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Commission

United Nations Ocean Conference

June 2025 | Nice, France

Conference / Pre-Conference Events: 3 – 13 June 2025



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One Ocean Science
Congress
3 – 6 June (Nice)

Blue Economy &
Finance Forum (BEFF)
7-8 June (Monaco)

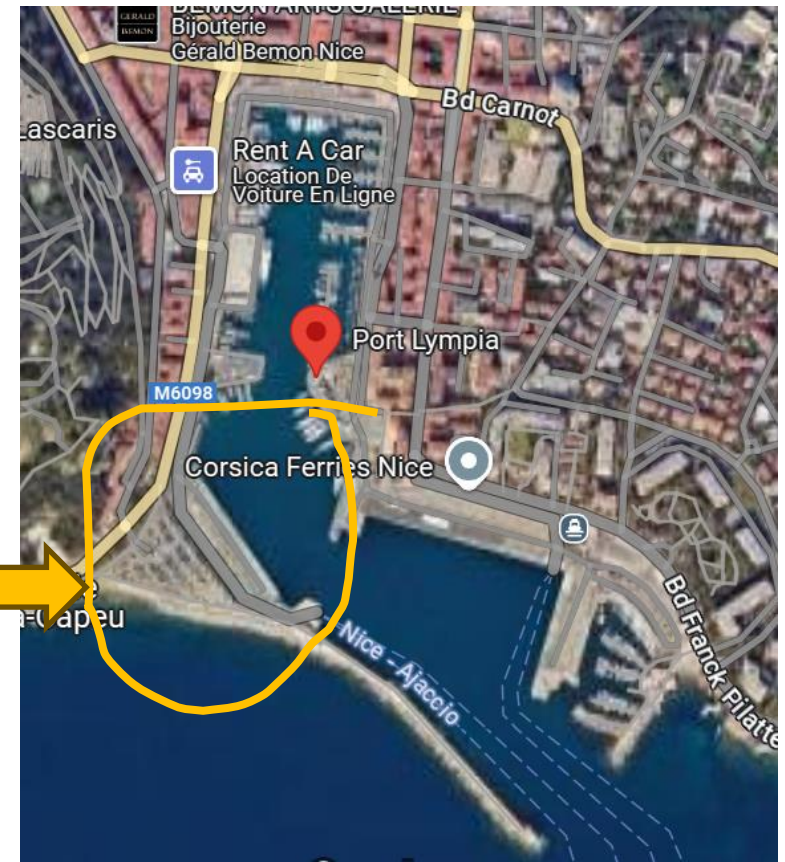
2025 United Nations Ocean Conference
9 – 13 June (Nice)

Coastal Rise &
Resilience
Summit
7 June (Nice)

Conference theme: Accelerating action and mobilizing all actors to conserve and sustainably use the ocean

Conference aim: stocktaking progress towards SDG14 and support further and urgent action to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and identify further ways and means to support the implementation of SDG 14

**Blue Zone =
formal
conference
venue**



EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR IOC & APPROACH TO IOC ENGAGEMENT



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The desired outcome of UNOC for IOC is to advance ocean science and knowledge as a basis for action in line with our mandate & strategic priorities through:

1. Engagement in UNOC that is primarily structured around a small number of key messages
2. Using UNOC & pre-conference events as a key moment in the process of developing / launching flagship initiatives i.e. through building constituencies, developing partnerships and raising awareness
3. Less focus than in previous UNOCs, COPs etc. on standalone / one-off events

Focus of IOC Messaging



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Overall message: science and knowledge is essential for action to achieve SDG14

Key Messages:

- a. Role of Ocean Decade to fill critical science and knowledge priorities & enabling conditions as identified in The Barcelona Statement.
- b. Urgency of sustained and sustainable investment in critical ocean science activities and infrastructure for observations and data.
- c. Importance of evidence based sustainable ocean plans including support to Member States to develop and implement SOPs.
- d. Accelerated commitments needed to achieve 2030 goal for seabed mapping including through unlocking existing data and generating new data.

Formal Conference: Key Elements



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Political Declaration

- Zero draft released 13/12/24
- Key messages to be channeled through MS via CL (27 January meeting in NY)

Ocean Action Panels x 10

- Co-lead on science OAP with ISA
- Co-lead on BD/CC OAP with UNDESA, ESCAP and CBD

Official side events

- Applications likely to open in January 2025
- UNESCO wide submission for side event & partner led events

SCHEDULE INCLUDING OAPs: 9 – 13 June, 2024



	MONDAY 9 June	TUESDAY 10 June	WEDNESDAY 11 June	THURSDAY 12 June	FRIDAY 13 June
Morning	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm 1st Plenary meeting</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 am Opening segment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Opening of the Conference -Election of the two Presidents of the Conference -Statements by the Presidents of the Conference, UN Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly, President of ECOSOC, Conference Secretary-General and elected representatives of the host region and city -Adoption of the rules of procedure and the agenda -Election of officers other than the Presidents, the establishment of subsidiary organs, as appropriate, the appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee, arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Conference and other matters. <p>10:00am-1:00pm General debate</p> <p>10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 1</p> <p>Conserving, sustainably managing and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems including deep-sea ecosystems</p>	<p>10:00am-1:00pm 3rd Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 3</p> <p>Mobilizing finance for ocean actions in the support of SDG14</p>	<p>10:00am-1:00pm 5th Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 5</p> <p>Fostering sustainable fisheries management including supporting small-scale fishers</p>	<p>10:00am-1:00pm 7th Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 7</p> <p>Leveraging ocean, climate and biodiversity interlinkages</p>	<p>10:00am-1:00pm 9th Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>09:00am-12:00pm Ocean Action Panel 9</p> <p>Promoting the role of sustainable food from the ocean for poverty eradication and food security</p>
	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break
Afternoon	<p>3:00-6:00pm 2nd Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 2</p> <p>Increasing ocean-related scientific cooperation, knowledge, capacity building, marine technology and education to strengthen the science-policy interface for ocean health</p>	<p>3:00-6:00pm 4th Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 4</p> <p>Preventing and significantly reducing marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities</p>	<p>3:00-6:00pm 6th Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 6</p> <p>Advancing sustainable ocean-based economies, sustainable maritime transport and coastal community resilience leaving no one behind</p>	<p>3:00-6:00pm 8th Plenary meeting</p> <p>General debate</p> <p>3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 8</p> <p>Promoting and supporting all forms of cooperation, especially at the regional and subregional level</p>	<p>1:30-4:30pm Ocean Action Panel 10</p> <p>Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the UNCLOS</p> <p>4:00-7:00pm 10th Plenary meeting</p> <p>-Reporting on the discussions of the Ocean Action Panels</p>

IOC co-lead
IOC contributing

Political Declaration Messaging



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Negotiations on zero draft will take place in New York on 27th January followed by up to 3 other sessions in advance of adoption before 1 May 2025

IOC CL will be prepared for Member States to inform negotiations focusing on (i) high-level recommendations, and (ii) detailed language suggestions based on zero draft.

High level recommendations to strengthen zero draft include recognition of:

- Science and knowledge priorities identified through 2024 Ocean Decade Conference
- Commitments to seabed mapping efforts
- Commitments for increased MS financing and investment including for capacity development
- Importance of full range of ocean related goals and targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework (in addition to 30 x 30 MPA target)
- Importance of supporting marine scientific capacity for effective implementation of BBNJ
- Importance of ecosystem benefits of Sustainable Ocean Plans



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Pre-

One Ocean
Science Congress
3 – 6 June

- Organising Committee member
- Ongoing positioning for plenary / keynotes & alignment with BCN
- IOC / Decade sessions on BD and CR and Town Hall on Ocean Decade

Coastal Resilience
Summit
7 June

- Steering Committee member
- Co-leading WG2 on Knowledge Generation
- Link to February conference in Qingdao

Blue Economy &
Finance Forum
7 & 8 June

- Plenary session interventions
- Submission of finance and philanthropy initiatives for side events