

**UN**  
environment



United Nations Environment  
World Conservation Monitoring Centre

**ENHANCING MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY SCREENING  
...THROUGH BETTER DATA**

**proteus**

Proteus Marine Workshop



## **INTRODUCTION**

Steve Fletcher, Head of Marine Programme





Susan White/USFWS CC 2.0 Flickr

# World ocean assessment 2016



“It is clear that urgent action on a global scale is needed to protect the world’s oceans from the many pressures they face”

Ban Ki-moon

UN Secretary General, 2016


<http://www.worldoceanassessment.org>

# UNEA Ocean Resolutions 2016

1. Marine plastic litter and microplastics
2. Sustainable coral reef management
3. Oceans and seas



UNITED NATIONS **EP**  
UNEP/A.2/Res.10  
Unit: General  
4 August 2016  
Original: English

 **United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme**

United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme  
Second session  
Nairobi, 23–27 May 2016

**2/10. Oceans and seas**

*The United Nations Environment Assembly.*

Recognizing that the marine environment, including the oceans, seas and adjacent coastal areas, forms an integrated whole that is an essential component of the global life-support system and an area presenting important opportunities for sustainable development,

Gravely concerned about threats to the health of our oceans, coastal areas, wetlands and islands, as reflected, inter alia, in the first global integrated marine assessment (World Ocean Assessment I) of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects, acknowledged in United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/233, the South Global Assessment's (Global report) and chapter 30 of the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and about their probable increase in the foreseeable future,

Recalling that General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 calls for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 134 of "The future we want",

Recalling also the adoption by the General Assembly of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and welcoming the inclusion therein of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and its commitment on the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, while recognizing also the connection between healthy and productive oceans and other Sustainable Development Goals,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 70/226 of 22 December 2015, entitled "United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development", and welcoming in particular the decision therein to convene the high-level conference in Fiji in June 2017,

Recognizing the contribution to compliance with international law of the regional non-convention, regional action plans and regional fisheries management organizations in achieving

# Conservation and sustainable use of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (2016-17)

“**marine genetic resources**, including questions on the sharing of benefits, measures such as **area-based management** tools, including marine protected areas, and **environmental impact assessments, capacity-building** and the **transfer of marine technology**”  
(A/69/177\* item 75)





# Sustainable Development Goal 14



“Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”

# UNEP-WCMC Ocean Priorities 2017

1. Adopt a leading role in the uptake of **ocean literacy and citizen-behaviour change** in the delivery of ocean-related sustainable development goals and targets.
2. Play an influential role in the application of **effective area-based planning and management** techniques to support the delivery of ocean-related sustainable development goals and targets.
3. Initiate **a step-change in global access to, and use of, marine biodiversity spatial data** to support the delivery of oceans-related sustainable development goals and targets.



That's great, but how  
do we move from  
optimism to  
achievement??



# UN Ocean Conference Call for Action (June 2017)

*13. We call on all stakeholders to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development by taking, inter alia, the following actions on an urgent basis:*

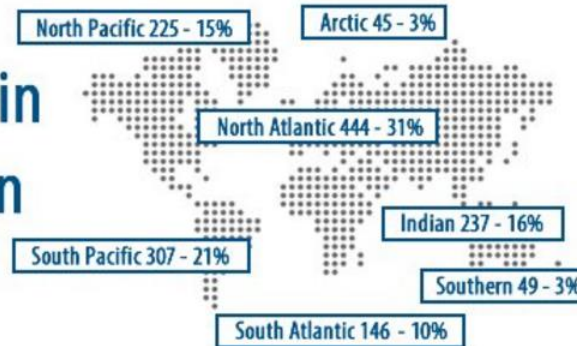
(c) **Strengthen and promote effective multi-stakeholder partnerships.**

(f) Dedicate greater resources to marine scientific research, such as interdisciplinary research and sustained ocean and coastal observation, as well as the **collection and sharing of data and knowledge**, including traditional knowledge, in order to increase our knowledge of the ocean.

Voluntary Commitments can address multiple targets and ocean basins.

# 1372 Total Commitments

## Ocean Basin Breakdown



## Entities



# Promoting enhanced access and use of global marine biodiversity information (**#OceanAction20776**)

- Ocean biodiversity information underpins the sustainable use and conservation of marine resources. Yet reliable and freely accessible ocean biodiversity information can be difficult to find, access and use. The UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre commits to initiating a step-change in global access to and use of marine biodiversity spatial data and information. This will be achieved by developing new and upgrading existing digital products that serve globally, regionally and nationally relevant ocean biodiversity information.