participants drew up an action plan for enhanced cooperation among member states, including the holding of a high-level officials workshop for raising awareness on oceans management.

The Government of Brazil subsequently hosted a Ministerial-level workshop for the CPLP, held in Brasilia on May 24-26, 2006, which resulted in a Framework of Cooperation on the Environment among CPLP Member States. The framework represents a renewal of the commitments made by the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries to multilateral environmental agreements, particularly the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Millennium Development Goals. In addition, the CPLP Framework of Cooperation on the Environment gives priority to the implementation of existing institutional arrangements already in place, particularly in respect to the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building, the UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, and the GEF International Waters Program.

The workshop participants agreed that a fruitful cooperation among CPLP nations could be achieved in the areas noted below with different countries taking responsibility for serving as the lead on the issue:



- Biodiversity
- Combating desertification and Mitigation of the Effects of Drought
- Ecotourism
- Environmental Education
- Ocean and Coastal Management
- Waste Management
- Integrated Water Resources Management
- Climate Change and Renewable Energies.

The Framework will be implemented in various ways, including through:

- Exchange of information;
- Professional enhancement, through training courses, student exchange and academic programs;
- Strengthening environmental management programs;
- Implementation of joint projects in each of the thematic areas included in this Framework;
- Exchange of technicians, consultants and researchers;
- Organization of seminars, symposia and conferences; and
- Provision of equipment and other necessary materials for the accomplishment of specific projects.

Implementation of the Framework is already underway with a specific two-year agreement with funding between Brazil and Cape Verde to provide support for Cape Verde in capacity building, training, methodologies, and publications related to integrated management of coastal shores and to oil spill prevention.

Oceans Strategy Workshop for SIDS
TOPS 2005 The Ocean Policy Summit
October 14, 2005

The Global Forum organized the Oceans Strategy Workshop, which was attended by 60 participants, including 22 SIDS participants and 21 lecturers and resource persons. The workshop covered the areas of integrated ocean governance, with a focus on upstream (land-based sources) and downstream governance (continental shelf and Exclusive Economic Zone governance), and the importance of linking initiatives at both ends of the governance spectrum. The workshop aimed to increase awareness among participants on Exclusive Economic Zone and continental shelf delimitation and management; multilateral environmental agreements negotiations; and implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, and to provide an opportunity for discussion of issues and opportunities related to the workshop topics

**Collaborative Activities with IW:LEARN in
Enhancing Replication of Project Outcomes through
GEF IW projects**

The Global Forum and the UNDP/UNEP/WB-GEF International Waters Learning, Exchange, and Resource Network Program (IW:LEARN) are collaborating in a number of capacity development activities: 1) supporting the work of the Oceans Training Partnership (UNEP/GPA, UNDOALOS, UNDP/GEF, International Ocean Institute, IW:LEARN, UNESCO-IHE, Global Forum) especially in implementing a framework for the electronic posting of existing courses administered by the various partners; 2) Internet dissemination of best practices and lessons learned from the Global Forum GEF/MSP, other Global Forum initiatives, and GEF International Water projects.



6. Linking the Management of Freshwater and Oceans and Coasts

All the Millennium Development Goals – reducing poverty, hunger, diseases, and environmental degradation – depend on water for their achievement. That in turn calls for Integrated Water Resources Management, and because water is an integral system, we must marry Chapter 18 of Agenda 21 on freshwater resources, to Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 on oceans and coasts, and similarly, we must bring together the water and oceans communities. The Global Forum is well poised to bring these two communities together.

-- Dr. Torkil Jønch-Clausen, King Hassan II
Prize Awardee, 2006 World Water Forum,
Mexico City, October 17, 2006, Beijing

2005-2007 (GEF/MSP):

Due to interrelated natural processes, what happens upstream affects the downstream environment and vice-versa. In order to preserve overall system integrity, it is imperative to link management measures regarding oceans and coasts to the improved management of river basins and watersheds to insure that development activities upstream are planned and implemented with full knowledge of the potential impacts to the ecosystems and economic activities and livelihoods in the coastal and marine areas. The costs of inaction are high. It is known from river rehabilitation practices that the costs of ignoring upstream-downstream management linkages have been enormous—the costs of rehabilitation are much higher than the costs of prevention.

However, it is difficult, in practice, to connect the management of freshwater, with the management of coasts and oceans since decisions about these areas generally take place in different institutions and by different actors. There has also generally been little systematic contact between the technical and policy communities in freshwater and oceans.

One of the goals of the GEF/MSP project was to foster dialogue, and eventually partnerships, with global water institutions, such as the Global Water Partnership, the World Water Council, the Swedish International Water Institute, others. In the period 2005-2007, the Global Forum thus spent considerable effort to insert an oceans aspect in important global water gatherings (such as the World Water Forum and the Stockholm World Water Week) as well as to bring freshwater perspectives into oceans fora such as the 2006 global oceans conference. In related action, the Global Forum worked with UNEP/GPA in the preparations for the Second Intergovernmental Review

Meeting of the UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (IGR-2), especially in the preparation of IGR-2 partnerships.

Working Group on Linking Management of Freshwater and Oceans

The Global Forum organized a Freshwater to Oceans Working Group to focus especially on the implementation of the UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and on best practices in linking watersheds to oceans. The Task Force is composed of experts in both watershed management and in integrated coastal and ocean management from various organizations and regions. The activities of the Global Forum and of the Freshwater to Oceans Working Group to foster dialogue with the global water community and to work on the IGR-2 are summarized in Box 9.

The Global Forum also developed a new partnership with UNEP/GPA and other partners that was featured at the IGR-2 in Beijing in October 2006. The partnership, entitled ***Advancing the WSSD Targets on Ecosystem Management and on Integrated Coastal Management through the GPA: Global Reporting and Case Studies***, will involve the preparation of a global report on the status and trends in the implementation of policy initiatives in ecosystem management, and integrated coastal and ocean management, based on collaboration with national authorities (on a voluntary basis), national experts, regional organizations, UN organizations, and other expert entities. This report will be featured at the 2008 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands in Vietnam (discussed later in this report). The conference will bring together experts from around the world to explicitly focus on the progress being achieved and obstacles faced in the implementation of ecosystem management and integrated coastal and ocean management. Following the Global Conference, the report will be revised to incorporate additional data and information gleaned from case studies presented at the conference, and will be issued in final form in early 2010, as a summary report on the fulfilment of the JPOI 2010 goal of achieving ecosystem management and integrated coastal and ocean management.

Box 9. Activities of the Global Forum and of the Working Group on Freshwater and Oceans to Connect Freshwater and Ocean Management Processes

The Working Group organized the ***International Workshop on Freshwater-Coastal-Marine Management Interlinkages***, held on January 10-11, 2006 in Mexico City, sponsored by the GEF/MSP *Fostering a Global Dialogue on Oceans, Coasts, and SIDS, and on Freshwater-Coastal-Marine Interlinkages* in collaboration with IOC, the Consejo Consultivo del Agua, Mexico, SEMARNAT, Mexico, Centro EPOMEX, the Global Forum, UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) and other collaborating organizations. Thirty-nine (39) experts from 29 countries participated in the workshop.

The Working Group organized a panel session and stakeholder dialogue sessions on linking freshwater-to-oceans initiatives at the ***Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands***, held in UNESCO, Paris, France, January 23-28, 2006, and made preparations for the second Intergovernmental Review of the UNEP-GPA (IGR-2) held on October 16-20, 2006, in Beijing, People's Republic of China.

A session on ***Management Link for Freshwater and Coasts--Progress in Local Actions*** organized by the UNEP/GPA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Global Forum was held at the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico City on March 18, 2006, which aimed to promote integrated watershed and coastal management through the UNEP-GPA framework, partnerships and other approaches.

Another session on ***Strengthening Cross-cutting Schemes Toward the Integrated Management of Rivers and Coasts*** organized by SEMARNAT General Directorship for



Environmental Policy, Regional and Sectoral Integration, and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), was held at the 4th World Water Forum on March 18, 2006, which promoted crosscutting interventions along the watershed to protect coastal areas from land-based sources of pollution, and highlighted the need for integrated watershed and coastal management.

Together with the Stakeholder Forum, the Global Forum produced a set of newsletters, *GPA Outreach*, related to UNEP-GPA and IGR-2 during the Stockholm World Water Week (August 2006). The newsletters featured a number of partnerships that were presented during Partnerships Day at IGR-2.

The Global Forum also collaborated with the Stakeholder Forum on a GPA Event at the World Water Week on *Developing Solutions to Protect the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities: Stakeholder Consultation*, August 22, 2006, Stockholm. In preparation for IGR-2, this side event brought together stakeholders from around the world to discuss issues threatening the marine environment. Participants were given the opportunity to comment on the draft Beijing Declaration on furthering the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities produced during the IGR-2.

The Global Forum participated in the *11th Global Water Partnership Consulting Partners Meeting and 10th Anniversary Celebration held on August 18-20, 2006 in Stockholm, Sweden, and in the 2006 World Water Week also in Stockholm, August 20-26, 2006*, where several potential collaborators were identified in an effort to promote the development of a collaborative relationship between the Global Forum and water-related institutions.

In particular, collaboration was established with the Danish Hydraulic Institute Water and Environment Group and the UNEP Collaborating Centre on Water and Environment (UCC-Water), focusing on: 1) Work on the GWP IWRM Tool Box to strengthen the integrated ocean and coastal management tools available for both IWRM and integrated ocean and coastal management (ICM) users; 2) Plan the conduct of a series of case studies on freshwater to oceans linkages in several regions of the world; 3) Conduct demonstrations on the use of the enhanced IWRM tool box in the several forthcoming freshwater and ocean workshops/meetings; 4) Collaborate in the planning of the content of freshwater to oceans activities at forthcoming global water and global oceans events, including the World Water Forum, and the Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands.

7. Policy Analyses, Publications, and Information Services

The Global Forum produces a broad variety of policy analyses, publications, and information services, including an electronic newsletter and other online information, with the goal of providing relevant and timely information about integrated ocean policy to the global oceans community, with a particular emphasis on decision-makers.

See Box 10 for a list of publications.

Box 10. Publications and Internet Services by the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

1. *Meeting the Commitments on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development: How Well Are We Doing?* Co-chairs' Report – Volume 1 (2006)
2. *Reports from the Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Moving the Global Oceans Agenda Forward*, Co-Chairs' Report – Volume 2 (2006)
3. *Small Islands, Large Ocean States: A Review of Ocean and Coastal Management in Small Island Developing States since the 1994 Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)* (2005)
4. *Island Bellwether: Climate Change and Energy Policy Strategy for Small Island Developing States* (2005)
5. *Mobilizing for Implementation of the Commitments Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States*
– Co-Chairs' Report of the 2003 Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, UNESCO, Paris, November 12-14, 2003 and Subsequent Developments (May 2004)
6. *Global Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Small Island Developing States* (2004)
7. *Voluntary Partnership Initiatives from the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and Small Island Developing States* (2003) (also in Spanish)
8. *A Guide to Oceans, Coasts and Islands at the World Summit on Sustainable Development: Integrated Management from Hilltops to Oceans* (2002)
9. *Ensuring the Sustainable Development of Oceans and Coasts: A Call to Action*. Co-Chairs' Report, the Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10, Paris, UNESCO, December 3-7, 2001 (2001)

10. **Ministerial Perspectives on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10** (2001)

11. **Reports of the Conference Working Groups**, The Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10, Paris, UNESCO, December 3-7, 2001 (2001)

12. **Internet services:** www.globaloceans.org provides a variety of information services on global, regional, and national developments related to oceans, coasts, and islands

13. **Global Forum Newsletter**, an electronic newsletter, is published periodically (available on www.globaloceans.org)

8. Outreach to the Public

2001-2007:

The Global Forum has organized ocean events especially aimed at decisionmakers and is collaborating with the World Ocean Network in the creation and dissemination of information on global oceans issues to the public.

Ocean Events

The Global Forum hosts side events at nearly all relevant international conferences and meetings that focus on the global agenda on oceans, coasts, and SIDS. For example, the Global Forum has convened side events at the 20th Anniversary of the Law of the Sea, the 3rd World Water Forum, the United Nations Open-Ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea, Commission on Sustainable Development meetings, and at the January 2005 Mauritius International Meeting for Small Island Developing States.

Outreach to the Public Through Museums and Aquaria

The Global Forum recognizes the importance of increasing public awareness of the global agenda on oceans, coasts, and island to advance the global oceans agenda. Since 2002, the Global



Forum has enjoyed a close collaboration with NAUSICAA (Centre National de la Mer, France), also the organizer of World Ocean Network (WON) (the network of museums, aquaria, and ocean learning centers around the world). With WON and NAUSICAA and with funding from the

GEF/MSP, the Global Forum is preparing and disseminating a package of public information materials highlighting global oceans issues and demonstrating how individual citizens can make a difference in achieving sustainable development of oceans.

The WON and NAUSICAA have developed a long-range plan (to 2015) with a framework for public information activities in support of Global Forum goals and objectives (see figure on opposite page).

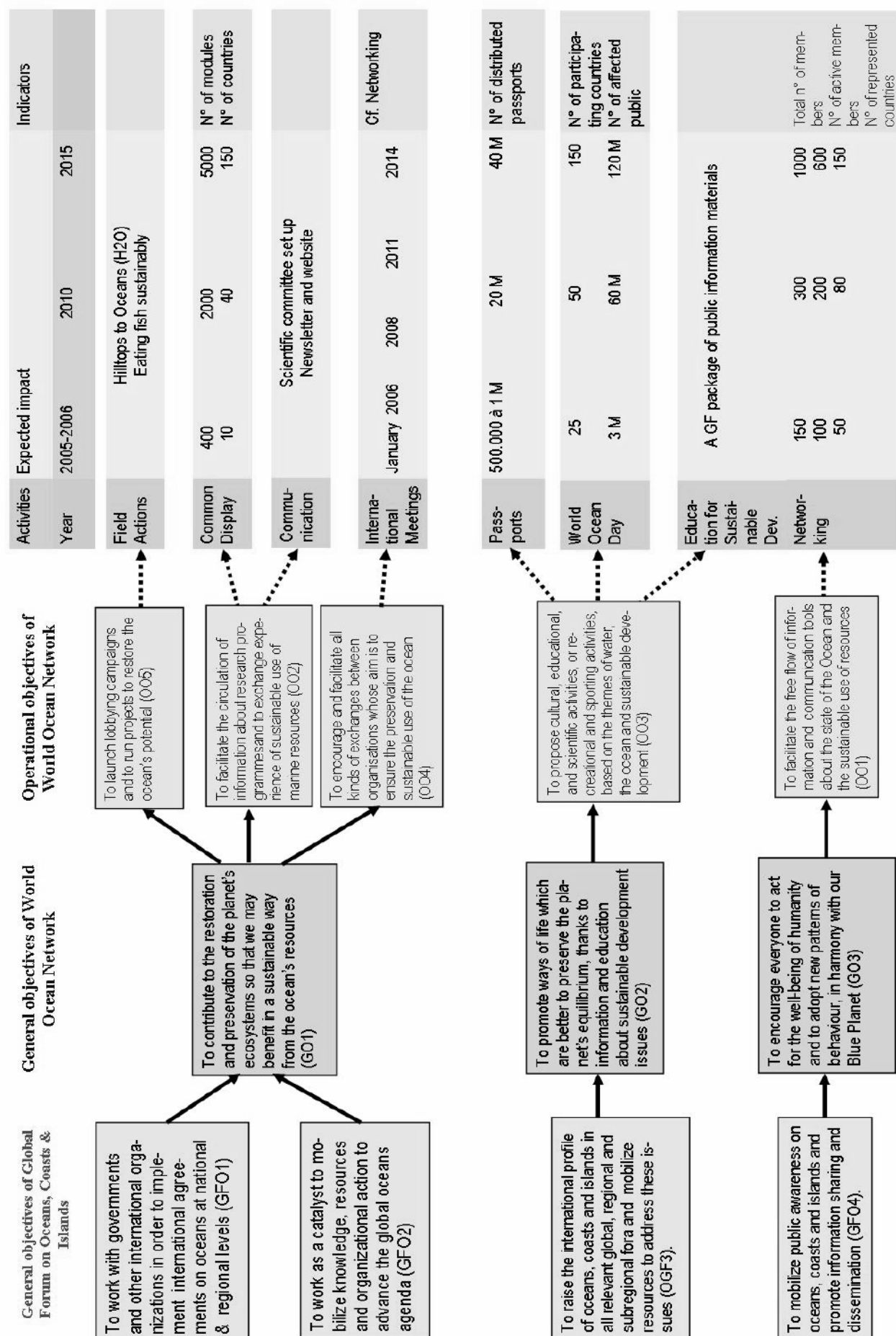
Safeguarding the potential of the world's ocean is an immense collective and individual challenge for all citizens of the Blue Planet. The oceans sustain livelihoods of all inhabitants of the Earth. It is only natural that all citizens, and not only decisionmakers, should be involved in stewardship and governance of the oceans. The role of the general public is two-fold: To participate actively in policy-making and to adapt their everyday behaviour towards a sustainable way of life. Without a strong public awareness of human connectedness with the marine environment and a strong sense of common maritime identity, no policy will succeed.

The role that aquaria, science centres, natural science museums, and zoos can play makes them an important asset. Visited by more than 200 million people every year, our institutions are situated at a crossroads where several worlds converge: The world of politics, scientists and professionals, the world of mass media, and general public institutions. We are ideally placed to explain the complexities of maritime issues, inform the public about sustainable policies, make new laws more easily accepted, involve people in their implementation, and find out what the general public really thinks and needs.

- Philippe Vallette, General Manager, NAUSICAA (Centre National de la Mer, France), and Co-Chair, World Ocean Network, June 24, 2007, New York

Directory of Non-Governmental Organizations Involved in Oceans, Coasts, and SIDS

This directory provides concise information on about 500 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) around the world that are involved in furthering the agenda of the World Summit on Sustainable Development regarding oceans, coasts, and small island developing States. The Directory is web-based to make it widely accessible and for ease in updating existing NGO information and adding new organizations. It will be located at the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands website: www.globaloceans.org.



III. FUTURE DIRECTIONS: GLOBAL FORUM ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2007-2009, AND STRATEGIC PLANNING TO 2016

2005-2007:

Strategic Planning on the Global Oceans Agenda, 2006-2016

In late 2006, the Global Forum began a strategic planning effort to chart strategic activities, which could be undertaken together with governments, the United Nations, NGOs, industry, and scientific groups to advance the global oceans agenda over the next ten-year period, to 2017. The first step was the development of a draft calendar of major events and opportunities for policy decisions (by the United Nations and other parties) related to oceans, coasts, small island developing States, and freshwater taking place over the next decade, as well as tentative Global Forum policy analyses and multistakeholder workshops/global conferences in response to and/or in anticipation of such opportunities. The next steps in the strategic planning are to be carried out through 14 Working Groups, as explained below.

Working Groups have or are being organized on the following major themes, which are based on the WSSD targets on oceans, coasts, and small island developing States:

Theme 1. Achieving Ecosystem Management and Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management by 2010 in the Context of Climate Change

Theme 2. Climate, Oceans, and Security: Addressing Impacts in Vulnerable Ecosystems and in Vulnerable Coastal Communities

Theme 3. Addressing the Governance of Marine Ecosystems and Uses in Areas Beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction

Working Groups will involve experts from developing countries, developed countries, countries with economies in transition, SIDS, governments, NGOs, international organizations, industry, and scientific groups, to ensure input from a variety of perspectives.

Working Groups will be starting off discussions based on recommendations emanating from the outcomes of the previous multi-stakeholder dialogues conducted at the global conferences, particularly those contained in the 2006 report on *Meeting the Commitments on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development: How Well Are We Doing?*.

The results of Working Group deliberations and a draft Global Oceans Agenda for 2007-2017 will be presented at:

- The 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, to be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on April 7-11, 2008
- The World Ocean Conference, Manado, Indonesia, May 11-15, 2009
- Other appropriate international venues

Global Forum Activities Planned for 2007-2009

4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

April 7-11, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam

The Global Forum has focused on the issues and problems related to the sustainable development and use of the ocean and coastal areas, particularly related to the well-being of coastal communities in the developing world. These are major issues in Vietnam, and the Government of Vietnam is very pleased to be the host of the 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, to be held April 7-11, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam. Through the conference, the Global Forum will bring those concerned about the world's oceans to Vietnam, allowing them to experience its beauty and significance as a vital coastal nation.

- Nguyen Chu Hoi, Director, Institute of Fisheries Economics and Planning, Ministry of Fisheries, Vietnam, May 14, 2007, Hanoi

The 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, Advancing Ecosystem Management and Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management by 2010 in the Context of Climate Change, to be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, April 7-11, 2008, will mobilize high-level policy attention, topical working groups, analytical papers, and other contributions to provide a review of progress achieved (or lack thereof) in advancing ecosystem management and integrated coastal and ocean management by 2010 at national and regional (transboundary) levels,



and in the 64% of the ocean beyond national jurisdiction, and on the allied goals of reducing marine biodiversity loss by 2010 and of establishing networks of marine

protected areas by 2012 (goals adopted by the world's political leaders at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development). These goals are considered in the context of climate change, which, as indicated in the 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), will have profound effects on ecosystems and coastal populations around the world.

World Ocean Conference

May 11-15, 2009, Manado, Indonesia

At the 2009 World Ocean Conference, high-level political leaders and other eminent persons will focus on the specific actions and initiatives that should be taken by the international community to address the policy recommendations developed at the 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands in Hanoi. This conference is being organized by the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and the Government of North Sulawesi, in collaboration with the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, and other international partners.

Bringing together the high-level leaders around the world in an informal way, in the Global Conferences and in the Ministerial Roundtable, has been very useful in broadening the debate to include the perspectives of developing nations, developed nations, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry, and civil society, and has helped to inspire Indonesia to take a leading role in global ocean affairs by convening the World Ocean Conference in 2009 which will be organized in coordination with the Global Forum.

--Indroyono Soesilo, Chair, Agency for Marine and Fisheries Research, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia

Governance of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

As a follow-up on the recommendations emanating from the discussion of the Working Group on Governance of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction at the 2006 Global Conference, the following activities are planned:

Assemblage of Existing Information on Governance of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

July-October 2007

Workshop on Scoping and Strategic Planning

October 2007 (tentative)

Policy Analyses and Workshop on Governance of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction: Ecosystems and Uses

Policy Analyses: October 2007-March 2008

Workshop: April 4, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam (in conjunction with the 4th Global Conference)

Policy Analyses and Workshop on Governance of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction: Management Issues and Policy Options

Policy Analyses: May-September 2008

Workshop: October 2008 (tentative)

Ministerial, Donors, and Industry Roundtables

The engagement of high-level policy officials, industry, and donors will be essential in developing the planning strategy to advance the global oceans agenda by 2016.

To prepare for this process of engaging these important actors, the Global Forum has organized three Roundtables to encourage the engagement of high-level officials, funding agencies, and the private sector in addressing global oceans, coastal, and SIDS issues.

Ministerial Roundtable

3rd Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands January 23-28, 2006, UNESCO, Paris, France

Two High-Level Informal Ministerial Roundtable sessions at the Global Conference brought together 19 high-level government representatives to share their perspectives on the global oceans agenda in separate informal sessions. The Informal Roundtables aimed to foster the development, in the long-run, of a High-Level Government Leaders Oceans Roundtable, that could meet periodically to further the development of strategic and cross-cutting approaches to enhancing oceans governance at global, regional, and national levels. Participating ministers and high-level government officials agreed that there is general consensus on the global agenda for the sustainable development of ocean and coastal areas and small island developing States. They underlined the importance and need for a strong global leadership to ensure the coordination and successful implementation of the agenda's programs and actions.

The ministers strongly supported the informal scope of the Ministerial Roundtables as a rare and exceptional opportunity for ministers and high-level government officials from developed as well as developing states to actually discuss and interact with each other on major oceans issues without the pressure of making official declarations or statements.

Ocean Donors Roundtable

1) TOPS 2005 The Ocean Policy Summit

October 10-14, 2005, Lisbon, Portugal

2) Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

January 23-28, 2006, UNESCO, Paris, France

The Global Forum organized the Ocean Donors Roundtable to bring together public and private donors on oceans to: 1) share information on existing funding programs on oceans, 2) consider global needs for funding for ocean conservation and management efforts, 3) discuss alternatives for filling gaps in global oceans funding, 4) possibly devise approaches for public-private funding for global ocean priorities.



The first meeting of the Ocean Donors Roundtable was held on October 10, 2005 in Lisbon, Portugal, as a parallel event of TOPS 2005 The Ocean Policy Summit. The meeting involved a dialogue between 17 public and private donors. The group highlighted that country requirements have to be articulated through specific requests to donors and that resources need to be available for implementation. The group also identified some emerging conclusions on this issue, including that oceans are a priority and that this message needs to be communicated to policy makers and funding agencies. Roundtable participants noted that a strategy is needed to engage the media, public, and think tanks, and underscored the need to link funding with other initiatives addressing poverty, economic growth, and business promotion. In the ensuing discussion, participants discussed the need for: developing countries to seek donors' assistance and place oceans on their development agenda; private partnerships to become the foundation for funding large-scale projects; project proposals that meet local and government priorities; clarity on how to prioritize oceans-related funding; and an examination of the criteria applied in helping protect marine resources, especially in SIDS.

The Oceans Donors Roundtable held a meeting on January 23, 2006, UNESCO, Paris. Among a number of topics discussed to address the scaling up of funding for ocean issues, the Group discussed a possible on-going role for such a group and its possible comparative advantage as the only meeting of donors, from both the public and private sector, directed at oceans, coasts and SIDS. It was recognized that although donor agencies may have innovative approaches to financing, they are not agenda setters, but responsive to the global agenda which has been set and to which governments are committed (e.g., Millennium Development Goals, WSSD Plan of Implementation), and that donors should bear this agenda in mind.

Business and Industry Leaders Roundtable

1) TOPS 2005 The Ocean Policy Summit

October 10-14, 2005, Lisbon, Portugal

2) Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

January 23-28, 2006, UNESCO, Paris, France

The Global Forum organized the Business and Industry Leaders Roundtable to bring together key leaders from ocean industries around the world. The Roundtable is expected to address: 1) the contribution of each major ocean industry to the global economy, 2) the trends and challenges each major ocean industry will be facing in the next decade, 3) in particular, the environmental and social challenges each ocean industry will be facing, 4) approaches to addressing the emerging environmental and social challenges ocean industries will be facing, and 5) the possible involvement of industry interests in the implementation of the global oceans agenda and in the work of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands.

At the first meeting of the Business and Industry Leaders Roundtable held at TOPS 2005 The Ocean Policy Summit on October 12, 2005 in Lisbon, Portugal, representatives



from the range of ocean and coastal business and industries present shared their perspectives on the existing and potential contribution of the private sector to the sustainable development of oceans and coasts. The primary purpose of the Roundtable is to



support the sustainable development of the oceans through the role of the private sector. Business and industry representatives at the Roundtable were clear that they were concerned about their responsibility to shareholders, to customers, to stakeholders, and their

responsibility as employers and users of ocean areas and resources. The participants agreed that the Roundtable was a useful means for bringing together the private sector and global ocean stakeholders to build relationships and understanding. Through the Roundtable, participants hoped to generate dialogue on issues such as globalization and technology changes, science and best practices, and linking policy and practice.

In addition to building relationships among sectors and between the private sector and oceans stakeholders, participants suggested a potential framework for moving forward. Participants thought it might be helpful to focus on a particular theme in each future meeting (e.g. certification, NGO partnerships) so as to direct the dialogue and outcomes to targeted areas identified by participants. Participants felt the Roundtable would be a useful means for documenting and sharing best practices in sustainable development of the oceans. The Roundtable could also be a vehicle for engaging business and industry on ocean issues by going to business and industry meetings to 'market' the issues identified by the group.

The Roundtable organized a panel on Ocean Industries during the 2006 Global Conference, which focused on the importance of industry responsibility of sustainable practices. In addition, the necessity of building cross-sectoral partnerships among business and ocean leaders is of utmost importance. The panel highlighted several industries which have implemented sustainable practices and which focus on the protection of biodiversity in the oceans. Industries are working on protecting the oceans from pollution and improving industry standards as well as working with environmental organizations to achieve sustainability goals. Higher quality standards for a variety of products and environmental standards among corporations is a consensus of many industries. The panel called for multiple stakeholder interaction where protection of the oceans is concerned including further industry educa-



tion. The value of ocean industries is high and further sustainability measures are recommended.

The Business and Industry Leaders Roundtable held a meeting on January 24, 2006 at UNESCO in Paris in conjunction with the 2006 Global Conference.

The Roundtable Meeting, following the panel session highlighted sustainable development practices of various industries, and emphasized the value of ocean industries globally, regionally, nationally, and discussed the desirability of producing a report on the contribution of ocean industries to the global economy.



GLOBAL FORUM ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands is governed by the following:

1. Three Co-Chairs:

Co-Chairs, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands:

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2. The Steering Committee of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

The Steering Committee is comprised of 90 ocean leaders from the governmental, intergovernmental, and non-governmental sectors from all regions of the world (please see list in Appendix 1).

The Steering Committee provides policy guidance for the current and future activities of the Global Forum

3. The Secretariat of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

The Secretariat of the Global Forum is the International Coastal and Ocean Organization (ICO), an international nongovernmental organization accredited to the United Nations roster for the UN Commission on Sustainable Development since 1993, and granted Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in July 2006. ICO is registered as a non-profit and tax-exempt organization (501 (c) (3) in the State of

Massachusetts, USA. ICO has been the Secretariat of the Global Forum since 2004.

ICO is governed by an international Board of Directors, noted by a double asterisk in the List of Steering Committee members in the Appendix. All members of the ICO Board of Directors are also members of the Steering Committee of the Global Forum. The ICO Board of Directors provides operational guidance for ICO as the Secretariat of the Global Forum.

ICO is hosted at the Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy, University of Delaware, USA. Center researchers, together with partners around the world, coordinate the analytical functions of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, the preparation of policy analyses on the implementation of global oceans agreements, and the conduct of the Global Forum's global conferences, publications, and educational activities.

Contact Information

For additional information on the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands or to become engaged in Global Forum activities, please contact the Global Forum Secretariat.

Global Forum Secretariat

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Dr. Miriam Balgos, Program Coordinator
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Appendix: Steering Committee, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

CO-CHAIRS

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Patricio A. Bernal**, Executive-Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO, Paris, France

Veerle Vandeweerd**, Head, Regional Seas Programme, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Coordinator, Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, The Hague, Netherlands

GOVERNMENTAL

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Nguyen Chu Hoi, Director, Institute of Fisheries Economics and Planning, Ministry of Fisheries, Vietnam

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Caroline Hart, Department of Conservation, New Zealand

Elie Jarmache, Chargé de Mission, Secrétariat Général de la Mer, France

Magnus Johannesson, Secretary-General, Ministry for the Environment, Iceland

Ambassador Jagdish Koonjul, Mauritius, former Chair, Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

Tom Laughlin, Deputy Director, International Affairs Office, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA

Haiqing Li, Director, International Affairs, State Oceanic Administration (SOA), China

John Low, Adviser to the Minister of Marine Resources for the Cook Islands

Rejoice Mabudafhasi, Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, South Africa

Jan Mees, Director, Flanders Marine Institute, Belgium

Guillermo Garcia Montero, President, National Aquarium, Havana, Cuba

Magnus Ngoile** Team Leader, Marine and Coastal Environmental Management Project (MACEMP), Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Tanzania*

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Mario Ruivo, Intersectoral Oceanographic Commission, Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, Portugal
Gi-Jun Han and Won-Tae Shin, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Republic of Korea

Indroyono Soesilo, Chairman, Agency for Marine and Fisheries Research, Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia
Ambassador Enele S. Sopoaga, Tuvalu, former Vice-Chair, Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

Chris Tompkins, Policy Adviser, Marine and Waterways Division, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), UK

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Serge Garcia, Director, Marine Fisheries Resources Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

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Vaclav Mikulka, Director, UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

Ali Mohamed, Coordinator, Coastal and Marine Secretariat, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Kenya

Satya Nandan, Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority, Jamaica

Tiago Pitta e Cunha, Member, Cabinet of Fisheries and Maritime Commissioner, European Commission

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Diane Quarless, Chief, Small Island Developing States Unit, UNDESA

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Gregor Hodgson, Director, Reef Check

Paul Holthus, Executive Director and President, Marine Aquarium Council, Hawaii

Gunnar Kullenberg, Independent Consultant and former Director, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

Carl Lundin, Head, IUCN Marine Programme

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Gerald Miles, The Nature Conservancy, Pacific Region, Brisbane, Australia

Iouri Oliouline, Executive Director, International Ocean Institute, Malta

Pietro Parravano, President, Institute for Fisheries Resources, World Fisheries Forum

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Alan Simcock, former Executive Director, OSPAR, and former Co-Chair, UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

Kristian Teleki, International Coral Reef Action Network, Switzerland

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Grant Trebble, African Marine and Coastal Resource Over-exploitation Prevention Strategy (AMCROPS), South Africa

Philippe Vallette** and **Manuel Cira**, NAUSICAA (Centre National de la Mer), France, and the World Ocean Network

David VanderZwaag, IUCN Specialist Group on Ocean Law and Governance

* Please note: Members of the Steering Committee participate in their individual capacities.

** Member, Board of Directors, International Coastal and Ocean Organization (Secretariat of the Global Forum)

Invitation to Participate

Ocean leaders from governments, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, international and intergovernmental organizations, foundations, and scientific groups, are kindly invited to express their interest in working with the Global Forum and in noting the various kinds of contributions (such as organizational, financial, knowledge, connections to networks, artistic expression, contributions) they are prepared to make in the common cause of achieving sustainable development of oceans, coasts, and islands, by contacting the Co-Chairs.

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