

5th United Nations Ocean Forum

Key take aways
and recommendations from the
5th UN Ocean Forum

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4 April 2025
9-10 a.m.



OVERVIEW



Event

- Co-chaired by **France and Costa Rica**
- Based on UNCTAD-FAO background note
- 1 high-level segment, 5 thematic sessions and 8 side-events
- 1 Expo on marine-based products and services
- 70 expert speakers
- 500+ participants over 3 days (3-5 March)

Outcomes

- 15 recommendations by co-chairs for UNOC3 and UNCTAD16
- Launch of new ocean trade data indicators
- One voluntary commitment on shipping and fisheries decarbonisation submitted to UNOC3
- UN Seaweed Taskforce proposed
- Co-organizing a Pavillion on *“Trade and sustainable systems for food from our ocean”* at UNOC-3, green zone



CHAIRS' SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

From Geneva to Nice: A Road Map for Sustainable Ocean Economies



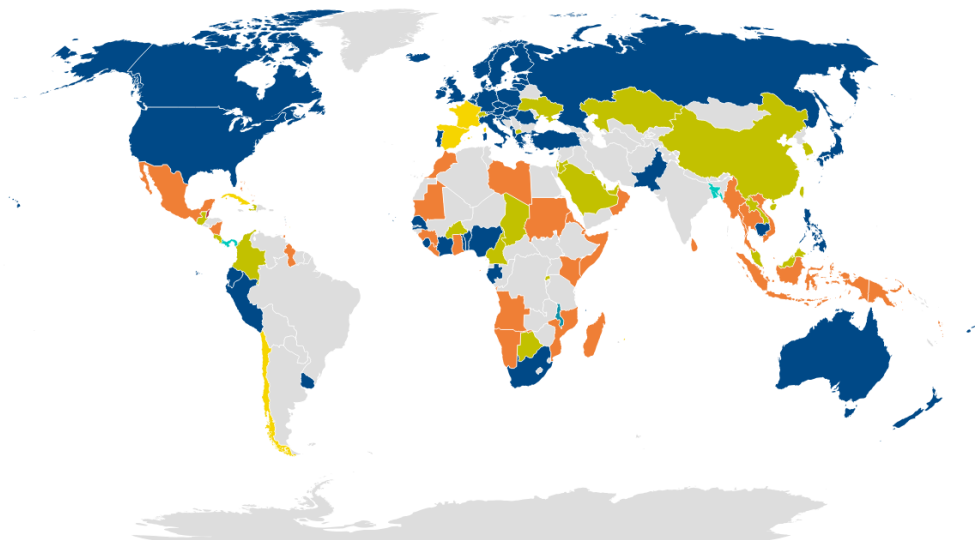
Consensus Building



7 countries have ratified the FSA, BBNJ and PSMA

Treaty ratification as of 25 March 2025

ALL BBNJ BBNJ + PSMA FSA FSA + BBNJ FSA + PSMA PSMA



Source: UNCTAD. 2025. Based on data from the World Trade Organisation (WTO), United Nations (UN) and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

Note: Countries may have ratified agreements after this figure was created. FSA = Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, BBNJ = Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (High Seas Treaty), PSMA = Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing. For the PSMA, both "ratification" and "accession" are included, as accession has the same legal effect as ratification.

- **Enhance global ocean governance** by calling to urgently ratify the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) and the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement (FSA).
- **Seize the opportunity of South-South trade** by launching sectoral negotiations on the General System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries.
- **Create a UN Taskforce on Seaweed** and a **Technical Advisory Body on sustainable biomaterials**



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Technical Cooperation



- Support the implementation of the WTO FSA, the BBNJ and upcoming agreements.
- Build the sustainability and resilience of maritime transport, ports and logistics in the face of disruptions to ensure smooth trade flows across supply chains and reliable access to ocean economy activities
- Address trade and growth barriers from land to sea for innovative marine-based products by encouraging actions that minimise pollution impacts from manufacturing and consumption



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Data, Research and Analysis

✓ Trade in ocean goods and services

Ocean goods trade: value and growth, individual economies, annual



17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: trade and growth, estimated global and regional aggregates, annual



17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: trade per capita, individual economies, annual



17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: trade per capita, estimated global and regional aggregates, annual



17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: Revealed comparative advantage index, individual economies, annual



17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: Revealed comparative advantage index, estimated global and regional aggregates, annual



17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: Theil index indices of exports and imports of products, individual economies, annual



17 Feb. 2025

Ocean services trade: value, growth and per capita, annual



17 Feb. 2025

- **Improve availability and access to quality data and indicators on trade in ocean goods and services** to foster sustainable ocean economies, by supporting national capacities to compile data
- **Measure GHG and other pollution from ocean economy sectors** by improving data generation, collection and sharing and expanding existing databases
- **Accelerate support for early warning systems and operationalize ocean carbon data collection efforts**, under the leadership of the WMO and in collaboration with UN agencies



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Finance



- **Bridge the ocean finance gap for implementing SDG14 (\$175 billion per year)**, by calling for a New Blue Deal promoting a cohesive approach to ocean finance, investment, trade, technology, and innovation (based on UNCTAD's Blue Deal & FAO's Blue Transformation)
- **Explore the feasibility of a UN driven One Ocean Finance Facility** to unify and facilitate financial support for trade and ocean economy initiatives, especially in SIDS and LDCs, that are ineligible for existing climate funds or uninsurable due to increases in climate disaster risks
- **Reform fiscal incentives to promote sustainable use in ocean economic sectors**, including by establishing dedicated financial support mechanisms for small-scale fishers, women and seaweed associations that generate environmental, social, and economic benefits and by redirecting fossil fuel and harmful fisheries subsidies



Ocean Forum webpage with

- Full list of recommendations
- Background note

Thank you



Ocean trade data

