

SCIENCE

**ONE OCEAN
SCIENCE
CONGRESS
MANIFESTO**

**LET THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS
OCEAN CONFERENCE
BE THE CONFERENCE
THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!**

We, the global community of ocean scientists, united in our commitment to truth, knowledge, and the common good, issue this urgent declaration: Our shared ocean stands at a defining moment. The science is unequivocal: the ocean and its biodiversity are critical for planetary health. Yet, its capacity to regulate the climate, feed billions, and sustain marine biodiversity, among other important services, is under growing threat. From warming and acidification to pollution, overfishing, and inequitable access to marine resources, the ocean's life-supporting functions are being steadily eroded.

FOR

Scientific evidence, and Indigenous and local knowledge, converge on a single, urgent message: transformative action is both necessary and possible, if political courage rises to meet scientific clarity. The time for delay and indecision is over. We urge delegates of the third United Nations Ocean Conference, businesses, communities, and individuals to listen to science and act decisively.

OCEAN

We demand immediate action, guided by evidence, grounded in equity, and rooted in our shared responsibility to safeguard the ocean for current and future generations.

ACT NOW WHERE SCIENCE IS CLEAR

The evidence is overwhelming. Inaction is indefensible.

- End harmful subsidies
- Phase out fossil fuel use
- Fully and permanently protect at least 30% of the ocean
- End illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing and ensure fair, safe working conditions at sea

**ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE BEFORE
IRREVERSIBLE DECISIONS**

Where uncertainty exists, caution—not recklessness—must guide us.

- Acknowledge the deep ocean's critical role, and the scale of what we still do not know
- Pause potentially risky interventions, such as deep-sea mining and unproven ocean climate technologies; invest in knowledge first
- Radically increase investment in ocean science, observation, and modeling
- Support science-based regenerative blue economy

**TURN KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION,
AND ACTION INTO JUSTICE**

Knowledge must serve people and the planet.

- Advance ocean literacy through education, inclusive governance, and empowered local leadership
- Align finance and governance with the urgent need to regenerate ecosystems and equitably share the ocean's benefits
- Uphold the rights and knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples and coastal communities
- Demand full transparency and apply the precautionary principle without compromise

ACTION

**Where the science is clear, lead with courage.
Where uncertainty remains, act with humility.
There can be no stewardship without knowledge.
The scientific community pledges to share its data and insight—openly, freely, and without restriction—to safeguard the ocean and, with it, our shared future.
We call upon all parties at the 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference, to unite in action for the well-being of people and the planet.**

Signed, The delegates of the One Ocean Science Congress

The One Ocean Science Congress is organized by CNRS and IFREMER

A special Event of the 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference Endorsed by the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

