

OCEAN CALL



OFFICIAL STATEMENT TO TAKE
CONCRETE ACTION FOR THE OCEAN

OCEAN PAVILION

#OCEANCALLFORG7



SURFRIDER
FOUNDATION EUROPE

An aerial photograph of the ocean. On the left, white, frothy waves are crashing over a series of dark, jagged rocks. The water to the right of the rocks is a deep, vibrant blue with intricate, swirling patterns on its surface. The overall scene conveys a sense of natural power and the vastness of the sea.

COMMITMENTS FOR A HEALTHY OCEAN

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OCEAN, SPORT & TOURISM

CITY OF MARSEILLE AND METROPOLIS

In the context of the City hosting the sailing competitions of the Olympic Games in Marseille and in order to protect the environment and Marseilles's unique coastal heritage, the City of Marseille and the Metropolis are committed **to improving the treatment of rainfall events and reducing pollutant discharges** by setting up a dam and infrastructures for the capture of macro-waste by 2024 in order to reduce direct and indirect discharges at sea.

CITY OF PARIS

Make Paris a city without single use plastic by the 2024 Olympic Games.

The fight against plastic already initiated within the Parisian administration and thanks to the capital's 1,200 fountains will now be extended to all municipal public services (canteens, museums, etc.). In parallel, the City of Paris intends to mobilize the restaurants and supermarkets around this objective: the 1st conference bringing together all these actors is scheduled for autumn 2019.

NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE REGION

Région Nouvelle Aquitaine is committed to concrete action considering water quality

- Remove synthetic pesticides in 2030 unless there is a technical impasse on certain products
- Stop the use of CMR substances (carcinogens, mutagens, reprotoxics) from 2025
- Reduce, by 2030, 30% of water withdrawals for agriculture during low water periods
- 80% of New Aquitaine's farms certified organic, «High Environmental Value» or other equivalent approach by 2030
- 100% of water resources and aquatic environments in good condition by 2027

WORLD SURF LEAGUE

The World Surf League (WSL) announces a series of sustainability commitments that set a new standard for global professional sports. These commitments - designed to inspire, educate and empower ocean lovers while addressing critical environmental issues - apply to all WSL Championship Tour and Big Wave Tour events and include:

- Becoming carbon neutral globally by the end of 2019;
- Eliminating single-serve plastics by the end of 2019; and
- Leaving each place better than it was found.

OCEAN & BIODIVERSITY

On August 20, 2019, Cosmetic, food and textile companies worked together on responsible innovation during a workshop with Possible Future.

AVÈNE

Avène Dermatological Laboratories is committed by 2023 to continue the deployment of simple formulas thanks to their unique Sterile Cosmetics technology allowing for a reduction in the number of ingredients used and without use of preservatives. This technology also allows Avène Thermal Water to extend the life of its products and thus reduce its footprint on the environment by reducing waste. Thanks to this innovation, Avène Thermal Water decreases the number of ingredients used, increases the lifespan of its products, thus reducing its impact on biodiversity.

BIOtherm

Biotherm is committed by 2023 - 2025 to help protect water from plastic pollution by progressively reducing the use of chemical particles in its formulations and by developing 100% recyclable solutions (PET, PP) in the longer term.

BLUE SEEDS

Blue Seeds commits to help designing the future of marine conservation towards a more entrepreneurial, impact-oriented, challenge-driven conservation and to increase measurable conservation impacts in the Mediterranean Sea over the next 10 years.

PAUL RICARD OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE

The Paul Ricard Oceanographic Institute commits to deploy all fundraising efforts to be able to run a pilot farm project by 2020 which will substitute fish feed with insect feed supplemented by microalgae applying the principles of urban permaculture to aquaculture in order to cut the carbon emissions resulting from energy consuming installations and cold-chain transportation, ensure food security as well as alleviate the pressure on marine ecosystems and fish stocks.



POSSIBLE FUTURE

Possible Future is committed to working with all the stakeholders in the cosmetics industry to create more responsible formulas, products and packaging to reduce chemical agents in the formulation of their products and the amount of plastic used, for example by using new materials or inventing new usages.

VIGNERONS DE BUZET

Vignerons de Buzet commit to deploying actions of high environmental value in 100% of their vineyards by 2023 and to facilitating the agro-ecological transition of their area. They commit to acting for living soils, producing biodiversity, reducing the use of inputs and optimizing water management. They pursue a voluntary, global and continuous approach initiated nearly 15 years ago.



OCEAN & PLASTIC POLLUTION

On August 20, 2019, Cosmetic, food and textile companies worked together on responsible innovation during a workshop with Possible Future.

BEYOND PLASTIC MED (BEMED)

Beyond Plastic Med (BeMed) commits for a plastic-free Mediterranean Sea by supporting every year local initiatives that aim to curbing plastic pollution at the source. In October, the 2019 call for initiatives will be launched to select 15 new projects with the objective to reach 100 supported initiatives by 2023. Beyond its funding, BeMed encourages experience sharing by connecting and gathering together the committed local stakeholders.

CAUDALIE, LÉA NATURE, LES LABORATOIRES DE BIARRITZ AND NATURE & DÉCOUVERTES

Caudalie, Léa Nature, Les Laboratoires de Biarritz and Nature & Découvertes commit to jointly launch a digital tool **to provide consumers with information on packaging materials and their recycling process**. This transparent and interactive initiative wants to guide consumers' purchase choice towards eco-responsible packaging.

They commit to working together to find a solution to allocate a dedicated budget to improve the end of life management of all their products by end of 2020.

MICROSOFT FRANCE

In order to fight against ocean plastic pollution including microplastics coming from estuaries and rivers, **Microsoft France commits to supporting Surfrider in developing an open source mobile app by 2020** for the benefit of empowered communities and citizens, to help to detect more quickly and index the presence of plastic waste on river banks before it reaches the sea, thanks to artificial intelligence and cloud technologies using video image analysis and crowdsourcing of waste photos.

NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE REGION

Nouvelle Aquitaine region is committed to reducing plastic waste by launching a program that provides plastic alternative meal trays to companies like Canteen and Meals on Wheels with the goal of reaching 1 million meals without plastic.

POSSIBLE FUTURE

Possible Future is committed to working by 2023 with all the players in the cosmetics, agri-food and retail sector to find innovative solutions to reduce their plastic production, whether by reinventing products or processes, using new materials, or rethinking consumption models through new distribution channels (bulk, instructions, subscriptions).

OCEAN & CLIMATE

On August 20, 2019, Cosmetic, food and textile companies worked together on responsible innovation during a workshop with Possible Future.

GLOBAL OCEAN TRUST

Global Ocean Trust will work with its partners **to align blue finance with broader sustainable finance for climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience.** Global Ocean Trust will support, by 2023, the creation of an appropriate ocean finance architecture that includes funds and insurance for nature, including reefs, seamounts and the deep ocean; public-private partnerships for global ocean data solutions; and an Ocean Sustainability Bank.

GREEN MARINE / SURFRIDER FOUNDATION EUROPE

Green Marine and Surfrider Foundation Europe announce that they will work in partnership with ship owners and key maritime stakeholders **to reduce shipping impacts through the implementation of the Green Marine certification for sustainable shipping in Europe by 2025** (starting in France).

This label will aim to certify that ship owners and operators measure their environmental performance and implement best practices to reduce their environmental footprint, addressing a wide range of issues (GHG emissions, aquatic invasive species, waste management, underwater noise, etc.).

HOPAAL

Hopaal designs clothes made from recycled materials. The clothes are mostly made in France and partly in Portugal, always less than 1000 km from their plant in Biarritz. **By 2023, Hopaal wants to go even further and wants to work with its users to be more responsive to their real needs.** In concrete terms, this means making products on demand to limit unsold goods; provide instructions or services to limit the generation of waste; develop reusable packages for delivery.



THE PAUL RICARD OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE

The Paul Ricard Oceanographic Institute commits to furthering efforts on its ecological restoration program by 2022, including the transplantation of marine magnoliophyte to rebuild seagrass, installations in port areas to improve ecological nursery functions, and the restoration of degraded Mediterranean wetland sites.

MONTEBELO

Montebelo commits to complete transparency on the supply and composition of materials and products by 2023. The company wants to create processes that help brands, manufacturers and consumers to provide the genuine composition and the origin of their products and consequently support efficient recycling of those.

NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE REGION

Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region is committed to action in terms of mitigation and adaptation to climate change:

- Integrate 45% of renewable energies into the energy mix in 2030 and 100% in 2050
- Favour resilience and nature-based solutions in order to protect populations from flood, submergence and coastal erosion risks, covered by prevention actions as of today.

PICTURE ORGANIC CLOTHING

Picture Organic Clothing wants to drastically limit its use of petroleum derivatives by 2023. The company wants to invest together with its suppliers to reduce the use of fossil fuels throughout the supply chain. It also wants to develop a circular production line using the best recycling technologies.

POSSIBLE FUTURE

Possible Future commits to supporting all stakeholders from the textile and clothing industry in **designing products that are easier to repair or recycle and working to reduce the share of fossil energy in all their activities by 2023.** Innovations will need to address the entire value chain: sourcing and supply, production, distribution and end of life.





BACKGROUND

Our Ocean is global and affected by issues that require ambitious collective action at the highest level. Significant progress has been achieved through key declarations from G7 leaders during previous Summits and the work conducted by the G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Working Group. These developments and progress are legacies the G7 Summit in Biarritz needs to build on to propose further actions needed at the international level to protect and restore the health of the Ocean. These actions should be based on the latest scientific knowledge and environmental projections for the Ocean. Follow up and accountability of the international action on ocean protection that should be guided by the precautionary principle will be necessary during summits taking place after the G7 in Biarritz: the UN Climate Change Summit happening in New York in September, the COP25 in Chile in December, and the COP15 on Biodiversity in China next year.

G7 MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

2019 G7 ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MEETING, METZ (FRANCE)

At the last G7 Environment Minister's meeting, Ministers made a series of commitments in their final Communiqué and adopted as a major outcome of the meeting a Charter on Biodiversity.

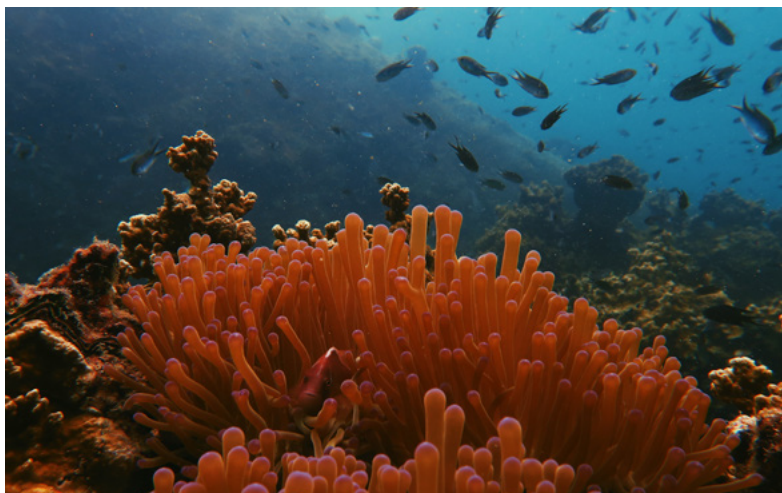
With this charter, leaders from 16 countries and from the EU committed to accelerating and intensifying their efforts to halt the loss of biodiversity, to value, conserve, restore and wisely use biodiversity and agreed to address the main pressures of biodiversity. This charter made specific references to ocean life and resources, in particular to freshwater, and marine ecosystems. They notably committed to addressing the main pressures on biodiversity, from habitat change, loss and degradation -including those resulting from fishery practices, the spread of invasive alien species, pollution -including that by microplastics and nutrients, to overexploitation of natural resources and climate change.

In their final Communiqué, Ministers also specifically recognised that the Ocean is under threat from the impacts of ocean warming, acidification and deoxygenation, and warrants special attention in the climate negotiations.

They committed to improving and sharing the latest knowledge of the ecological state of the oceans and boosting ocean awareness and literacy. Most importantly, Ministers committed to ensure that existing and new anthropogenic pressures be reduced and avoid threatening the health of the oceans. To address these pressures, they committed to adopt measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and marine litter, "by significantly reducing land-based pollution and the amount of plastic waste discharged to the ocean on a global basis". Ministers additionally reiterated their support in both the Communiqué and Metz biodiversity charter to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 and committed to promote better ocean governance, including in the high seas. They welcomed the negotiations towards an international legally binding instrument under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

On plastic pollution, Ministers also took stock of the conclusions of the G7 Scientific Advice Cooperation on Microplastics Pollution Roundtable and acknowledged microplastic pollution was a global phenomenon. They recognised the need for better understanding of microplastic (including nanoplastic). They also invited the scientific community to share data and further investigate microplastic impacts. They also showed support, among other asks, for the standardization and harmonization of microplastics sampling and quantifying protocols.

In addition to these commitments, three different Ocean-related solutions and initiatives were presented and supported by several G7 member and outreach countries. Firstly, the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) intends to mobilize relevant stakeholders, improve coral reef management practices, and share and exchange knowledge about these ecosystems. The Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), put forward by Canada and joined by all G7 leaders, encourages countries to address risks and ocean resilience. Lastly, discussions took place on the implementation of the « G7 Innovation Challenge to Address Marine Plastic Litter » launched during the Canadian presidency of the G7. This initiative incentivizes the development of innovative social or technological solutions for a more sustainable management of plastics throughout their lifecycle in order to increase resource efficiency and reduce marine plastic pollution. At the occasion of the Meeting, a series of pledges to curb marine plastic litter were also delivered.



2018 G7 CANADA'S PRESIDENCY

Two major milestones on Ocean issues marked the Canadian presidency of the G7 in 2018: the G7 Summit held in Charlevoix in June 2018 and the Environment, Energy and Oceans Ministers' meeting in Halifax in September 2018.

In June 2018, as an outcome of the G7 meeting in Charlevoix, the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient and Coastal Communities was released and included an Ocean Plastics Charter. The Charlevoix Blueprint outlined various commitments on enhancing ocean and coastal resilience, including increased support for adaptation planning, emergency preparedness and recovery, innovative financing for coastal resilience, and the launch of a joint initiative to deploy Earth observation technologies and related applications to scale up capacities for the integrated management of coastal zones. On Ocean knowledge, emphasis was put on increased availability and sharing of science and data. On sustainable oceans and fisheries, leaders reiterated their commitment to addressing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and other drivers of overexploitation of fish stocks. On ocean plastic waste and marine litter, they recognised the need for urgent action to address and prevent the devastating impacts of marine litter on the health and sustainability of our oceans, seas and coastal communities and agreed on promoting the harmonization of monitoring methodologies for marine litter and collaborating on research on the environmental impacts. In addition to this blueprint, an Ocean Plastic Charter was championed by Canada and endorsed by the European Union and four of the G7 nations - France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom on top of Canada.

OCEAN CALL

It sets a series of actions intended to eradicate plastic pollution. The charter in particular outlines a «resource-efficient lifecycle management approach to plastics in the economy,» with five big action targets concerning sustainable design production and after-use markets, collection; management and other systems and infrastructure; sustainable lifestyles and education; research, innovation and new technologies; and coastal and shoreline action. In this charter, leaders pledge to work toward making all plastics recyclable by 2030, reducing single-use plastics and promoting the use of recycled plastic.



BACKGROUND

During last year's Summit G7 leaders also committed to promote cooperative, international oceans and seas governance and reaffirmed their support and importance of UNCLOS legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas. They also reaffirmed their commitment to increasing and furthering international cooperation to enhance protection and sustainable management of the marine environment.

In September, the Ocean meeting resulted in the adoption of a G7 Innovation Challenge to Address Marine Plastic Litter which was designed to stimulate innovations, raise awareness of how to address marine plastic litter and facilitate improvements to the management of plastic in developing countries.

These different advances were made possible by the ocean initiatives and commitments adopted during the previous Italian (2017 G7 Science Ministers' Meeting in Turin and 2017 G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting in Bologna) and German presidencies. In all their declarations on marine litter and plastic pollution, G7 leaders recall the cement of the G7 work being the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter adopted in 2015 whose implementation needs now to be accelerated.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

OCEAN, SPORT & TOURISM

From tourism to sports, the Ocean, the sea and the coastline are places to relax and be inspired and an incredible source of recreation, enjoyment, and wellbeing for all. Tourism is the largest and fastest growing industry in the world, with coastal and marine tourism being one of its most important sectors and a major source of revenue and employment for coastal communities. Coastal and marine tourism is one of the oldest and largest segments of the tourism industry with increasing demand from tourists for a range of marine and coastal recreational activities including low impact watersport activities such as snorkelling, diving, windsurfing.

Awareness of the quality of the environment and demand for clean and unspoiled locations is also among the major trends observed for the sector with greater interest in nature and wildlife watching but also growth in popularity and expectation of all-inclusive offers and facilities, growth in cruise tourism and more generally speaking a democratisation of tourism, with rapid growth and continued expansion.

Tourism and sports obviously bring additional pressure to an already highly vulnerable environment, dramatically exposed to the consequences of climate change and already subject to competition for space and uses. Urbanization and concentration of population is increasing on the coastline while the expansion of historic uses of the ocean, such as fishing and shipping, and emerging or more recent uses, such as hydrocarbon extraction, cruising, mining and ocean energy, are bringing additional stress for the coastal environment. Those activities come with emissions and adverse effects. Tourism contributes today at 8% of gas emissions global greenhouse effect and directly affects the ecosystems of most visited sites (pollution, destruction of habitats, dissemination of invasive species, destructive fishing practices, coastal development).



OCEAN & BIODIVERSITY

The ocean is home to millions of species and plants, from the largest animal on the planet - the blue whale- to living species invisible to human eyes such as microplankton and bacteria. Deep-seabed habitats for example host between 500,000 and 10 million species. The health of the oceans and climate regulation as a result are strongly dependent upon this marine biodiversity which in return provides a variety of important ecosystem eco-systemic services, valued at nearly USD\$ 30 trillion per year. Overfishing, habitat degradation, and loss, pollution and overall land-based pressures, including from agriculture, exploitation of resources of the sea and climate change are responsible for the loss of our Ocean biodiversity.

Almost all coral ecosystems in tropical areas are expected to disappear by 2050. Around the world, fish catch has increased twice as fast as the Human population with 33.1 % of stocks being currently overfished. In some parts of the world such as in the Mediterranean Sea, this figure reaches 90%. Marine wildlife is estimated to have declined by half since the 1970s. By the year 2100, more than half of the world's marine species may stand on the brink of extinction. There are today 4 times more dead oceanic zones than 50 years ago and 10 times more coastal marine zones with low level of oxygen than in 1950. Demand for oil and gas and minerals that the seabed hold is increasing and with important associated risks and experienced impacts- such as oil spills. Yet, today, only 2% of the ocean is covered with highly or fully protected Marine Protected Areas.

OCEAN & PLASTIC POLLUTION

Of all the waste present in our oceans, plastic is the most common. Every year, eight million tonnes of plastic waste flow from land to sea. In certain parts of the globe, plastic represents up to 95% of the total marine debris. Floating on the surface, lining the ocean floor or washed up on the beach, plastic pollution threatens aquatic ecosystems. Plastic can injure many marine species by hindering their mobility. It can also transport invasive species or harbour numerous contaminants. Today there are an estimated number of 693 marine species directly threatened by plastic pollution. Plastic pollution can also work as a lure for ocean fauna and sea birds, who confuse it with their usual prey. Certain turtles, for example, mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and can choke on them if swallowed. It is estimated that 90% of sea birds have plastic fragments in their stomachs. By 2050, this could reach 99% if effective measures are not taken to reduce the flow of plastic entering the ocean.



This plastic pollution consists of macro and microplastics. Most of the plastic pollution comes from land, but an increasing proportion comes from sea including from the loss of containers at sea.

Today, we produce 200 times more plastic than we did 70 years ago. Around 80 percent of all plastic ever produced (so only in the last 65 years or so) has accumulated in landfills or the natural environment. Less of one third of the plastic waste we generate every year is collected for recycling, with the rest landfilled, incinerated, or leaks into the environment with very different situations depending on the regions of the world. It is expected that by 2025 global plastics production capacity will increase by more than one third (33 percent - 36 percent). The estimated natural capital cost of this Ocean plastic pollution amounts to approximately USD 8 billion a year with tourism and the leisure industry, fishing, shipping being some of the many sectors affected by this pollution, together with coastal communities which gather half of the population worldwide.

OCEAN & CLIMATE

The ocean is a major global climate regulator: it produces over 50% of the oxygen in the air we breathe and absorbs approximately 30% of the CO₂ and 93% of the excess heat generated by human activity. Every one of us depends on the Ocean to regulate the climate of our blue planet. At the same time, climate change is having dramatic impacts on the Ocean such as rises in sea level, higher levels of acidity in the ocean or increasing deoxygenation. Scientists are increasingly interested in these issues, including the work of the New Aquitania Region in relation to coastal risks,

but also the next IPCC report on the Ocean and the Cryosphere expected at the end of September. $\frac{3}{4}$ volume of Arctic summer ice has disappeared since the 1970s, while shipping happening in this highly sensitive area is worsening the situation. During the past three decades, approximately 70 per cent of the world's coastline has experienced significant increases in sea-surface temperature. Extreme weather events at sea and coast and warming events are increasingly impacting coastal (and non-coastal) communities with an estimated 10 million people experiencing for example coastal flooding due to storm surges and cyclones every year. Due to the increase of the intensity and frequency of those phenomenon this figure is expected to be multiplied five-fold with 50 million people being at risk by 2080.

Further commitments to protect the ocean and address climate change are needed. Countries have committed in the Paris agreement to limiting global warming to well below 2°C and to pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. Shipping happening at sea, it will be important for the shipping to play its part in tackling climate change. Currently responsible for around 3% of total emissions, emissions from the shipping sector are predicted to grow from 50 to 250% by 2050.

OCEAN CALL



THE STATEMENT

Biarritz, August 23rd, 2019,

Surfrider Foundation Europe, member of Surfrider Foundation International, is honoured to have gathered more than 80 international actors committed to ocean protection for the Ocean Pavilion in Biarritz. This civil society, G7 pre-summit consisted of four days of conferences and workshops to highlight and call to action on four topics – plastic pollution, climate change, marine biodiversity and sustainable sports, recreational activities & tourism in coastal areas, where opportunities for action exist and urgent international measures are needed to preserve the ocean.

Coordinated by Surfrider Foundation Europe with key support from the Break Free From Plastic movement, Seas at Risk, the Ocean and Climate Platform, the Ocean Pavilion is the occasion to invite all stakeholders to play their part in protecting the ocean through the formulation of concrete commitments.

As the G7 summit is about to begin, and its governments are preparing to set broad directions for future global governance, we, representatives of the civil society, urge the Group of 7 to take significant steps and adopt measures to protect, restore and strengthen the resilience of the ocean to the many threats it faces, including pollution, acidification, climate change, exploitation and irreversible marine and coastal habitat and biodiversity loss.

The Ocean is home to a significant part of our planet's biodiversity and plays a major role in climate regulation. It covers more than two-thirds of the planet's surface and contains 97% of our water. A source of wellbeing, energy, food and employment, the ocean is a key player in our development, contributing \$ 3-6 trillion a year to the global economy. 90% of goods are today transported by sea; fishing resources provide 4.3 billion people with more than 15% of their food, and coastal areas provide crucial services for local communities. Around the world, almost 3 out of 4 humans live by the sea and it is a source of enjoyment for all. Additionally, a blue economy can only be sustainable if the marine environment on which it relies is healthy and thriving.

However, human activities are deeply harming our seas and affect marine life and ecosystems, as well as the resilience of our ocean and its ability to provide crucial ecosystem services. Beyond the importance of a healthy and resilient ocean for climate regulation, this degradation also affects human health and well-being as we seek to enjoy the sea and half of the world's population still relies on protein from fish. An unhealthy ocean is a major factor in social inequity.

Long unexplored – and even feared – the ocean is now the location of numerous activities, coming along with unprecedented pressure on the marine and coastal environment. Ocean resources are increasingly threatened, overexploited, degraded and destroyed; plastic pollution reaches all areas; chemicals and fertilizers spilled into rivers end up poisoning algae, fish, and even us; the dismantling of ships on tidal beaches causes irreparable damage to sensitive coastal zones; marine biodiversity has dropped by almost 40% in the last 40 years; and climate change and acidification are exacerbating the decline in ocean health.

The interactions between the ocean, climate and biodiversity are numerous and crucial, although still poorly understood. It is clear today that a healthy ocean is a prerequisite for a healthy climate and planet. The entire Ocean is fragile and under threat. We are individually and collectively responsible for its preservation. We all must bear a shared and accepted responsibility for the Ocean.

In recent decades, humans were able to go faster, further, and deeper in the ocean. As globalization has increased, activities at sea have grown significantly and worryingly. The ocean has no borders, nor does the impact of decisions regarding marine pollution, climate change, tourism or maritime transport. On its own, the Group of 7 represents 40% of the global GDP and only 10% of the world's population. It has the means and the global responsibility to go further and faster for ocean protection.

Significant progress has been achieved with key declarations and commitments from G7 leaders during past G7 summits, including very recently with the adoption of the *Metz Biodiversity Charter* or the signing by most of the G7 nations of an *Ocean Plastics Charter* and the adoption of the *Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient and Coastal Communities in 2018*. These commitments and work are legacies the G7 summit in Biarritz needs to build upon to propose further needed actions at the international level to protect and restore the health of the Ocean. These actions should be based on the latest scientific knowledge and environmental projections for the Ocean and should aim at achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) n°14 on the life below water.

We, the representatives of civil society, stand together as Ocean defenders and call on the Group of Seven to treat ocean protection as a priority during the G7 Summit, and future summits and adopt binding measures and time-bound action plans following these key requests:

- 1. Promote sustainable tourism and low-impact water sports and recreational activities as opportunities to connect with a protected ocean**
- 2. Ensure ocean biodiversity and ecosystems are protected and preserved**
- 3. Reduce plastic production and consumption and address marine plastic pollution to protect the ocean**
- 4. Maintain and restore the health of the ocean for a protected climate**

1. Promote sustainable tourism, low-impact water sports and recreational activities as opportunities to connect with a protected Ocean

Guide the ecological transition of major sporting events and make the protection of the ocean a priority during the events and in the way they are managed:

- Apply the Paris Agreement to international sporting events by limiting carbon emissions, ensuring a significant renewable energy supply, avoiding air transport and limiting the use of fossil fuels
- Adopt a zero-waste strategy within the global sports movement
- Provide the competitors and the users of the sea with a healthy practice by preventing and addressing all sources of pollution, by regularly monitoring the water quality of nautical sites and by providing them with clear and legible information on water quality

Balance and reconcile touristic exploration of the natural marine and coastal areas with their protection:

- Elaborate tourism policies consulting all stakeholders together with local populations to reconcile coastal tourism with the preservation of the marine environment
- Ensure the responsible development of tourism and port infrastructures ensuring the sustainable management of waste, energy and water, in harmony with the ocean, and allowing the promotion and protection of marine protected natural sites

SIGNATORIES



2. Ensure ocean biodiversity and ecosystems are protected and preserved

Designate at least 30% of the ocean in highly or fully protected Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2030 to urgently restore biodiversity and enhance resilience to climate change.

Ensure that equitable governance structures and financing mechanisms are in place, including for the high seas, to regulate and enforce MPAs, taking into account the needs of local communities.

Protect and maintain biodiversity everywhere else in the ocean by ensuring that the cumulative impact of pressures from human activities is kept at levels compatible with thriving marine ecosystems.

Implement SDG target 14.4 and end overfishing without delay in order to restore and maintain fish populations to sustainable levels, recognising that overfishing is not only threatening the health of the ocean, but also the long-term economic viability of the fishing sector while impeding fair access to the resources by communities, often in poorer coastal areas.

Establish an international moratorium on deep sea mining exploration and exploitation in international and national

waters until the environmental, social and economic risks are comprehensively understood and it can be clearly demonstrated that deep seabed mining can be managed in such a way that ensures the effective protection of the marine environment and prevents loss of biodiversity.

Cease investments in deep sea mining. Instead, invest in responsible production and use of the metals, such as reduction of demand for primary metals, a transformation to a resource efficient, closed-loop materials circular economy, and responsible terrestrial mining practices.

Adopt a global moratorium on oil and gas exploration and exploitation activities in or near MPAs or vulnerable areas of high conservation value and strongly regulate offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation at the international level

Put an end to the dirty and dangerous breaking of ships on tidal beaches, and support the development of an international ship recycling industry that operates in line with international waste laws and only in facilities that allow for full containment of pollutants.

SIGNATORIES



3. Reduce plastic production and consumption and address marine plastic pollution to protect the ocean

Push and support, at the next United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in 2021, the adoption of a global convention on plastics by 2025, covering the whole life cycle of plastics and prioritizing reduction.

Commit to an overall reduction of the production of plastics globally.

Lead by example by adopting ambitious national measures to tax and restrict the most polluting plastic products including single use plastic items and packaging, and promote reuse and refill systems, reusable alternatives and materials and repairable products.

Eliminate microplastic release into waterways and the ocean by addressing all sources of microplastic pollution at national and global levels, including microplastics ingredients added in products, pellets, textiles microfibers and tires wears through binding reduction targets and regulatory measures.

Hold industry accountable for the full lifecycle impacts of plastics and products they put on the market and ensure plastics are free from hazardous chemicals.

Call on the International Maritime Organization to implement an ambitious and comprehensive strategy to curb marine litter from ships, including container loss at sea.

Harmonise marine litter monitoring procedures at the international level.

Sign by the end of 2019 the Ocean Plastic Charter, adopted during the G7 Presidency of Canada which has already been signed by Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the European Union.

SIGNATORIES



4. Improve and restore the health of the ocean for a protected climate

Implement effective and substantial short-term measures by 2023 to achieve the CO₂ emissions reduction targets and support medium to long term measures with the aim of a total decarbonization of the fleet before 2050.

Adopt without delay a ban on the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil (HFO) by shipping in the Arctic to address HFO spill risk and reduce black carbon emissions.

Encourage Parties to include in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) measures related to the ocean, including ships energy efficiency and ports energetic transition.

Support Ocean energy projects built conjointly with a proper and concerted maritime spatial planning, guided by an ecosystem-based approach along with the conduction of independent impact assessments.

Call on the International Maritime Organization to integrate the fisheries sector into its 4th study on GHG and in its GHG reduction strategy.

Reduce GHG emissions from the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

Promote ecosystem-based adaptation solutions instead of heavy engineering solutions (concrete, dikes, etc.), through adopting measures for example to restore salt marshes, mangroves, seagrass beds and coral reefs which contribute to the fight against rising sea levels and extreme events and act as effective carbon sinks.

Protect marine ecosystems with high ecological and biological value, which contribute to store blue carbon.

Recommit support for the indefinite moratorium on geo-engineering under the Convention on Biological Diversity and for the application of the precautionary principle for geo-engineering technologies where risks and impacts are not under control.

End all permits for new fossil fuel extractions at sea by 2030 and phase out all operations by 2040.

On all issues

Have the Ocean considered as a Common Good for Mankind.

Implement measures and standards for MPAs on the High seas.

Reinforce international scientific research on the Ocean and actively support and participate in the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

Improve Ocean governance and enhance transparency and coherences between regulations taking in consideration an ecosystemic approach.

On all issues Finance

Ask for part of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to be exclusively dedicated to marine and coastal projects (i.e protection of mangroves, wetlands and vulnerable areas with an extremely high CO² storage capacity). Encourage and support ocean actors to apply to the GCF. Increase funding for adaptation to ensure equitable distribution of funds in a 50/50 balance between adaptation and mitigation.

Ensure the allocation of funds to support the resilience and protect the Ocean and the coastline in the framework of an appropriate ocean finance architecture that includes funds and insurance for nature, including reefs, seamounts and the deep ocean; and public-private partnerships for the recovery of marine resources and efficient marine conservation. Support the creation of an Ocean Sustainability Bank. Facilitate access to this funding for developing countries and small-scale projects.

Ensure to stop all public subsidies to fossil fuel extraction, such as oil and gas drilling and coal mining.

SIGNATORIES



SUPPORT FOR OCEAN PAVILION



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