



# UN-Oceans Work Programme

## (January – December 2023)

---

### I. UN-Oceans mandate

1. UN-Oceans is an inter-agency mechanism that seeks to enhance the coordination, coherence and effectiveness of competent organizations of the United Nations system and the International Seabed Authority, within existing resources, in conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the respective competences of each of its participating organizations and the mandates and priorities approved by their respective governing bodies.
2. Pursuant to its terms of reference,<sup>1</sup> UN-Oceans is mandated to:
  - (a) Strengthen and promote coordination and coherence of United Nations system activities related to ocean and coastal areas;
  - (b) Regularly share ongoing and planned activities of participating organizations within the framework of relevant United Nations and other mandates with a view to identifying possible areas for collaboration and synergy;
  - (c) Facilitate, as appropriate, inputs by its participating organizations to the annual reports of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and on sustainable fisheries to be submitted to the Secretariat;
  - (d) Facilitate inter-agency information exchange, including sharing of experiences, best practices, tools and methodologies and lessons learned in ocean-related matters.

### II. Activities in 2023

#### A. Sharing of information on ongoing and planned activities of participating organizations within the framework of relevant United Nations and other mandates with a view to identifying possible areas for collaboration and synergy

1. Identify ongoing and planned activities related to ocean and coastal issues approved by the respective governing bodies of UN-Oceans members for the purpose of updating the Inventory of mandates and activities and continue to

---

<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 68/70, Annex.

develop the online platform for the inventory to enhance its user friendliness.  
[Ongoing]

2. Maintain the calendar of conferences, intergovernmental meetings and processes, workshops and other events related to oceans and coastal issues, and share information on planned activities, for example in relation to the following:
  - a. The Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects [coordination DOALOS];
  - b. Intergovernmental Conference under the auspices of the United Nations on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction [coordination DOALOS];
  - c. The 2023 United Nations Water Conference [coordination DESA/UN-Water];
  - d. The United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development [coordination IOC];
  - e. Activities related to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework [coordination CBD];
  - f. The Conference of the Parties and the annual ocean and climate change dialogue under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [coordination UNFCCC];
  - g. The 6<sup>th</sup> United Nations Environment Assembly [coordination UNEP];
  - h. The Assembly and Council of the International Seabed Authority [coordination ISA];
  - i. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species [coordination CMS];
  - j. The Committee on Fisheries and its subcommittees [coordination FAO];
  - k. The Conference of the Parties to the PSMA [coordination FAO];
  - l. The Assembly and Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO [Coordination IOC];
  - m. The Assembly and Marine Environment Protection Committee of the IMO [coordination IMO];
  - n. The United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea [coordination DOALOS];
  - o. The Resumed Review Conference on the Fish Stocks Agreement [coordination DOALOS];
  - p. World Oceans Day [coordination DOALOS];

- q. The Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection [coordination IMO];
- r. The International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture [coordination FAO];
- s. The Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
- t. Regional Seas Convention Meeting

5. Support the activiti