



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات

政府间海洋学委员会

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To : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC

cc. : Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO and
National Commissions for UNESCO in Member States of IOCARIBE
Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of Major IOC Subsidiary Bodies
(Scientific, Technical and Regional)
Partner Organizations in the region

Subject: Regional Kick-off Conference for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021–2030 for the Tropical Americas Region (online 16–17 December 2021)

The IOC-UNESCO Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE) together with UN, International and Regional Agencies and Partners are organizing the Conference under the auspices of the Government of Barbados through its Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Blue Economy and its Coastal Zone Management Unit, and the Government of Colombia through the Colombian Ocean Commission.

The Regional Kickoff Conference will mark the launch of the UN Ocean Decade in the Tropical Americas. Join us to explore and consider the emerging transformative ocean science solutions resulting from the two-year co-design process.

The first day (16 December 2021) will be dedicated to review the proposed transformative ocean science solutions and assess the value, feasibility and priority of the potential Regional Ocean Decade Actions.

The second day (17 December 2021) will highlight emerging regional engagement in co-designing partnerships for Regional Ocean Decade Actions and mobilize contributions and expressions of interest by UN and regional agencies, governments, industry and private sectors, and other stakeholder groups.

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The Regional Kickoff Conference will represent the beginning of the region-wide efforts in a substantive development and implementation of Decade Actions. It aims to catalyze partnerships among various ocean stakeholder communities in the region and to co-design transformative ocean science solutions to the Ocean Decade Challenges in order to achieve the Ocean Decade Outcomes and Sustainable Development Goals. Visit the Ocean Decade website at <https://www.oceandecade.org/> and the conference website at <https://oceanexpert.org/event/3335>.

We invite you to register at the Regional Kickoff Conference registration site (<http://iocaribe.ioc-unesco.org/rkoc>). You will receive confirmation and instructions for participating. The working languages for the Regional Kickoff Conference will be English, Spanish and French. Should you have any questions concerning the Conference, please contact Cesar Toro (c.toro@unesco.org); cc: Patricia Wills (p.wills-velez@unesc.org).

I count on your participation and collaboration and remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary