

DAILY REPORT

United Nations Ocean Conference Report

“Our Ocean, Our Future, Our Responsibility”

Nice, France

June 9-13, 2025

Written By

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FIRST DAY

“Our Ocean, Our Future, Our Responsibility”

KEY SPEAKERS AND STATEMENTS

UN Secretary-General António Guterres:

- "I urge all countries to come forward with bold pledges"
- "We live in an age of turmoil, but the resolve I see here gives me hope"

President Emmanuel Macron (France):

- "The only way to meet that challenge, is to mobilize all actors, heads of state and government speaking here, but also scientists"

President Rodrigo Chaves Robles (Costa Rica):

- "This summit must be remembered as the time when the world understood that looking after the ocean is not simply an option. Rather, it is a moral, economic, and indeed we need minimum protection"

UN Under-Secretary-General Li Junhua:

- "The time for incremental progress is over. We need billions, not millions, in investment"

KEY STATEMENTS FROM WORLD LEADERS



ANTÓNIO GUTERRES
UN Secresary General



I urge all countries to come forward with bold pledges. Hope that we can turn the tide.
António Guterres



RODRIGO CHAVES
President



This summit must be remembered as the time when the world understood that looking after the ocean is not simply an option.



The deep sea is not for sale, neither is Greenland nor Antarctica. While the Earth is warming, the ocean is boiling.
Emmanuel Macron

Participation Numbers

- 55 Heads of State and Government
- Thousands of participants including:
- Young people
- Business leaders
- Scientists
- Civil society representatives
- More than 450 side events

KEY CONFERENCE STATISTICS



55

Heads of State
& Government



60+

Countries
Participating



450+

Side
Events



Thousands

of Participants



YLEF: 3 participants with ECOSOC consultative

CONFERENCE TOPICS

CONFERENCE PRIORITIES & FOCUS AREAS



Marine Protected Areas
30% by 2000 target



Plastic Pollution



Sustainable Fisheries



Climate Action



Deep-Sea Mining Moratorium



Ocean Financing

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Nice Ocean Action Plan - political declaration and voluntary commitments registry
- Focus on urgent, inclusive, and science-based action
- Binding commitments for ocean protection



**UN OCEAN
CONFERENCE**

NICE OCEAN ACTION PLAN

Expected Outcomes

- Political Declaration
- Voluntary Commitments Registry
- Binding Commitments for Ocean Protection
- Science-based Action Framework

Conference continues June 10-13, 2025

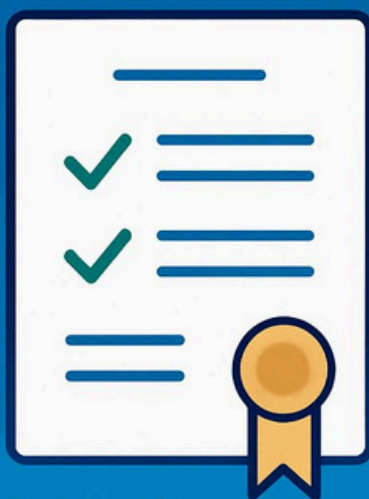
HIGH SEAS TREATY BREAKTHROUGH

- 50 countries submitted ratifications "in the past few hours" before the conference opened
- 15 additional countries formally committed to joining them
- Macron confirmed: "This means that the political agreement has been reached... So it's a done deal"
- Treaty will enter into force 120 days after the 60th ratification

MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH: HIGH SEAS TREATY

50
countries
submitted
ratifications
in the past
few hours

15 additional
countries committed
to join



Treaty will
enter into force
120 days
after 60th
ratification

Covers nearly
two-thirds
of the ocean

Discussions

President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (Brazil):

- Warned against "the threat of unilateralism" in ocean exploitation
- "We cannot allow what happened to international trade to happen to the sea"
- Called on the International Seabed Authority to act against unilateral mineral exploitation

UN Secretary-General António Guterres:

- Said the world could not let the deep oceans "become the wild west"
 - Emphasized the need for regulated seabed mining rules
- Only 2.7% of the ocean is effectively protected from destructive activities (far below 30% target)
- France claims to have surpassed 30% marine protection target, but environmental groups say only 3% of French waters are fully protected

Key Issues Being Addressed:

1. Deep-sea mining moratorium - major focus of opening day
2. High Seas Treaty ratification - breakthrough achieved
3. Plastic pollution treaty negotiations
4. Marine protected areas expansion (30x30 target)
5. Climate change impacts on ocean health

