

# **Global Oceans Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth**

## **CHAIR's SUMMARY**



**April 22 - 25, 2014 - The Hague, The Netherlands**

<http://www.globaloceansactionsummit.com/>

## I. Introduction

The Global Oceans Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth was held in The Hague, the Netherlands from 22nd to 25th April 2014.

Hosted by the Government of the Netherlands with support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), The World Bank Group, and partner countries: Grenada, Indonesia, Norway, and the United States of America, this Summit brought together global leaders, ocean practitioners, business, science, civil society and international agencies to share experiences and demonstrate how combined action in partnerships for healthier and productive oceans can drive sustainable growth and shared prosperity while preserving natural capital for future generations.

The Summit was the first conference that brought everyone together in one place to focus on action on a topic that is vitally important to all, the health of oceans. The Summit built on win-wins that break down the silos that have been keeping people apart. Silos that kept apart fisheries, conservation, food security and climate change or private sector, public sector and civil society.

Global leaders, ocean practitioners, business leaders, scientists, civil society and international organizations were challenged to come up with answers to questions about a smarter growth-model; about smarter ways to fish; about preservation of the earth's natural resources and about the moral outcry that still one billion people go to bed hungry every day.

The Summit learned from concrete success stories where competing interests were reconciled with a view to identifying actions, partnerships and financing that can help scale up activities that ultimately result in shared prosperity today and for future generations, alleviate poverty while turning down the heat on climate change.

The Summit highlighted the importance of local communities as key to implement sustainable growth and fisheries, promote changes across the entire production chain and put fairness and the environment at its heart. Local innovations should be identified and scaled up to higher levels. It also underlined the need for a "New Wave for the World". A wave that really *Turns the Tide*: "It takes generosity to discover the whole through others. If you realize you are only a violin, you can open yourself up to the world by playing your role in the concert." (Jacques-Yves Cousteau)

The Summit stressed the need to address the next frontier of successful integrated approaches that attract public-private partners, secure financing and catalyze good ocean governance while reconciling tensions and balancing priorities between (i) growth and conservation, (ii) private sector interests and equitable benefits for communities and (iii) Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) policy frameworks.

It was attended by more than 600 participants, from governments, private sector, academia, NGOs, etc. It also included a High Level Segment, where more than 80 Ministers, CEOs, and other senior officials met to discuss and share forward-looking ideas, initiatives and actions. This report is a Chair's summary report.

## **II. Background**

Eighty percent of all life on the planet is found in oceans. The ocean provides a global life support system that helps regulate climate and supplies half of the planet's oxygen needed for one in every two breaths that we take. Fish contributes 17 percent of the animal protein consumed by the world's population and thus is a critical source of food security, with demand expected to double in the next twenty years (FAO, 2012). Currently 3 billion people depend on fish for twenty percent of their average per capita intake of animal protein. About 660–820 million livelihoods (or 10–12 percent of the world's population) are dependent on the fisheries. 97 percent of the livelihoods that are directly dependent on fisheries and aquaculture occur in developing countries, mostly via small-scale operations in Asia (FAO, 2010). Ocean revenues include some US\$161 billion annually from marine and coastal tourism, in addition to a growing range of products from the oceans, such as antibiotics, antifreeze, antifouling paints and a number of pharmaceutical products (UNEP, 2006). The ocean also delivers essential public goods and services such as protection from natural hazards for the growing coastal population and carbon storage – in the form of 'blue carbon' sinks such as mangrove forests, sea grass beds and other vegetated ocean habitats, –which can sequester up to five times the amounts of carbon absorbed by tropical forests (Nellemann et al., 2009).

Today, the world faces one of the biggest challenges of the 21st century: how to feed 9 billion people by 2050 in the face of climate change, economic and financial uncertainty and the growing competition for natural resources. The multiple challenges of food insecurity, climate change, degradation of ecosystems, and economic recession require an integrated response and an urgent transition of the world economy towards a sustainable, inclusive and resource efficient path.

Healthy oceans are one key to rising to this challenge. But three key threats to ocean health – overfishing, habitat change and pollution – affect our ability to use the oceans to drive strong economies and healthy communities. Actions to solve these threats have often been unsuccessful. Moreover, they have contributed to the tensions between (i) growth and conservation, (ii) private sector interests and equitable benefits for communities and (iii) EEZs and ABNJ policy frameworks.

The tensions mentioned above have been highlighted in several oceans' summits, conferences and meetings, including the Asia Conference on Oceans, Food Security and Blue Growth, held on June 18-21, 2013, in Bali, Indonesia. This conference - which also served as the Asia Regional Pre-Summit to the Global Oceans Action Summit on Food Security and Blue Growth – discussed an Asian Campaign for Oceans, with concrete actions linking policies, investments and measures for the transition to make long-term sustainability of the living oceans a bankable proposition.

### **The Global Oceans Action Summit**

The Global Oceans Action Summit brought together stakeholders from various "schools of thought" to identify success stories that reconcile competing interests and

show how governance, partnerships and financing can help scale up activities that ultimately result in shared prosperity today and for future generations.

The agenda was built around the following key areas, which were primarily addressed in six Working Groups, on the themes: Balancing Growth & Conservation (Growth; Conservation; Solutions); Private sector & Social Equity (Role of the Private Sector; Enhancing local development; Getting action); Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) (Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; Plastics in the marine environment; Cooperation); Models for governance; Financing mechanisms; and Partnerships.

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the Global Oceans Action Summit were to:

- Identify solutions to ocean threats that can be replicated at speed and scale to deliver healthy oceans for every country.
- Identify financial mechanisms and mobilize partnerships to better fulfil international obligations.
- Use these solutions and the shared understandings across important ocean themes to serve as inputs to the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

## **III. Sessions**

The Summit presented several opportunities for keynote addresses and exchange of views. These included the opening ceremony, a panel discussion, other plenary sessions, as well as six working groups.

### **a) Opening Ceremony**

The opening plenary session was chaired by H.E. Sharon Dijksma, Minister of Agriculture of The Netherlands.

**H.E. Sharon Dijksma, the Minister of Agriculture for the Netherlands**, opened the Global Oceans Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth's Plenary. Minister Dijksma began by laying the foundation of why food security is a critical issue and why action is needed to address it through a comprehensive, international Blue Growth initiative. She highlighted how 10 to 12% of the world's population are dependent on fisheries, and how it will only increase as the population continues to steadily climb to 9 billion people. Minister Dijksma asked participants if we are willing "to stop the moral outcry that still almost 1 billion people go hungry to bed every day". She also stressed that it is critical to take action now in how we use, manage, understand, and value our oceans. Efforts to this point have not had the efficacy needed to ensure that oceans ecosystems continue to function and that people can continue to rely on the ocean for food, jobs, and ecosystem services. Additionally, three major threats the Minister highlighted include: overfishing, habitat change, and

pollution. As a way forward, the Minister suggested to bring together stakeholders from across the public-private-civil society spheres to improve regional cooperation, including through more emphasis on Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, inclusion of local communities and protected areas and habitats when discussing sustainable fisheries, innovation, among others. Minister Dijksma invited participants to be innovative and develop a strategic roadmap for actions.

**Mr. Jozias van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague**, next addressed the delegates, proclaiming The Hague, besides being the city of international justice and peace, as an emerging center of smart oceans policy. Mayor van Aartsen expressed hope that the Summit would generate ideas that could help usher in a much needed transition of the world's economy with regard to its oceans. He recounted how the sea along The Hague's coast is linked to almost every aspect of the city, including its economic development, tourism infrastructure, and cultural identity. Mayor van Aartsen concluded by urging the Summit participants to find innovative ways to engage stakeholders and to develop creative and ambitious new paths to Blue Growth.

**Dr. Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank**, next addressed the delegates via video. He noted that more than 60% of the world's economic output takes place within 100 km of global coastlines, and described some of the initiatives the World Bank has undertaken with countries to improve fisheries management, reduce ocean pollution, and protect ocean habitat. Dr. Kim highlighted the findings of the Global Partnership for Ocean's Blue Ribbon Panel of experts that emphasized the important links between communities, economies, and the sustainability of ecosystems. He concluded his remarks by restating the World Bank's commitment to work in partnership to create blue growth, and to build a world with healthy economies and healthy oceans.

**Mr. Árni M. Mathiesen, Assistant Director General of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department**, congratulated the Government of Netherlands for convening this event. He emphasized the central role of the oceans, seas and coastal areas for sustainable development as recognized in the Rio+20 Sustainable Development outcome and the importance of the Blue Economy concept in meeting the sustainable development goals that will be set in the post-2015 development agenda. FAO's commitment and a vision of sustainable growth, food security and poverty eradication led to the creation of the FAO Blue Growth Initiative which provides a global framework through which FAO will assist countries to develop and implement the Blue Economy agenda. The initiative aims to foster partnerships and act as a catalyst for policy development, investment and innovation in Support of Food Security, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Management of Aquatic Resources. To give substance to this commitment, Mr. Mathiesen indicated that FAO continues to work towards improvements in the state of fisheries. With and through its Members, FAO works towards improved fisheries governance with a particular focus on supporting and strengthening Regional Fishery Bodies whose performance is crucial for better management and conservation of fish stocks. He stressed that Blue Economy is not an appendix to the sustainable development agenda. It is a central part of it, as has been clear since Rio+20.

After the opening statements, two other relevant meetings outputs were reported to the plenary. Firstly, the Asia Conference on Oceans, Food Security and Blue Growth, secondly, the Economist World Ocean Summit, as follows:

**H.E. Sharif Cicip Sutardjo, the Indonesian Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries**, briefed Summit participants on the preceding Asia Conference on Oceans, Food Security and Blue Growth. Minister Sutardjo emphasized that the conference was extremely important because of the huge number of people in Asia who are living in coastal areas. The conference, which took place in June, 2013, and was held in preparation for this summit, tackled important threats to Asian marine areas, such as loss of habitat and of biodiversity, pollution, and climate change impacts. As Asia accounted for 67 percent of total global fish production in 2011, it is especially important for the continent to reach its Blue Growth goals, including poverty alleviation, developing strong governance models, improving market access, and creating appropriate financing mechanisms. He called on participants to avoid short-term policy fixes and instead to develop innovative policies that have a shared, long-term commitment and that leverage partnerships between societal sectors.

**Mr. Charles Goddard, Editorial Director of The Economist Asia Pacific** next briefed participants on the Economist World Ocean Summit, which took place in San Francisco in February, 2014. The Economist's interest in oceans stems from the fact that they bring together the full range of fields it covers. He stated the challenges are complex and require innovative economic solutions. He expressed concern that as a global society, we are essentially subsidizing the despoliation of the ocean. Mr. Goddard noted some positive trends in the field, including years of incremental achievement through grassroots organizing, an increase in scientific understanding of ocean health, huge opportunities for Blue Growth, and a growing understanding of the need for precautionary action. He stressed that the conference aimed to develop the right tools, policies, and incentives needed to create a stable regulatory environment, a level playing field for investment, and strong governance frameworks. It is absolutely essential, he noted, for this Summit and other related conferences to address market failures and externalities and improve natural capital accounting in order to honour the "profound connection between the ocean, and society." He also highlighted the need to increase governance of the high seas and the need to abolish harmful subsidies.

Following these presentations, **Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg of the University of Queensland** led the plenary into positioning the oceans in terms of both their threats and, perhaps more importantly, what opportunities these threats present for the international community to effectively change the course of how we understand and govern the oceans. Professor Hoegh-Guldberg's talk focused on three topics: 1) unparalleled change, 2) the ocean vis-à-vis climate change, and 3) global action. There are myriad threats to the world's fisheries. He stressed that one of the most critical threats to the ocean is climate change. The latest IPCC report identified the rapid expansion of climate change impacts being reported on oceans. Warming seas and ocean acidification have the ability to undermine all of our efforts to address ocean and fisheries issues. Though Professor Hoegh-Guldberg recognizes that there is still time to act and still time to reverse our course in how the international community addresses climate change as well as the opportunity to usher in an era of

Blue Growth. He has no doubt that through collaborative efforts we will solve the climate crisis for three key reasons – that the costs of climate change are recognized and real, that solutions already exist that are scalable, and the cost to implement these solutions is small. Professor Hoegh-Guldberg also reflected on the work of the Global Partnership on Oceans' Blue Ribbon Panel, and the common consensus among its members that sustainable oceans was a priority, human well-being and food security should be part of the solution, benefits must be balanced across people, ecosystems and industry, among others. He concluded with an uplifting note of the promise of opportunity that these most dire issues – climate change and a rapidly degrading ocean – bring to change the course of how we view our lives, our systems, and our planet.

### **b) Panel Discussion**

Moderated by Ms. Zeinab Badawi, well-known BBC anchor, a six person panel under the theme: “Perspectives on ocean challenges, opportunities for transformation” met to discuss and exchange views regarding their unique perspectives on ocean challenges and opportunities for transformation. The panel was integrated by representatives from the NGOs, philanthropy, small and medium local fisheries, and government officials. There was solid consensus among the panelists that, in the words of the Minister of the Environment for the Seychelles, Rolph Payet, “we need to look at the ocean from the sea” as opposed to our historically classic perspective of trying to manage the ocean and its resources from a terrestrial viewpoint. Panelists also refined and discussed what they view as Blue Growth and the Blue Economy. Beyond just a new ocean-centric paradigm, panelists envisioned Blue Growth and the Blue Economy as a way in which to include women to address the gender divide that currently exists in fisheries policymaking, to address and direct aid to the small fisheries that are on the frontlines of sustainable fisheries management and ecosystem protection, to internalize traditionally externalized fisheries and ocean externalities (such as the climate change mitigation and coastal protection that mangroves provide), and lastly to infuse a greater social awareness and valuation of the ocean within the greater public.

### **c) Other plenary sessions**

**Prof. William Moomaw, Fletcher School Tufts University**, presented his report as co-author of the book “Charting a new course for oceans”, which addresses the state of the world’s oceans, global fisheries and fisheries treaties, including potential strategies for reversing the decline in ocean health and productivity.

Also, a briefing of the discussions of the first three Working Groups was presented by their respective Chairs. The main conclusions from these three parallel Working Groups fed into the next set of parallel Working Groups (sessions 4, 5 and 6).

#### d) Key messages from the Working Groups

The first three Working Groups focused on identifying solutions/constraints related to the effective implementation of the already-agreed action plans designed to ensure the sustainable contribution of oceans to food security.

Working Groups 4, 5 and 6 built upon Working Groups 1 Balancing Growth & Conservation, 2 on Private Sector & Social Equity and 3 ABNJ & EEZ's and explored how governance, investment and partnerships can assist in the application of those solutions (or remove constraints). Good governance, sustainable financing, and partnerships are key for lasting collaborative action, and are levers that can be used to achieve food security and broad-based blue growth.

#### WORKING GROUP 1: BALANCING GROWTH & CONSERVATION

- ***Enhancing the potential of aquaculture, mariculture and non-traditional marine resources*** to contribute to sustainable growth. Of special importance is investment in research and development towards production systems that are independent from fish feeds; to address the issue of diseases and genetic improvements; to develop appropriate technologies for offshore marine farms, and to reduce by-catch
- ***Enhance the ability of capture fisheries*** to increase fish production through:
  - restoring overexploited and depleted stocks and protecting/restoring critical habitats; reducing fishing capacity and creating alternative job opportunities;
  - eliminating existing huge losses and waste along the value chain and by adding value to fishery products to generate jobs and economic growth; supporting research to improve understanding of ecosystem structure and functioning, possible impacts of climate change on resources and biodiversity.
- ***Promote the rapid entry into force and implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement***, including taking early actions on capacity building and development of adequate legislative framework.
- ***Implement the Global Record of Fishing Vessels Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels***, including the addition of information on vessel activities in support of an effective implementation of Port State Measures.
- ***Establish and effectively implement*** a Regional plan of action on IUU fishing in West Africa.
- ***The small scale sector needs strong recognition***, particularly in the context of blue growth for food security and alleviation of poverty.



- **Establish security of tenure in small scale fisheries** by integrating SSF in rights allocation
- **Invest in value chains relevant to small-scale fisheries**, and enhance human capacity development on various aspects of production, transformation and marketing.
- **Implementing ecosystem approaches**, including those that address the multisectoral dimensions of sustainability, and more inclusive processes to ensure ownership of the natural resources management process.
- **Strengthening users' rights**, including tenure, to create stronger stakeholder stewardship for sustainable resource management.

## WORKING GROUP 2: PRIVATE SECTOR & SOCIAL EQUITY

- **Private sector should promote leadership and collaboration** in all areas of blue growth, including transfer of capacity and knowledge to developing states, particularly in aquaculture. Growth of the private sector should be a vector for the development and the accrual of benefits to the host communities.
- **Develop regulatory frameworks** that give security to private sector actors should be promoted.
- **IGOs (including WB and FAO) should foster partnerships with private sector** that would lead to a more targeted investment and to research on blue growth
- **IGOs and the donor community** should coordinate efforts to establish a revolving fund to support the effective participation of developing States in regional fishery management decision-making processes
- **Support involvement of private sector and local communities** in the development and implementation of international instruments to guide work on mid and small-scale fisheries (including work on the Guidelines on Responsible Tenure of Land Fisheries and Forestry and the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines).
- **Promote an appropriate consideration of ocean-related issues** in the development of Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Promote development of international platforms**, such as the Global Partnership for Oceans (GPO), to coordinate and facilitate financing to enhance sustainability of the oceans and foster coordination and collaboration between different actors interested in ocean issues.

### WORKING GROUP 3: ABNJ & EEZ'S

- **A coordinated UNEP-FAO-IMO programme** to: (1) establish a robust baseline on the magnitude and impacts associated with plastics and microplastics in the ocean and food chains, (2) raise awareness and educate on the state and impact of plastics on the ocean and the food supply chain, and (3) target actions to remove abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gears and rehabilitate fishing grounds.
- **Good governance** is required for the sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the basis for growth and investment. This entails adequate policy, legal and institutional frameworks at different scales, i.e. local, national and regional.
- **Strengthening regional governance/ institutions (RFMOs)** as their role is regarded central to ABNJ management and IUU elimination, with due recognition and consideration of the evolving nature of IUU fishing from traditional illegal and pirate activities to non compliance by RFMO members. This entails the need for enhanced transparency in the sharing of intelligence on IUU fishing activities and prosecutions.
- **Implementing existing agreements** (such as those developed by FAO, i.e. Port State Measures Agreement and Guidelines for the Assessment of Flag State Performance).
- **Combating marine litter** is most effective at source. Also controlling enforcement are valuable elements in the aim to eliminate marine litter.
- **Accelerate the implementation** of the global record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels (including a unique vessel identifier for all vessels), as well additional information on vessel activities in support of effective implementation of port state measures.

### WORKING GROUP 4: GOVERNANCE

To optimize revenues and ensure benefit sharing, effective governance systems that support innovation while deterring illegal activity are critical for better stewardship of the ocean's natural capital. Focusing on the managed resources and the managers is important to achieve best results. With regard to the former, Integrated Management of the Marine Ecosystem (IMME) is one way to alleviate the competition for ocean space and resources. IMME requires identifying and mapping current uses and stakeholders, collectively setting objectives and priorities; using available science and traditional knowledge, and adjusting zoning/ rules to prioritize and accommodate differing use. Two approaches for resource managers were discussed at this Summit – co-management and community management, where the first includes a government component. Communities need information on technology, price, regulation, and the decision-making processes that affect them, and thus can be particularly enabled by access to these information resources. Increased

transparency of all of this information is necessary to improve outcomes for local communities. Other enabling conditions include access – to markets, facilitating community voices, securing rights, and investing in direct payments to reward best practice. Successfully transitioning to co-management of fisheries requires an investment of time and local resources to build trust to transform sometimes former antagonists into collaborators to embrace shared goals and achieve sustainable results. This requires building networks among local communities, and building legislative frameworks that enable them to connect with decision makers.

## WORKING GROUP 5: FINANCE

Mobilizing financing is key to catalyzing action—particularly to capture positive externalities and to make up for imperfect information that sometimes leads to low consumer demand for domestic spending on oceans. Diversifying investment across scale and sector can reduce risk and yield best results for economies and the environments associated with them. There are trillions of dollars in capital markets and it takes an intentional effort by governments and investors to move them toward ocean investment, including through the use of guarantees, taxation schemes and incentive structures. For example, public and commercial financial institutions developing the Green Bond Market can develop Blue Bond standards to invite ocean investments into this market. The potential for substantial investment is high, but will take time and be dependent on effective risk management. Engagement with verification services including the Marine Stewardship Council will avoid unnecessary duplication and reinvention in developing standards and approaches. Those with capital (e.g. foundations, IFIs) can mitigate risk, and establish proof of concept by making initial investments. Scale matters – in that there are both marketplaces for small and large investments. Yet these need to be bankable and apply across the supply chain. Best practices will yield economic, social, and environmental returns. Calculating absolute returns must therefore consider natural, social and financial capital. Donors are already beginning to do this by using development assistance to finance green impact investment opportunities through private and civil society actors. This should be scaled up and the approach applied by other interested institutions.

## WORKING GROUP 6: PARTNERSHIP

Partnerships are essential to crowding in the expertise and funding necessary to close the implementation gap. They are widely accepted as effective means of achieving common objectives, leveraging and pooling resources and expertise, and facilitating better integration of conservation and development. Partnerships must reinforce the principles of equity, transparency and justice, while generating tangible benefits for the economy, environment, and society and contributing to poverty alleviation. Existing partnerships, such as they Global Partnership for Oceans and Global Island Partnership strive to do this. Partnerships require governance arrangements to sustain coordination, ensure integrity and deliver results. Pairing the private sector with the public creates new challenges, emphasizing the importance of clarifying roles and motivations of each. Different partners may lead at different times, and can achieve positive outcomes in ways that are symbiotic and sustainable. A healthy tension can be beneficial as can sequencing of partners' actions for

maximum impact. And small public investments (risk capital) can lead to large returns when paired with private sector resources (exit capital) to achieve best results. Partnerships based on trust and respect while focusing on getting things done have proven to be the most effective and enduring.

#### **IV. High Level Segment**

The High Level Segment consisted of an opening session and High Level Round Tables.

##### **a) Opening Ceremony**

The opening ceremony of the High Level Segment included the participation of some Heads of State, Ministers, CEOs and other high level officials of NGOs, academia, etc.

**H.E. Sharon Dijksma, the Minister of Agriculture for the Netherlands**, opened the High Level Segment ceremony. She called for concrete outcomes and actions. Minister Dijksma also stated that the Summit should put forth clear solutions that will be able to address and meet the challenges of overfishing, the growing challenge of feeding 9 billion people, and the use of the oceans' marine resources in a sustainable ecologically, economically, and socially way. Minister Dijksma announced several partnerships that The Netherlands is signing with different partners, such as Grenada or Indonesia, in order to support a transition to a Blue Economy Ocean State and Blue Growth and food security, respectively. She ended her opening statement by reiterating a call for action and the development of a Roadmap for Ocean Action, in order to ensure ocean health, food security, and the development of the Blue Economy for the future.

**Dr. Right Honourable Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada**, opened his address by emphasizing that "the threat to oceans is a threat to all of us." He emphasized the extreme over exploitation of fisheries and that these issues will only be heightened by "the game changer" - climate change. In regards to climate change, he indicated that we are facing the unprecedented challenge. Grenada has been a very vocal advocate for addressing climate change. He stressed that ocean issues are a critical part of any attempts to address climate change, just as climate change fora must recognize and address the role of oceans and marine issues. Prime Minister Mitchell highlighted a number of regional and ocean and fishery related international fora that Grenada has engaged in, along with other countries, NGOs, and the private sector. He also emphasized how communication and technology should be used to catalyze widespread action. Finally, the Prime Minister issued a strong call for action. "We all know the issues very well, too many times we talk and we talk while the problems become bigger and bigger. We are here today for actions and solutions."

**H.E. John Kerry, U.S. Secretary of State, United States of America**, via a video message, addressed the participants and noted that the Summit was timely, falling on the same week as the 45th annual celebration of Earth Day. Secretary Kerry noted that we cannot properly care for the Earth without caring for the oceans that

cover nearly 75% of its surface. He cited the various challenges facing the oceans, from climate change, acidification to overexploitation of fisheries, and urged each of us to take up our responsibility as ocean stewards. He called for the advent of new global oceans agenda, inclusive of all sectors and stakeholders. Ocean stewardship is not only an environmental concern, he stated, it's also a health, economic, food security, and moral issue. He invited participation in the forthcoming Ocean Summit, at the US State Department, Washington DC.

**H.E. Elisabeth Aspaker, Norway, Minister of Fisheries**, began her address by emphasizing that Blue Growth is possible. However, it is critical to recognize that the ocean is a provider of living and non-living resources and that the living resources are not limitless. The ocean's resources must be managed properly so that future generations can also enjoy them. This consideration and concern of ensuring resources for future generations is the definition of sustainable development that guides Norway's fisheries governance. Sustainable fisheries are also imperative in global sustainable development, especially in light of food security and nutrition. She stressed that the state of marine fisheries is worsening, and the health of oceanic ecological environments is in peril. This makes sustainable Blue Growth, which includes sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, all the more critical. Minister Aspaker also recognized that subsidies are the main contributor to fishing overcapacity. The Minister's keynote address concluded by recognizing the practical reality that in terms of Blue Growth and oceanic sustainable development, each country must find its own model. Though these models will be unique, Minister Aspaker proposes that there are key elements that should underlie any model. She concluded by indicating that "If we care for the oceans, the oceans will care for us".

**H.E. Rashid Ahmed bin Fahad, Minister for Environment and Water, United Arab Emirates**, outlined the UAE's commitment to supporting sustainable growth and the protection of marine resources, noting his country's reliance on healthy marine areas. The UAE's economy has major fisheries and shipping sectors, and the country is committed to playing its role as part of the solution. The country's Blue Carbon project is one example of this commitment to sustainability. Minister bin Fahad, stressed, however, that despite such measures already in place, partnerships and action are urgently needed to take on the many and significant challenges currently facing our oceans and marine resources.

**Mr. Àrni M. Mathiesen, Assistant Director General of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department** delivered a short statement centered around 6 points for action: 1) support for an appropriate role of oceans and even a stand-alone ocean sustainable development goal; 2) recognition of the required investment for food security and aquaculture (in particular fish feed and genetic development) as well as recognition that there is still a lot of work needed for wild fisheries and the continued need for the implementation of the Fisheries Code of Conduct; 3) recognition of the importance of small scale fisheries, rights allocation, and finance; 4) recognition of the need for a regulatory framework and good governance; 5) recognition of the need for partnerships between civil society, the private sector, and governments and finally; 6) recognition of the need for the ratification of the Port State Measures Agreement, the importance of flag state performance, of the need to reinvigorate RFMOs, and the need for cooperation with the regional conservation authorities and the IMO.

**Mr. Juergen Voegele, Director of Agriculture and Environmental Services, World Bank**, remarked that this Summit unites us around a theme that we all care about, and that our challenge is then to find ways to work together to find solutions through collective action. He stressed that Summits like this should integrate our efforts, not polarize us as actors. Global plans must translate into local action, and the work of the Blue Ribbon Panel exemplifies the kind of innovative thinking needed to bridge the many gaps in our marine policies. We must find solutions and bring them to fruition quickly.

### **b) High Level Round Tables**

The representatives were challenged to come forward with forward-looking ideas, initiatives and actions through two High Level Round Tables, which were held in parallel, in morning and afternoon sessions.

Roundtable A was chaired by H.E. Sharon Dijksma, Minister of Agriculture of The Netherlands, and had the following introductory speakers during the morning session: Rupert Howes, CEO, Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), and H.E. Robert Aisi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations in New York. During the afternoon round table, Mr. Johan van de Gronden, CEO WWF Netherlands, delivered an introductory speech. After the introductory statements, there was an open discussion and exchange of views on the Pitches for Action.

The Roundtable B was Co-chaired by Dr. Right Hon. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada, H.E. Roland Bhola, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of Grenada, and Mr. Fred Boltz, Managing Director, Rockefeller Foundation. The round table had the following introductory speakers during the morning session: Peter Seligmann, CEO, Conservation International, and Mr. Joost Oorthuizen, CEO, IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative. During the afternoon roundtable, Hon. Henry Puna, Prime Minister of Cook Islands, delivered an introductory speech. After the introductory statements, there was an open discussion and exchange of views on the Pitches for Action.

### **c) Key messages High Level segment/ Pitches for Action**

The Global Oceans Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth brought together a diverse range of ocean stakeholders to identify solutions and success stories that reconcile competing interests and show how governance, partnerships and financing can help scale up activities that result in shared prosperity today and for future generations.

They proposed the following pitches for action:

## **Integrated approaches: Breaking down silos**

- Embed oceans in the post-2015 development framework to align human well-being and ocean health, preferably in a stand-alone Sustainable Development Goal
- Address Climate Change to restore ocean health because climate change is increasingly the biggest threat to ocean health. Incorporate oceans in the climate change agenda leading to the UNFCCC Conference in Paris in 2015, including through international processes and events such as the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on SIDS 2014 and the UN Secretary-General's Climate Summit in September 2014
- Improve regional integrated coastal and High Seas management, including by supporting approaches such as the Integrated Management of the Marine Ecosystem (IMME) approaches, with a view to protecting and restoring natural coastal habitats; securing coastal livelihoods; expanding marine protected areas; improving ecosystems; reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience to climate change impacts and addressing both marine- and land-based pollution
- Convene inter-sectoral national dialogues on oceans that bring together public agencies, the private sector, civil society and local communities and develop national action plans for blue growth
- Increase the resilience of livelihoods to disasters
- Integrate local knowledge from small-scale communities into national and ecosystem level policies and strategies for the more equitable use of and access to benefits from marine resources
- Important actions are needed to address the impact and role of industrial fisheries on drivers of ecosystem degradation. Greater emphasis should be given by FAO and other international organizations on the key role of fish and other sea food as important resources for global food security as they are often left out in global discussions
- The UNESCO World heritage List includes 46 unique marine sites in 35 countries. By surface area they cover 20% of all existing marine protected areas. All major NGOs and all major charitable foundations already work in these sites on a multitude of projects. Yet, the reality is that many of these outstanding marine sites remain seriously threatened by unsustainable practices, fisheries in particular. Some sites are now on the brink of extinction. Marine World Heritage presents a unique opportunity to make a transformational change in a substantial coverage of our global MPA community. The call for action is to join forces across all partners and collectively help nations that host these sites so we can truly live up to the spirit of the World Heritage Convention and all future generations can continue to enjoy these Crown Jewels Of the Ocean.

## **Governance**

- All states concerned should accede to and implement existing and international instruments pertaining to the management of living marine resources (such as UNCLOS, UN Fish Stock Agreement)
- Accelerate the entry into force of the Port State Measures Agreement, and build capacity and credible institutions to implement it even prior to the entry into force of the Agreement itself
- Operationalize Small Scale Fisheries Guidelines and Voluntary Guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forestry
- Strengthen the mandate, effectiveness, and financing of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO's) in order to bridge governance gaps and enhance fisheries management, particularly in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction to eliminate IUU-fishing
- Promote ecosystem approaches to fisheries and aquaculture management
- Accelerate the implementation of the global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and supply Vessels, including the addition of information on vessel activities in support of an effective implementation of Port State Measures Agreement
- Eliminate harmful fisheries subsidies that contribute to overfishing and overcapacity and instead incentive activities that promote conservation and sustainable fishing in the industrial, artisanal and small-scale fisheries sectors.
- Conserve at least 10% of coastal and marine areas by 2020, as committed to in the Aichi Targets by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
- Invest in Information and Communications Technology to detect non-compliance and transparently share information in real time, including with law enforcement agencies mandated to act on such information
- Share selected monitoring and surveillance information e.g. own-vessel tracking to assist companies in their own vessel management to ensure self regulation and compliance which has been demonstrated to improve compliance and valuing the fishery
- Urgent need to invest in an global information service to support, inter alia, knowledge on the actors in global oceans, international legal and policy platforms, best practices and compliance and enforcement actions and research, development and innovation.

## **Private Public Partnerships**

- Commit to existing and new innovative partnerships, such as the Global Partnership for Oceans and the Blue Growth concept



- Scale up financing for replicating best practices and knowledge platforms, including via South-South cooperation and in triangular partnerships
- Design extension services that bundle knowledge and technical assistance from relevant public, private and civil society agencies to reduce transaction costs for local communities, SME's and countries, seeking to enhance ocean health
- Private public partnerships should be underpinned by principles of equity, justice and transparency, to ensure they contribute to improved benefits for local communities and development countries

## **Investments**

- Strengthen the uptake and execution of innovative financing mechanisms, like blue bonds, to mobilize domestic and international and private resources for enhancing ocean health
- Invest in small-medium enterprises and local communities as effective agents for delivering broad-based blue growth and aquaculture production
- Incorporate natural capital accounting of marine resources and the valuation of ecosystems services into sustainable development planning and policy making
- Develop principles for inclusive investment that take into account the needs of local coastal communities
- Develop risk management approaches to attract private investments in sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture, including to deal with invasive alien species
- Reduce the transaction costs and upfront capital requirements that exclude countries and communities from securing access to niche markets and financial benefits from ocean-related certification schemes
- Endorse the Committee on Food Security's Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment
- Call for a special fund to be set up by World Bank, IMF, ADB and other international financial institution to support the investment needs of developing and least developed countries in the areas of infrastructure, processing facilities, and capacity building of small-medium enterprises
- Support from more advanced economies to support developing and least developed countries in the areas of investment, identified above

## **Research and development/ innovation**

- Enhance private and public investment in research and development and the dissemination of knowledge in order to increase the knowledge base on oceans, fisheries management and aquaculture to capture the potential of new technologies to secure benefits from oceans

- Incentivize private and academic research institutions to undertake research and develop solutions for site-specific oceans challenges.
- Research and develop the sustainability, governance, investment and regulatory frameworks for off-shore aquaculture, including in the high-seas.
- Invest in research that would allow countries and companies to scale up sustainable aquaculture, innovate new fish feed, and reduce food waste
- Invest in a robust global information service that collates and shares information and knowledge in an accessible, transparent and timely manner

## **V. The way forward**

The Global Oceans Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth in The Hague (April 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2014) brought together a diverse range of ocean stakeholders to identify solutions and success stories that reconcile competing interests and show how governance, partnerships and financing can help scale up activities that result in shared prosperity today and for future generations.

The Summit noticed that the world is waking up to the challenges that face the oceans. The challenges are known and acknowledged. At the Summit there was a willingness to move ahead from recognizing the challenges to formulating concrete actions and developing and/or joining partnerships. Partnerships which show how combined action for more healthy and productive oceans can drive sustainable growth and shared prosperity, while preserving our natural resources for future generations.

In this regard participants highlighted the need for specific attention to embed Oceans in the climate change and other relevant agenda's, and working towards a Sustainable Development Goal on Oceans, as part of the Post-2015 Development Framework.

The outcomes of the Global Ocean Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth contribute to and link with a variety of national, regional and international processes, including the Post-2015 Development Framework, the climate change agenda and the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), such as; the World Coral Reef Conference in Manado Conference 16 May 2014, Indonesia, the US Government Our Ocean Conference, Washington DC, 16-17 June 2014 the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on SIDS, Apia, Samoa, 4-9 September 2014; the UN Secretary-General's Climate Summit, New York, 23 September 2014; the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in Peru in December 2014; the Blue Grenada meeting, January 2015; the High-Level policy forum in the margins of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting, Philippines, planned for November 2015.

Existing partnerships in the area of oceans, such as the Global Partnership for Oceans and the Blue Growth Concept, have to be strengthened and global participation should be promoted.

Participants called for championing new, concrete and innovative actions and partnerships specifically in the field of Blue Growth and Food Security. An inclusive voluntary Global Alliance/Network for Action on Blue Growth and Food Security could bring forward and accelerate concrete actions and partnerships identified by the Summit. It can strengthen ongoing partnerships and initiatives as mentioned before. Other participants urged strengthening of existing partnerships in the area of oceans, such as the Global Partnership for Oceans.

The outcomes encourage and strengthen collaborative and innovative approaches. There was a call to continue this dialogue for action, and as a driver launch an effective advocacy and public awareness campaign for Food Security and Blue Growth, with special attention to young people.

### **Summit's launching of Partnerships and Actions**

The following partnerships and actions were launched during the Summit:

- A tripartite collaboration program between the **Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries in Indonesia, the Government of the Netherlands and Wageningen University and Research Center** on Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security in Indonesia, focusing on enhancing the availability and accessibility of safe fish and fish products, of high quality, specifically looking at ways to reduce waste in the fish sector. This work is planned in specific pilot sites between now and the end of 2016
- The **World Oceans Council** opened the door to engage the business community into the work on oceans, by developing private public partnerships, at a global and multi-sectoral scale, to ensure responsible use of marine resources. WOC also offered to facilitate partnerships for sharing data platforms from the private sector
- The Government of **Grenada and the Netherlands** have joined forces to drive the transformation of Grenada to a Blue Economy Ocean State, by supporting sustainable increases in the productivity of Grenada's marine food systems; single-use and multi-use coastal and ocean spaces; coastal people's livelihoods that are threatened by climate change, and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources
- **Mauritius, the Seychelles and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)** will initiate action towards certification of specific fish species in the Indian Ocean
- **Rockefeller Foundation and the Netherlands** pledged funding support to **WorldFish** to produce a navigational chart for blue growth and global fisheries, the Roadmap for the Future of Fish. Using this Roadmap, it will be possible to help define the quantitative goals for a sustainable fish food system that fully meets global needs in 2030 and beyond. WorldFish will work with FAO and other partners from industry, academia and civil society to assess the future fish food system.

- The **World Bank** will work with partners to ensure that smart and ambitious targets and indicators on oceans are included in all Sustainable Development Goals. The World Bank will also work through its Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services partnership to help countries undertake natural capital accounting of their ocean assets to inform their national planning.
- The **UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** will support countries to implement Blue Growth Initiatives, including strengthening the RFMO's and implementing the small-scale fisheries guidelines, as well as through ecosystem approaches, to ensure sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- **The International Sustainability Unit of The Prince of Wales' Charitable Foundation**, with the **Environmental Defense Fund** and the **50 and 10 initiative** have established a collaborative partnership to develop financing guidelines for fishery recovery, with the support from the **World Bank** and the **David and Lucile Packard Foundation**
- **The Philippines** will host a high-level policy forum in the margins of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting, and build on the outcomes of this Summit as a way forward to ensure the sustainability of our oceans for the years to come
- **Conservation International** committed to work with interested parties on implementing the Ocean Health Index, claiming a healthy ocean sustainably delivers a range of benefits to people now and in the future
- **UNEP in partnership with FAO and IMO** will work towards reducing sea based marine litter within the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, which aims to contribute to the sustainable use of ocean resources
- **WWF and the Netherlands Government** committed to a partnership to identify the benefits of extending effectively managed networks of marine protected areas to 30% coverage, to assess the change in biodiversity, fisheries, coastal protection, recreation and other associated ecosystem services and the net impact of expanding networks of MPA's on employment and food security
- **The Nature Conservancy, Global Islands Partnership (GLISPA) and the World Bank** commit to mapping the existing initiatives that are working to restore ocean health to identify opportunities for synergies and address gaps

The Summit created **the social media #Oceanaction** which has already become a rallying point for ocean voices the world over, with 3800 tweets and 10 million impressions during the Summit only, and will continue to inspire dialogue beyond the Summit.

## **Annex 1- Proceedings of the meeting**

The opening plenary started with an intervention of H.E. Sharon Dijksma, Minister of Agriculture of The Netherlands. Mr. Jozias van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague, who welcomed participants to the city of The Hague, followed her intervention. Dr. Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank (video message) and Mr. Àrni M. Mathiesen, Assistant Director General of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, also delivered welcome statements to the plenary.

After the opening statements, the outcomes from two recent ocean conferences were reported to the plenary. Firstly, the Asia Conference on Oceans, Food Security and Blue Growth by H.E. Sharif Cicip Sutardjo, the Indonesian Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, and secondly, the Economist World Ocean Summit, by Mr. Charles Goddard, Editorial Director of The Economist Asia Pacific

To set the tone for the Summit, Prof. Ove Hoegh-Guldberg Director Global Change Institute, University of Queensland and coordinating lead-author of the oceans chapter in the 5th Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Report, as well as Chair of the Global Partnership for Oceans' Blue Ribbon Panel, made a presentation on "Positioning the Oceans within the Global Action Landscape".

Afterwards, a panel discussion, moderated by Ms. Zeinab Badawi, BBC Anchor, was held. The theme of the panel was: "Perspectives on ocean challenges, opportunities for transformation." Panelists included: Rolph Payet, Minister for Environment, Seychelles; Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio, Senior Associate Director, Rockefeller Foundation; Fatou Mboob, Executive Director, TRY Oyster Women's Association, The Gambia; Lori Kennedy, Co-founder/ Co-owner, Louisburg Seafoods Ltd; Stephen Hall, Director General, WorldFish; and Sebastian Troeng, Senior Vice President, Conservation International.

After the rich conversations and exchanges held during the opening ceremony, the Chair proceeded to present the program of the Summit and introduce the Working Groups. She also invited participants to join the different side events that were to be held during lunch times (see annex 3) and visit the exhibition stands.

Three parallel Working Groups started on Tuesday afternoon and concluded their work on Wednesday morning, with 3 sessions each.

Working Group 1 focused on Balancing Growth and Conservation with separate sessions on: growth; conservation; and solutions (see Annex 2)

Working Group 2 focused on Private Sector and Social Equity with separate sessions on: the role of the private sector; enhancing local development; and "getting action" (see Annex 2)

Working Group 3 focused on Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions and Exclusive Economic Zones with separate sessions on: Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing; plastics in the marine environment; and cooperation (see Annex 2)

Working Group 4 focused on Models for Governance with separate sessions on: Integrated Management of the Marine Ecosystem; creating conditions for best practice community management; and transitioning to co-management of local fisheries. (see Annex 2)

Working Group 5 focused on Financing Mechanisms with separate sessions on: why public, private and multilateral institutions invest in oceans; financing the transition to sustainable blue economies, including Blue Bonds; and banking on sustainable fisheries and healthy ecosystems (see Annex 2)

Working Group 6 focused on Partnerships with separate sessions on: lessons from effective partnerships for ocean health; public partnerships for transformative action; and private sector partnerships for sustainable fisheries (see Annex 2)

A plenary session on Wednesday heard a keynote address by Prof. William Moomaw, Fletcher School Tufts University, on “Charting a new course for oceans”.

A briefing of the discussions of the first three Working Groups was also presented by their respective Chairs. The main conclusions from these three parallel Working Groups fed into the next set of parallel Working Groups (sessions 4, 5 and 6).

On Thursday morning, the Opening Ceremony of the High Level Segment took place. It started with an intervention by H.E. Sharon Dijksma, Minister of Agriculture of The Netherlands. Her intervention was followed by Dr. Right Hon. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada; H.E. John Kerry, Secretary of State, United States of America (video message); H.E. Elisabeth Aspaker, Minister of Fisheries, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Norway; and finally, H.E. Rashid Ahmed bin Fahad, Minister for Environment and Water, United Arab Emirates.

After the feedback from the Working Groups, presented by H.E. Lisa Svensson, Swedish Ambassador for Ocean, Seas and Fresh Water, the Chair, H.E. Minister Dijksma introduced the Pitches for Actions (which were extracted from the Working Groups) to be discussed by the High-Level Roundtables and a plenary working group. Mr. Árni M. Mathiesen, Assistant Director General of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department Mr. Juergen Voegelé, Director of Agriculture and Environmental Services, World Bank delivered short statements.

The plenary split into parallel High Level Round Tables (two in the morning and two in the afternoon) and Working Groups 4 on Models for Governance, 5 on Financing Mechanisms and 6 on Partnerships continued their deliberations.

High-Level Round Table A was chaired by H.E. Sharon Dijksma, Minister of Agriculture of The Netherlands, and had the following introductory speakers during the morning session: Rupert Howes, CEO, Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), and H.E. Robert Aisi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations in New York. During the afternoon round table, Mr. Johan van de Gronden, CEO WWF Netherlands, delivered an introductory speech. After the introductory statements, there was an open discussion and exchange of views on the Pitches for Action.

High-Level Round Table B was co-chaired by Dr. Right Hon. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada, H.E. Roland Bhola, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of Grenada, and Mr. Fred Boltz, Managing Director, Rockefeller Foundation. The round table had the following introductory speakers during the morning session: Peter Seligmann, CEO, Conservation International, and Mr. Joost Oorthuizen, CEO, IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative. During the afternoon round table, Hon. Henry Puna, Prime Minister of Cook Islands, delivered an introductory speech. After the introductory statements, there was an open discussion and exchange of views on the Pitches for Action.

On Thursday afternoon, a plenary Working Group chaired by H.E. Angus Friday (Ambassador of Grenada to the US) discussed the main highlights and pitches for action identified by the Chair. There was an open discussion and exchange of views on the Pitches for Action.

Dr. Hans Hoogeveen, Vice-minister of Agriculture of The Netherlands, chaired the morning plenary session on Friday. Mr. Frits Thissen, Dutch Agricultural Counselor to the EU and Mr. Fred Boltz, Managing Director, Rockefeller Foundation, were invited to brief participants on the discussions held and outcomes of the High Level Round Tables A and B, respectively. Following their intervention, H.E. Angus Friday, Ambassador of Grenada to the USA, also updated participants on discussions held in the plenary working group which also addressed the Pitches for Action, as introduced by Minister Dijkma. After these briefings, Dr. Hoogeveen introduced the Chair's draft summary report. Participants were invited to share their views and to announce more actions and partnerships. The Secretariat prepared a clean Chair's summary, with duly consideration of inputs received.

The Summit concluded at 1pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> of April, with closing statements by Valerie Hickey, speaking on behalf of the World Bank, Mr. Arni Mathiesen, speaking on behalf of FAO, who thank participants for their hard work and also the Dutch government for their hospitality and efforts in organizing the Summit. Dr. Hans Hoogeveen, on behalf of the Dutch government, concluded the Summit by recognizing that its success was the result of a team effort, together with the Organizing partners, as well as the commitment of participants to an action oriented outcome.

## Annex 2- Working Groups Reports

### BALANCING GROWTH AND CONSERVATION IN CAPTURE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

#### Summary Report of the Working Group 1 held on 22-23/04/2014 Global Oceans Action Summit, The Hague. 21-25/04/2015

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The WG, conducted in three sessions, was attended by about 100 participants with different professional backgrounds. It was led by Gabriella Bianchi (FAO, WG leader) and Angus Friday (Ambassador of Grenada to the US, Facilitator) and animated by five panelist (Randall Brummet from the World Bank; Naseegh Jaffer from the World Forum of Fisher Peoples; Scott Nichols, Director Verlasso; John Tanzer, Director WWF Global Marine Programme; and Peter Gullestad, former Director of the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries. All experts attended the 3 sessions.

The WG discussed on the ways and means to act more decisively while balancing the goals of growth and conservation to reach sustainable use of capture fisheries and aquaculture resources, e.g. under a “Blue Growth” perspective. Session 1 and 2 focused respectively on growth (mainly but not only in food supplies) and then on conservation (it is broader sense), acknowledging that there were strong connections (conflicts, trade-offs and synergies) between the two. Session 3 reviewed the actions proposed for both objectives examining more particularly impediments or enhancing factors, trade-offs, synergies etc.

#### 2. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

The participants made a number of considerations of relevance to the action needed in the fishery and aquaculture sectors:

- Growth: Need to define what “growth” means. While the meeting was focused in food security, it was stressed that growth was not only about GDP but it could be interpreted as increased food availability, reduced poverty, improved well-being. Capture fisheries have a limited potential for growth (except perhaps in mesopelagic, krill, etc.); there are trade-offs between growth and conservation.
- Sustainable use: All actions have impact that has to be measured in terms of the three dimensions of sustainable use (environmental; economic and social). Growth and conservation are strictly linked. Need to define what “conservation” is. The word may mean very different things in different places, from total protection to sustainable use. Need to create ownership by local communities and governments
- Rapid urbanization (requiring building materials and generation pollution) is often a problem and not only overfishing (in many island countries and reef ecosystems)
- Apply good governance: Investment in coastal areas need policy and legal frameworks. Ecosystem approaches are required, management plans, MPAs but there has to be ownership of the process. Need for integrated approaches including issues of investment, governance and ownership of the process, at different scales (local, urban and national), need to use and integrated traditional ecological knowledge. Need for strengthening regional governance/institutions. Put efforts into implementing present agreements (such as those developed by FAO, i.e. Port State Measures)



- Research and assessment: Need for proper valuation of marine resources, including evaluation of ecosystem goods and services as well as sound economic assessment of costs and benefits of development and /or protection. Need for research into new feed stuffs for aquaculture. Need also research for methods of disease prevention, breeding stock improvement, environmental carrying capacity for aquaculture operations.
- The “western approach” to SSF management is inadequate leads to misunderstanding of local food security needs and social development priorities. There is a need to integrate SSF rights allocation and management into national/local social development and food security programmes; prioritize SSF as a local, traditional food production practice. Need to invest in local food and developmental needs and not create local costs to SSF for global desires.
- As wild fish production is at its limit, aquaculture is the only solution to significantly increase production. Inland aquaculture will be limited by the availability of suitable freshwater. Overall, aquaculture has to follow a different model than the present one and business as usual is definitely not a viable option.

### 3. ACTION

#### 3.1 Aquaculture and mariculture:

- Feeds: Develop production systems that use less or no wild fish as feed. The technology exist. Need for investment to scale up. Need concerted action to have the critical mass for R&D
- Fish health: Reduce the risk of diseases. Improve disease control. Develop programmes to produce vaccines for all valuable species
- Development focus: Make the development more locally relevant. Up-scaling: Multiply by 2 or 3 the area dedicated to aquaculture production to satisfy the increase needed. Intensification is unavoidable if a geographical spread of the impact is to be reduced/avoided. Origin of the investment: more sustainable impact will be obtained mobilizing investment from the lower 20 % range of investors than from the 20% top of that range. Need to consider tradeoffs between intensification/amount of energy required and water availability. EIA and IES to be generalized. More decisive investment: in “Blue Growth”, in partnership with the private sector.
- R&D: in feeds, genetics, culture systems (lower impact technologies), extension work, markets rationalization, integration of ICT technology. Need for development of aquaculture in offshore areas; development of breeding guilds for more efficient production / genetic improvements; Environmental impact assessment; Means to reduce the environmental impacts of aquaculture. Better understanding of future supply and demand scenarios
- Good governance: better defined user rights; Technology to reduce/reuse wastes and produce by-products. Regulations and policy: adopting and implementing better international standards; modifying the legal and policy frameworks; institutionalizing environmental impact and performance assessments; Scale: move the planning and management from the farm level to the ecosystem level. Reduce habitat impact (e.g. on mangroves). Certification: Need for generalization

of schemes based on sustainability criteria. Improvement in environmental performance within and between species groups, reducing contamination, accidental introduction of invasive species; Improvement in monitoring and compliance:

### 3.2 Small-scale capture fisheries and communities:

- Acknowledge the role of SSF for food security and poverty alleviation.
- Gender: Take a gender approach, accounting for the role of women
- Market-based approach: In considering a market-based approach to SSFs, pay due attention to the social, livelihood, food security and social safety net role of the SSF and the cost of their dismantling. Need for micro-credit and investments
- Improve the legal framework to all SSFs communities to co-decide about allocation
- Define specifically “growth” with in SSFs has to be expressed in wellbeing (including also social benefits).
- Good governance: Increase governments’ attention and support for SSFs management capacity; Increase local ownership of issues and solutions. Use local multi-stakeholders processes; In managing SSFs, take account of multiple impacts, by the fishery and by other economic activities. Integrate the governance and management on SSFs in the context of participative integrated spatial planning. External funding is a problem when it ends. Need for sustainable financing of management activities. Fishing rights to be given to communities, not to individuals, not being transferable, include exclusive zones /gears; Avoid situation where the conservation agenda drives development. Give more recognition to consistent dispossession and marginalization of SSFs, particularly women.
- Management and conservation: Given the uncertainty in the knowledge about ecosystems functioning, use a precautionary approach and close critical habitats/areas and create MPAs. networks; caution about applying MPAs in isolation, often the issues (e.g capacity) are moved to somewhere else. Investment to strengthen capacity in resources management. Importance of traditional knowledge and management approaches to be acknowledged and utilized . Assistance programmes: Redesign the programmes or poverty eradication using good governance and accounting for local reality, capacity (to develop) and expectations
- Stewardship: SSFs are essential for equity and stewardship
- Financing: use offsets paid by LSFs to finance improvements in SSFs.
- Research: need to increase assessments of SSFs stocks and fisheries which are most important for food security
- Feeding urban systems: Analyze the role that SSFs can play in feeding urban systems

- Consider tourism as an alternative income generating activity. Attention to distribution of revenues

### 3.3 Large scale capture fisheries

- Invest in good governance (legal and institutional frameworks, policy objectives); Reduce post-harvest losses); Give priority to stocks rebuilding and ecosystem restoration. Invest in natural capital; Improve economic valuation of the fisheries resources and their ecosystem; Partnership have potential (Not developed in this WG);
- Conventional methods, properly applied can achieve a very large part of the conservation objectives; FAO instruments for responsible fisheries should be implemented as a priority. Need to generalize EIA/EIS. Integrate these in the precautionary approach.
- Important role to be played by stakeholder in defining measures and implementing them

### 3.4 Issues common to SSFs and LSFs

- Pay attention to the cost of the reform as well as of the status quo, the distribution of these costs, and of the benefits; Use an ecosystem approach to fisheries development and management; Consider the potential role of MPAs in fisheries management. Manage better fisheries around MPAs. Need for integrated approaches to management, ecosystem approaches that also look at land-based pollution and impacts. For fisheries management and conservation, use a cross-sectoral approach. Importance of local knowledge for governance; Need to generalize EIA/EIS. Clarify user rights. Importance of the regional institutions in translating global instruments in national legislation.
- Need to recognize and incorporate protection and restoration of key habitat to sustain fisheries. Well designed and enforced networks of spatial protection are essential for ecosystem function, resilience and sustaining productivity including fisheries..

### 3.5 Common considerations to fisheries and aquaculture

- Take a value chain approach to fish supply, combining aquaculture and capture fisheries; Develop best practices; Reduce losses and waste; Balance investments in the coastal area. Take an integrated approach; Define “growth” in its various components (economic, social); Develop education; Focus conservation on areas of high density of people AND biodiversity; Develop research on costs and benefits of conservation (as well as the fisheries reform) and their sharing; Need to pay more attention to environmental externalities and cumulative effects. More focus on restoration.

## **Working group 2: Enhancing Private Sector Growth, Local Development & Equitable Benefits for Communities in the Context of Blue Growth & Food Security**

### **Overview**

WG2 Private Sector Growth and Equitable Benefits for Communities recommended seven areas of action to enhance the private sector role in Blue Growth while ensuring benefits to local development. WG2 primarily focused on the fisheries sector (including aquaculture) with particular attention to small-scale fishing and fish farmer communities. The first session envisioned the role of the private sector in “Blue Growth” and recommended possibilities to kick-start action. In the second session, panelists and participants shared experiences and suggestions for balancing investment with local development and equitable benefits for communities. “Getting Action”, the goal of the final session, identified conventional and innovative actions to address the issues identified.

The sessions of working group 2 were facilitated by Darren Brown, Logical Minds Consulting, Canada

Panelists for all three sessions:

John Connelly, President, National Fisheries Institute, USA

Paul Holthus, Founding CEO and President, World Ocean Council

Lori Kennedy, Co-founder/Co-owner, Louisburg Seafoods Ltd., Canada

Margaret Nakato, Executive Secretary, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers

Neil Sims, Co-founder/CEO, Kampachi Farms, LLC, USA

Approx. 50 participants attended the working group, representing ca. 50 % governments, 20 % CSOs/NGOs, 20% private sector and the remaining from academia, media and trade.

### **Session 1. Role of the private sector in Blue growth**

#### ***Visions for the role of the private sector in Blue Growth***

- Blue growth is running business on the water. Private sector has the leading role throughout the entire production and value chain and is the real drivers of growth.
- The private sector has a crucial role in investment in the sector. Small-scale fishing communities may also be considered as members of the private sector and invest in their own communities. Responsible investment is inclusive and transparent and makes sure that benefits in terms of food security, employment, working conditions and infrastructure are distributed justly. Fishing communities are empowered in terms of decision-making processes.
- Blue Growth implies huge changes. Blue Revolution would be a more appropriate term. Considering there is not much room for growth of the fisheries sector, growth will mostly need to come from aquaculture which has less impacts in terms of green house gas emissions compared to other animal producing sectors. Science and technology in terms of feed composition and domestication will play an important role in aquaculture development.

- The private sector has an increasing role to play in research and engagement with academia in order to face the challenges of climate change. Larger investments in research require comparable financial resources.
- Sustainable seafood requires sustainable seas. Leadership and collaboration involving all users of the oceans will be crucial in order to develop a vision for the responsible and sustainable use of the oceans and to contribute to policy processes. Responsible leadership companies offer opportunities.
- Public-private partnerships should be reconfigured based on the principles of equity, transparency and justice.
- Predictable regulatory frameworks are required to provide a stable environment for investments (including secure and clearly defined property and tenure rights). New developments such as aquaculture activities beyond territorial seas timely need regulatory frameworks and opportunities for experimentation.

***Drivers and challenges for the private sector to achieve Blue Growth with a positive impact on the food security and development of local communities***

- Building and maintaining relationship of trust and loyalty by investing in the community-particularly in women.
- For private sector actors, profit and money are the main drivers. Desirable changes need appropriate financial incentives, returns on investments
- Productive healthy ecosystems are needed, the challenge is how to balance profits and productivity, technology is needed, political environment is important
- Diversity within private sector actors complicates unified approaches to national, regional and int. processes (Fisheries are competitive, and difficult to organize)

**Session 2: Balancing Investment with Local Development and Equitable Benefits for Communities**

***Opportunities for the private sector to kick-start Blue Growth actions and activities***

- Assistance to developing countries to improve benefits from fisheries and develop aquaculture
- Support sustainable aquaculture
- Scale up corporate responsibility
- Convergence of predictability
- Increased knowledge and awareness through IT technology progress
- Investment in research and innovation (example: through improved feed technology)
- Private sector as a driver and demander of appropriate policy processes
- Knowledge and capacity as well as technology transfer (example: private sector support for struggling small fish farmers in Africa. Enhance multi-sectoral communication, networking and integrated approaches

**Session 3: Getting Actions**

Based on the recommendations from working group participants, seven areas for further discussion were identified.

Participants worked in small groups on the area of their particular interest and provided, in a limited time frame, specific recommendations for action for each area.

### **Research innovation and academia**

- IGOs to catalyze creation research centers for the blue economy
- IGOs to utilize funding to support academic scholarships/fellowships in the blue economy
- Encourage cooperative efforts between private sector, academia and others to achieve replicable, investable and scalable technologies that can act as catalyst for blue growth
- Increase research activities on rights based management in blue economy spaces
- Improve extension services and studies on SSF in order to reduce risk for investment (ex. Analysis of tenure rights and property rights within communities)

### **International processes and dialogues**

- IGOs should lead development of basic recommendations for market access
- Build capacities for the implementation of existing instruments in relation to small and medium scale fisheries
- Development of instruments for new developing areas in particular in relation to aquaculture (e.g. offshore aquaculture)
- Enable groups and bodies to accurately represent both private sector and communities in international policy dialogues and processes on Blue Growth
- Simplify language and international instruments accessible to all, especially SSF communities as well as small and mid-sized enterprises. Develop, implement and disseminate international instruments that guide and facilitate work in these areas (including the Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land Fisheries and Forestry and the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries).

### **Investment**

- Promote and incentivize programs by which fishing communities with investment idea/potentials are identified and matched with suitable potential investors (with special focus on women)
- Establish ethical principles and guidelines to support sustainable investments that ensure autonomy of communities and respect of cultures and social values and monitoring of compliance with these principles
- Understand that trade-offs are inevitable and make sure that all available information, science, risk assessment, monitoring in order to make difficult decisions.
- Establish Global Financing facilities for fisheries and community development (e.g. by setting up funds that provide small loans to companies that demonstrate a commitment to engage with and return profit to local communities.
- Ensure public and private investment in sector
- Revise perverse subsidies
- Enhance Private sector's perspective of invest in local development as a long term vision (ex. Invest in social capital/conservation efforts) that promotes inclusiveness and ownership

### **Enabling authentic participation**

- Organize conferences at the country level to raise awareness, increase participation and agree on actions for blue growth
- Establish funding mechanisms for communities to engage in blue growth

- Organize series of international conferences on blue growth to assess progress, highlight achievements successes and discuss challenges
- Develop practical actions to involve communities and private sector in standard setting policies/discussions
- Provide communities with necessary and appropriate tools to access appropriate investment
- Empower communities and build their capacities to engage in negotiation both with private sector (potential investment/financing) and government (policies/government development programs) as well as improve ability to collective actions.

### **Regulatory Frameworks**

- Establishment of national level working group between private sector, SSF reps and public sector to prepare regulatory and legislative practices
- Governments to develop predictable regulatory frameworks which provide a stable environment for private sector involvement (including secure and clearly defined property and tenure rights)
- Recognize regional/continental frameworks and make sure messages get through to actual decision makers.

### **Private Sector Partnerships**

- Identify lessons learnt and principles arising from successful partnerships at all scales and foster new partnerships built on these principles
- Address local and regional needs to effectively respond to food security and livelihood concerns
- Recognize efforts that the private sector is already leading increase engagement at local level
- Recognize the importance of diversity and include major markets in the discussion
- Enhance inclusive and durable partnerships between actors to enhance and improve market opportunities of national products

### **Rewarding Best practices**

- Develop funding opportunities and provide market access for communities that seek improvements in their fishing practices that lead to certification and added value for their products
- Increase awareness of benefits that might arise from following from best practices or engaging in certification schemes
- Enhance just and effective eco-labeling, traceability and certification as a means to acknowledge best practices (include social aspects as well)

## **ENSURING FISHERIES ARE SUSTAINABLE AND BIODIVERSITY IS CONSERVED IN ABNJ AND EEZS.**

### **Outcome of Working Group 3 Global Ocean Action Summit<sup>1</sup>**

The three thematic sessions of Working Group 3 were attended by 87 (IUU fishing), 43 (plastics and pollution) and 80 (cooperation and assistance) persons. The WG was chaired by Martin Tsamenyi and supported by a panel of seven experts (David Balton – US Dept. of State, David Agnew - Marine Stewardship Council, Jackie Alder - UNEP, Edward Kleverlaan - IMO, Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli - UNDOALOS), Alejandro Anganuzzi – FAO, and Maurice Brownjohn - PNA), representing International Government Organizations, the private sector and nongovernmental organizations.

This Working Group discussed three issues of crucial policy action affecting fisheries and that cut across both the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ). Specifically: (i) Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, (ii) Plastic pollution in the oceans, and (iii) Regional cooperation and assistance. Although presented separately, the Working Group agreed that the issues are interrelated, both in impact on the marine environment and possible pathways to addressing the problem through international cooperation. Noting the short time available for discussion of each thematic area, and given that the primary problems associated with these themes have been discussed in previous fora, the Working Group summary report focuses on the major barriers, constraints and priority actions needed for mitigation. The questions posed by the chair to panelists and the audience were:

#### **IUU fishing:**

- *Do we know enough about the drivers of IUU, what impacts does IUU have and what actions are needed to improve knowledge of IUU?*
- *Why have so few countries ratified the Port State Measures Agreement and what actions are needed to speed up the process of ratification and implementation?*
- *How effective are certification and traceability to eliminate IUU and what could improve their effectiveness?*
- *What emergent approaches, tools & technologies can assist in driving IUU out of fisheries?*
- *What actions should be taken cooperatively by government, industry and civil society to address IUU fishing?*

#### **Marine plastics and pollution**

- *What is the main reason for plastics ending up in the oceans and what actions can prevent this from occurring?*
- *Do we know enough about the impacts of plastics in the fish food chain?*

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<sup>1</sup> Martin Tsamenyi (Chair), David Balton (USA), David Agnew (MSC), Edward Kleverlaan (IMO), Jacqueline Alder (UNEP), Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli (UNDOALOS), Alejandro Anganuzzi (FAO), Maurice Brownjohn (PNA), Blaise Kuemlangan & Francis Chopin (FAO-Rapporteurs).



- *What actions are/ can be taken by the key stakeholders (fishing industry and States, IGOs, NGOs & RFMOs)?*
- *How can citizen science contribute to the understanding of the scale of the plastic problem?*
- *What actions are needed to get existing global regulations to be effectively implemented?*
- *Cooperation and technical assistance*

Cooperation and technical assistance

- *Are there alternatives to the current State based model of the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and what actions can improve the current system?*
- *What are the areas of disparity between developed and developing States in their effective participation in RFMOs and how this be changed?*
- *Is the Part 7 (UNFSA) fund set up to provide assistance to developing states to implement their obligations under UNSFA sufficient?*
- *What are the upcoming opportunities and timeline for transformation to take place in the global framework for cooperation and assistance to developing States?*

**1. The IUU fishing threat**

The WG agreed that IUU fishing was one of the greatest challenges of our time in terms contributing significantly to the depletion of fish stocks worldwide in a major barrier towards achieving sustainability of fish stocks and jeopardising efforts to return over-exploited or collapsed stocks to good health. It was also agreed that IUU fishing affects all fisheries, including those that take place exclusively within EEZs and those on the high seas. In the case of fisheries managed by RFMOs, there are growing problems of non-compliance by vessels of RFMO members as well as some continuing fishing by non-member vessels. The drivers and priority actions agreed by the Working Group were:

Issues, gaps and considerations	Priority Actions / Accelerants for change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for global information on the extent and impact of IUU fishing and its measurement</li> <li>• Mechanisms to prevent entry of IUU fish into markets</li> <li>• How to use tools to combat IUU fishing in an integrated manner</li> <li>• How to drive up the cost of IUU fishing to drive such operators out of the fisheries</li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Accelerate entry into force of the PSMA and actions consistent with the PSMA even prior to entry into force</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building (awareness of basic elements of the PSMA, legislation related to PSMA initiated as a priority, training of inspectors, observers, prosecutors, data collectors, law enforcers)</li> <li>• PSMA needs to be linked to other tools to combat IUU fishing</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Information tools and studies</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Record implemented and expanded</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of transparency in RFMO processes</li> </ul> <p>Not all RFMO's are the same</p>	<p>to include information on related activities / initiatives (PSMA, license information, port inspection database)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop comprehensive, efficient and harmonized catch documentation schemes</li> <li>• Global study of the IUU phenomena including methodology to assessment of impact of IUU</li> <li>• Voluntary release and analysis of high resolution catch and effort data by industry operators</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Recognition of differences from the perspective of vulnerable developing economies in each RFMO</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Reform of RFMO practices related to IUU fishing</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full transparency in compliance, monitoring and assessment</li> <li>• Information on vessel monitoring (VMS, AIS etc.) shared in a timely manner</li> <li>• Greater scrutiny of vessel reflagging (risk based approach)</li> <li>• RFMO members to carry out Flag state performance assessments using as appropriate FAO FSP Guidelines</li> </ul>
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## 2. Plastics and Pollution

The WG agreed that modern plastics pose a serious environmental problem because they persist in the oceans for long periods of time eventually fragmenting into micro plastics, a process which increases the number of plastic particles in the marine environment and facilitates their wide disbursement in the water column and within the seabed. It was further agreed that marine plastics pose threats to marine based activities such as fisheries, aquaculture, shipping, mining, power stations, desalination plants, harbours and rescue services. A major concern was expressed regarding the absence or lack of data to verify and quantify the potential effects of plastics (especially microplastics) in the ocean environment was seen as a major constraint to understanding the full significance of plastics. The Working Group expressed great concern over too much marine debris entering the EEZs and ABNJs from land-based sources and ocean based especially with respect to solid waste; lost cargo; abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG); and abandoned vessels. It was also stated that tackling marine litter starts at the source, including production lines and producer responsibility. Control and enforcement are vital elements to combat illegal discharging. The WG agreed that the following Priority Actions were required to minimize the impacts of plastics in ABNJ and EEZs.

Issues, gaps and considerations	Priority Actions / Accelerants for change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to realize the usefulness of addressing the problem of marine litter at the source through effective waste management</li> <li>• Dramatic lack of awareness of plastics in the marine environment and its impact on food security- critical data gaps in micro plastics problem and their uptake in food fish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline information on problem to inform: Policy decision makers, consumers and industry;</li> <li>• Massive awareness campaign and education on state and impact of plastics on the ocean and the food supply chain (especially micro plastics);</li> <li>• Putting issue on global agenda and include IUU fishing and marine pollution on sustainable development goals;</li> <li>• Understanding true cost of plastics, including the cost of such impacts on the environment and factoring that into price of plastics.</li> </ul>

### 3. Cooperation and capacity building mechanisms

The WG participants agreed on the urgent requirement for cooperation among States, bilaterally, regionally and globally, to address as a priority capacity building in support of marine pollution prevention and transboundary fisheries conservations. The WG noted that one of the challenges of increased international cooperation, which requires urgent attention is the disparity in effective participation between developed and developing States. The Working Group also noted the need for greater transparency in decision making, further information on global fishing capacity and agreed that the following priority actions:

Issues, gaps and considerations	Priority Actions / Accelerants for change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RFMOs are the only viable mechanisms to work with for cooperation</li> <li>• There is a need for RFMO reform to enhance performance</li> <li>• There is a disparity in participation by developing States in RFMOs</li> <li>• There is a need to appreciate the value of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for effective participation of developing States in fisheries through mechanisms such as capacity transfer and joint ventures;</li> <li>• Support for effective participation of developing States in management decision making processes;</li> <li>• Improving transparency and promoting effective participation of NGOs;</li> <li>• Promote and campaign for funds to support investment in capacity building for developing states through UNFSA Part VII fund and similar initiatives;</li> <li>• Getting coherence among funding partners in support of developing states.</li> </ul>

fisheries to garner political commitments, allocation of resources and investments	
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**Working Group 4: GOVERNANCE**  
**SESSION: 4**  
**Integrated Management of the Marine Ecosystem**  
23 April 2014 (14:00 – 16:00)

**Chair:** *Terje Lind*, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of Climate and Environment, Norway

**Panelists:** *AbouBamba*, UNEP Abidjan Convention; *Darius Campbell*, OSPAR; *Elizabeth Taylor Jay*, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Colombia; *Per Schieve*, Ministry of Climate and Environment, Norway; *Leo de Vrees*, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment

**Rapporteurs:** *Jessica Landman*, Environmental Defense Fund; *Oleg Martens*, WWF

**Context/session brief:** How varied countries/regions have implemented IMME, the common experiences, features and lessons learned across local, national, regional seascapes.

**Key messages**

- The competition for ocean space and resources is increasing. Eco-systems based Integrated Management of the Marine Ecosystem (IMME) is crucial to secure the foundation for long term food security and healthy oceans
- There is no magic formula for IMME, though it requires identifying and mapping current uses and stakeholders, collectively setting objectives and priorities; using available science and traditional knowledge, and adjust zoning/rules to prioritize and accommodate differing use
- Don't await perfection: start simple and learn by doing and tailor as needed
- Sector management remains important under an integrated approach to management, which is additive rather than in place of
- Coastal rivers must be included in IMME to take pollution from land-based sources into account.

**Key actions**

- Create clear and consistent rules that incentivize engagement and good behaviour
- The experience of IMME should be shared across developing and developed countries, and capacity development programs encouraged

**Working Group 4: GOVERNANCE**  
**SESSION: 5**  
**Creating the conditions for best practice community management**  
23 April 2014 (16:00 – 18:00)

**Chair:** *Valerie Hickey*, Sector Manager, Agriculture and Environmental Services, World Bank

**Panelists:** *Michele Kuruc*, WWF US; *Stephen Hall*, Worldfish; *Patricia Majluf*, Center for Environmental sustainability University (UPCH), Peru; *Dale Galvin*, Rare; *Nilanto*, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia

**Rapporteurs:** *Jessica Landman*, Environmental Defense Fund; *Oleg Martens*, WWF

**Context/session brief:** What are the most important enabling conditions for creating community co-management of the oceans – at speed and at scale? Participants voted on their priorities for theoretical investment by the World Bank, FAO and others.

**Concerns addressed during the session:**

- Local knowledge is important.
- Fishworkers are often marginalized and must be included and engaged to ensure positive social, environmental and economic outcomes. The ingredients of policy making are about making choices – between present and future, and among different priorities. E.g. considering disaster response, environmental protection, privileging fishing over agriculture or housing or other land uses. So policy making has to be based on setting the right balances.
- Large scale and small-scale fisheries are treated separately, with rules applying only to large scale. And coastal people are not protected as indigenous.
- Decisions that affect communities are actually taken at the regional, national or international level and community level folks do not necessarily have their voices heard there. So we need a parallel structure to give community representatives a way to feed into a regional networks or organizations to give voice to their concerns at other levels of interaction.
- Small-scale fishers often lack incentives to conserve because they lack access rights and are tempted to race to fish to grab fish before interlopers do so
- Building bright spots of success and promoting them up the chain to demonstrate it makes financial sense to recover them.
- Small-scale fishers do not want to maximize profits; they want to survive and to pass it along to the next generation. Long term, sustainable future is their goal.
- Communities are not homogenous within or between themselves, despite what governments think. They often can't tell who in government they need to call on or engage.
- Small-scale fishers need the resources (time) to react to all the paperwork and regulations that come their way. And they need a way to have good, representative voice for themselves (to get organized) which costs money.
- Direct payments can be useful incentives to reward good behavior.
- Knowledge circles and knowledge days where fishermen and scientists get together and research together are cost-effective ways to share knowledge.

**Key actions and messages:**

- Prioritize investments to provide access to information for local communities and SMEs; information needs to be bundled to reduce transaction cost
- Information should focus on technical data as well as give communities an understanding of national and international processes that affect their livelihoods
- All information should be in local languages and easily digestible
- Establish access to markets – critical to enabling community management
- Facilitate the voice of local communities being heard at national and international decision-making fora, twinning regulation that gives them a seat at the table with investments to allow self-organization
- Secure access rights and directly compensate local communities for the costs of their actions

- Efficiency and equity are not opposing forces, and both can be maximized when working with best practice community management

### **Working Group 4: GOVERNANCE**

#### **SESSION: 6 - From top down to bottom up: transitioning to co-management of local fisheries**

**Date/Time:** 24 April 2014 - 11:30 – 13:00

**Chair:** Tom Grasso, Environmental Defense Fund

**Panelists:** Wes Erickson, Fisherman, British Columbia; Momo Kochen, Fishing and Living, Indonesia;

Cathy Demesa, Tinambac; Raul Garcia, WWF Spain; Dr. Sunoto, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia

**Rapporteurs:** Jessica Landman, Environmental Defense Fund; Oleg Martens, WWF

**Context/session brief:** Successful co-management examples from field practitioners crystallize the similarities among successes and the challenges faced in co-management, and the transition from top down centralized fisheries management to bottom up community-engaged approaches.

#### **KEY MESSAGES**

Successful co-management requires an investment of time to build trust and cooperation across the key sectors: fishermen, government, scientists, conservationists and processors, etc. But when co-management takes hold it transforms former antagonists into collaborators who embrace shared goals and achieve sustainable results.

#### **KEY ACTIONS**

What's needed (along with patience and commitment):

- Create network with other fishermen and share ideas and build local capacity
- Establish favorable political circumstances, notably laws and administrations that support co-management with both words on the page and actions in the field
- Harness outside financing and other incentivizing benefits (such as managing access to reward fishermen with the chance to reap the rewards of their responsible practices) to make the investment in transformation worthwhile

#### **Case Studies Shared:**

- **Philippines** community salvaged its MPA – now more than 50% of fishers feel their catches have increased; the MPA has more fish and the community feels it should raise money from within to strengthen its fisheries organization and pay for enforcement of protected area. Key enabling conditions: finding leadership within the community, getting support from government for co-management.
- **British Columbia** fisherman saw radical improvement in catch after a fateful season – fishermen sought change to the way they worked: through a quota

system, a new monitoring system that led to a fully accountable fishery.

- **Indonesia** NGO that liaises with local fishing communities to provide sustainability that the industry proposes. The processor leads to suppliers who lead to fishermen. The processor tells the fishermen whether or not to go fishing on a given day and how many to catch.
- **In the Mediterranean**, the Catalanian sand eel fishery was stopped because the government had no management plan. Fishermen, administration, scientists and NGOs now have equal power and there must be consensus of at least 70% to proceed. Now the fishermen are imposing their own penalties.



**Working Group 5: FINANCING  
SESSION: 4**

**Why invest in the ocean? Insight from public, private, and multilateral  
institutions**

23 April 2014 (14:00 – 15:45)

**Chair:** *Lisa Svensson, Ambassador for Ocean, Seas, and Fresh Water, Sweden*

**Panelists:** *Mark Cackler, World Bank; Leah Bruce-Karrer, GEF; Barry Gold, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation*

**Rapporteurs:** *Klaas de Vos, International Sustainability Unit; Timothy Bouley, World Bank*

**Context/session brief**

This session explores different approaches and rationale for ocean investment. Representatives from public and private institutions will share insight from their experiences, and describe how they have made investments that have worked, offering lessons for other potential investors and recipients. Questions raised: How do we create positive incentives for sustainable ocean investment? Why do different organizations invest in the ocean? How do we connect public and private sector investment? Is it okay to “pick winners” for ocean investment?

**Key actions**

- Link private sector investors to public sector organizations: GEF, World Bank, governments
- Invest in mechanisms for ocean entrepreneurs
- Reach out to other communities that may have an interest in investing, or facilitating investment in sustainable oceans, including other users of the marine environment (shipping, extractive industries, etc.)
- Invest in research and identify ways to link good research to applied ocean investment by public and private sectors
- Reconstruct the way that we think so that the sustainable use of the ocean is deemed best practice and demonstrate the benefits of sustainable use to encourage this reconstruction
- Incorporate Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) into business models
- Create a fund for maintenance of natural capital by capturing some of the value of oceans
- Engage with verification services such as Marine Stewardship Council to avoid unnecessary duplication and reinvention in developing such standards

**Key messages**

- Engage the missing middle sector organizations (between Banks and foundations)
- Partnerships are key to achieving scale with foundations and development banks
- Identify discreet ways to engage investors in financing sustainable oceans
- Best practice needs to be profitable to scale up
- It is important to think about building bridges between different sectors - the private sector may be under-represented in these conversations, and many

private sector entities look to NGOs to convey messaging to the environment and development communities

- Mobilize local resources in addition to seeking external financing
- Essential to find ways to share/pass on investment responsibility to communities if an outside investment is made
- Important to identify business opportunities (i.e. new areas where money could be made) where others see challenges – harness the private sector’s ability to think dynamically and entrepreneurially
- Recognize the important role being led by the World Bank and commercial financial institutions such as SEB in developing a Green Bond Market and to actively seek ways in which investment in Oceans, Food Security and Blue Growth can be included in the standards for Green Bonds which can be defined as ‘Blue Bond standards.
- Recognize the direct development support already being provided to private and NGO organisations by some multilateral and bi-lateral development institutions for green ‘impact investment’ opportunities, and to actively seek further support from these and new interested institutions to accelerate the growth of this important potential approach to funding key conservation programs for fisheries, marine habitat, and oceans

### **Working Group 5: FINANCING SESSION: 5**

#### **Financing the transition to sustainable blue economies: the potential for blue bonds**

23 April 2014 (16:15-1800)

**Chair:** *Justin Mundy, Director, International Sustainability Unit*

**Panelists:** *Peter Wheeler, TNC; Michael Bennett, World Bank; Christopher Flensburg, SEB; Larry Band, Independent Consultant*

**Rapporteurs:** *Klaas de Vos, International Sustainability Unit; Timothy Bouley, World Bank*

#### **Context/session brief**

Green Bonds raise funds from fixed income investors to support projects that seek to mitigate climate change or help affected people adapt to it. Following this example, and given the well-articulated return on investment that projects associated with marine ecosystem recovery present, this panel explores the potential for "Blue Bonds".

#### **Questions raised during the session**

- How do we minimize the risk in certifying green?
- How do we bring projects to the investment market that are capital ready?
- What is the management framework for a fishery that returns it to sustainability?
- How much money is needed, what are proceeds, timeline, what type of capital is needed?
- What is the financial return of these bonds and who does it come to?

- Investment structure – who are we investing in and what is their track record?
- How can we lessen elements of risk in fishery management?
- Can certification agencies add value?

### **Key actions**

- The potential for substantial investment is high, but will take time and be dependent on effective risk management
- Appeal to those with capital (e.g. foundations, IFIs) to move together in a coordinated and transparent way, such that available capital will activate other resources
- Establish precedent for investment in fisheries by engaging in successful transactions
- Build capacity to scale up capital – including bond markets and other sources of private finance that may be less risk averse, e.g. venture capital, social impact bonds

### **Key messages**

- There are trillions of dollars in capital markets and governments should mandate them toward ocean investment; governments have vehicles (e.g. guarantees, taxation schemes and incentive structures) to make this happen, which they can use to ensure investors enter this space
- There is not enough money in development assistance to address sustainability challenges in fisheries and conservation. It is imperative to enable the financial sector and make it “work for” sustainability – this can be done with the right mechanisms, e.g. bonds
- There is a challenge in investing in the oceans because there are limited opportunities – fisheries, energy – need to identify what these are
- There are specific conditions that must be met to enable investment including effective management frameworks and structuring of the investable entity
- Scale is essential – small and large scale investments are needed
- Securitization and credit rating agencies are important as they enable a more attractive investment than any one product can provide and give investors confidence
- Important to consider that many investors need to see precedent deals before making an investment to gauge performance of an asset class

## **Working Group 5: FINANCING**

### **SESSION: 6 - Banking on sustainable fisheries and healthy ecosystems**

Date/Time: 23 April 2014 at 16:15

**Chair:** *Charles Goddard, The Economist*

**Panelists:** *Walt Reid, Packard Foundation; Ayana Elizabeth Johnson, Waitt Institute; Trip O'Shea, EKO Asset Management Partners; Aldin Hillbrand, Royal Ahold; Thomas Ursem, Rabobank*

**Rapporteurs:** *Klaas de Vos, International Sustainability Unit; Timothy Bouley, World Bank*

**Context/session brief:**

This session showed how philanthropy, private sector, multilateral, and civil society engagement create enabling conditions for coastal communities to fully participate in the marine reform process. The focus was on how multi-stakeholder approaches work and why companies are willing to invest in supporting improved sustainability efforts. Panelists included philanthropic leaders, global retailers and seafood companies, and financial entities working with communities.

**Questions raised during the session:**

- How can we sequence capital around investment?
- What kind of return should a private investor expect? Can ocean investments also reduce risks associated with climate change?
- What is the scope for private funding to come in, i.e. so it does not compete with public?
- How do we get projects to move off floor on to the first stage of development?
- What is the minimum viable scale for investable projects for different kinds of investors?

**KEY ACTIONS**

- Bring scale to small-scale producer organisations to make them bankable, e.g. through co-operatives
- Sustainability is a non-competitive issue for the sector, there is a need to work together to address the challenges of reaching sustainability, e.g. through GPO
- Engage with the supply chain - create viable, efficient supply chains to drive sustainability
- Investment risk remains a key deterrent - need to enhance de-risking mechanisms and reduce the cost of capital
- Empower governments and businesses with tools to assess risks and opportunities in the ocean economy
- Map out existing initiatives - there are many and there is much we can learn from each other
- Identify approaches to de-risking, i.e. through an international organization like MIGA, to make the way for more investment
- Explore financial mechanisms for how marine reserves can be valued for their contributions to food security and economy, so that communities can benefit from their support of effective marine reserves, for example credits in fisheries certifications, and as a de-risking mechanism for investments.

**KEY MESSAGES**

- It is essential to better understand a client when making investments to reduce risk
- Small-scale producers are not always bankable because they don't have collateral - cooperatives may be bankable; need to better organize producers; need to bring scale
- Difficult for small scale organizations, both philanthropic and private, to access large investors; matchmaking between money and ideas is important - small

grants can be a way to do this; the Global Partnership for Oceans may be an approach to getting this done

- In the case of fisheries, it can be useful to take the choice away from the customer to sell responsible products
- Sustainability is a non-competitive issue; we need to work together to define best practices
- Climate change is an often overlooked risk factor for investment in the ocean economy that needs to be better understood

## **Working Group 6: Partnership**

### **Session: 4**

#### **Are partnerships leading to better outcomes for people and the oceans? A perspective from governments**

23 April 2014 (14:00-15:45)

**Chair:** Lynn Scarlett, Managing Director, The Nature Conservation

**Panelists:** HE Caleb Otto, Ambassador to Palau to the United Nations; HE Rolph Payet, Ministry for the Environment and Energy, Seychelles; Professor Ove Hoeg-Gulberg, Queensland University; Mrs. Merina Edwards-Jessamy, Grenada

**Rapporteurs:** Dominique Benzaken, TNC; Charlotte Gobin, The GEF

#### **Context/session brief**

Partnerships are widely accepted as effective means of achieving common objectives, leveraging and pooling resources and expertise, and facilitating better integration of conservation and development objectives. Panelists presented their experiences from a government perspective and provided lessons learned, including reference to experiences with the Coral Triangle Initiative, Caribbean Challenge, Micronesia Challenge, and the Seychelles debt swap, as well as experiences with partnerships for knowledge-sharing (e.g., communities of practice), and enhancing leadership (e.g., the Global Island Partnership) - all critical elements for generating long-term outcomes for people and nature from global to local levels.

#### **Questions raised during the session**

- How does one effect change at the global level?
- What are the roles of private sector (tourism)?
- How can one capture/maintain partnerships beyond a leadership visionary for long-term changes? What is the role of different governance arrangements? What are the lessons learned?
- How can partnerships make use of new partners such as the reinsurance industry?
- What are the ethical considerations on selecting the right private sector partners?
- What are the priority actions for change?

#### **Key actions and messages**

Partnerships arise at global, regional and national levels out of necessity, the urgency of protecting coasts and oceans, the importance of oceans for people that depend on them for their livelihoods, and to take advantage of opportunities oceans offer for development and food security.

The Global Partnership for Oceans offers a practical framework to implement global commitments for healthy oceans and shared prosperity.

Ocean health and a blue economy cannot be achieved without addressing climate change. Ocean protection and sustainable management goals and timelines must be integrated into climate change responses and post-2015 development negotiations.

Political leadership is a critical catalyst for transformative change from local to global levels and must be sustained by the empowerment of local communities and people on the ground.

Partnerships are vehicle for achieving multiple benefits (conservation, financial, social, and economic) with Innovative sustainable financing opportunities (such as green fees, debt swaps, trust funds, and so on) arising from linking issues, sectors, and partners.

Partnerships need strong and transparent governance arrangements, which facilitate ongoing dialogue, coordination and integration across sectors and within governments, and with the private sector and civil society.

**The main points presented and discussed included:**

- the importance of linking climate and oceans and the urgency and timeliness of action in global climate and development fora
- the role of leadership to inspire change and generate action from local to global levels and to empower others
- the importance of learning from successful partnerships and scaling up

Drivers for action include:

- The urgency of addressing common challenges requiring comprehensive responses resulting in a convergence and willingness to act together.
- Global reach with internet and mobile technology.
- Innovative financial mechanisms to support ocean conservation and sustainable livelihoods
- The role of the private sector, including the reinsurance sector, taking into account ethical considerations
- Governance for implementation, coordination and integration across governments to achieve multiple objectives.

**Working Group 6: Partnership  
Session: 5**

**Generating shared value from the ocean: diverse perspectives and lessons from effective cross-sector partnerships  
23 April 2014 (14:00-15:45)**

**Chair:**Gerald Miles, Vice President, Global development, Rare

**Panelists:**FatouMboob, TRY Oyster Women's Association, The Gambia; Larry Epstein, Environmental Defence Fund; Lida Pet-Soede, WWF; Mike Kraft, Bumblebee Foods LLC; Miguel Jorge, 50in10

**Rapporteurs:**

Dominique Benzaken, The Nature Conservancy

## **Context/session brief**

Real collaboration across sectors is different from mere alignment of efforts or coordination. It requires a more intentional commitment to coordinated and collaborative work between parties with different cultures and perspectives. Cross sector partnership may even require transcending historically antagonistic relationships to share risks and investment of time and money in new and different work. These and other challenges must be overcome to attain the mutual benefits from true cross-sector partnerships. The Panelists explored the nature of successful partnerships at local, national, multinational levels as well as private sector led partnerships and discussed how we should partner in the future and what was needed to accelerate and scale successful partnerships.

## **Questions raised during the session**

- What drove these individuals and their respective organizations to reach beyond their comfort zone?
- How did they establish successful cross-sector partnerships?
- What has driven private companies to partner with NGOs or governments?
- How have community-based organizations and NGOs been able to convince central governments to share responsibility for resource management?
- What does a government get from partnering with NGOs or other civil society groups?
- What is more challenging: partnering with a fellow sector member, or across sectors?
- What have been the challenges and results?
- When are cross-sector partnerships necessary?
- What lessons can we draw from these experiences to replicate success in other parts of the world?

## **Key actions and messages**

The vast and interconnected nature of Oceans - their relationship to people, national development and global survival - will require not simply partnerships among the array of individuals, the private sector, countries, and organizations, but the best that partnerships can offer. High impact and enduring partnerships succeed at the following:

- Built on trust and respect among the partners that can take time to secure
- Reinforcing the principles of equity transparency and justice
- Able to deliver tangible benefits from partnership to partners themselves and to the water
- Deliberately seek the range of skills from local communities, the private sector, government, science, finance and NGOs
- Maintaining a healthy tension between the partners
- Effectively using the media to increase awareness and education of the wider community
- Requiring explicit and upfront investment in the costs of partnering



- Finding the right balance between scale and focus on impact and ensure their relevant to both communities and the private sector

The working group identified the need to invest deliberately in finding and scaling the best of the many partnerships that exist to restore and sustainably develop our oceans through alliances such as 50in10, the GPO and the Global Islands Partnership. The support of development partners to allocate the additional resources required to ensure projects can effectively engage or contribute to partnerships and share experiences will significantly accelerate this effort.

## **Working Group 6: Partnership Session: 6**

### **Private sector partnerships for sustainable fisheries**

**Chair:** John Connelly, National Fisheries Institute

**Panelists:** Susan Jackson, ISSF; Bobby Eduardo, RGE Agridev Corporation; Alejandro Robles, Nor-Oeste Sostenible

#### **Context/Session Brief**

This session highlighted how developing nation companies have successfully driven change in sustainably managed fisheries. The focus was collaborative efforts, led by industry, that have generated improvements in fisheries management, economic development, and political reforms. Speakers represented: a global organization that has driven changes in industry and government management of tuna, a local NGO helping transform a fishery in Mexico; a business leader organizing his country's crab industry and gaining reforms in Philippines' fisheries laws. The session also highlighted the role The World Bank can play in sponsoring initial project funding, before private sector investments fund the initiatives.

#### **Key actions and messages**

- Understanding Roles: Seafood industry is not an aid agency, but rather seeks to solve specific conservation and economic problems in supply chain (whether large or small scale fisheries) or develop new opportunities for products and trade
- Motivations: Industry seeks to identify and solve a problem before it becomes market issue or subject to government regulation or government needs help in developing system
- Flexible Models: ALLFISH, public-private partnership between Bank/GEF and seafood industry, provides different models for addressing conservation and economic challenges (e.g., EMS virus in farmed shrimp)
- Scope: Focus on “billions” or “hundreds of millions” often misses opportunity to invest much smaller amounts to solve problems
- Return on Investment: ALLFISH program has generated private sector investments from value chain, after initial Bank investments (e.g., \$150,000 to NFI Crab Council generated \$2,000,000 investments)

### Annex 3- Side events



#### Schedule side events

Organizing party	Name side event	Main objective of the side event
Aqua Spark	Healthy oceans through investments in sustainable aquaculture	Demonstrate how investments in sustainable aquaculture can contribute to restore the ocean's health, while creating positive social and environmental impact. Create a platform for governments, entrepreneurs, investors and experts.
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries The Republic Of Indonesia	Good Ocean Governance Supporting Food Security and Blue Growth	To encourage new collaborations particularly to scale up of the application of responsible fisheries practice into the wider global world
World Bank	Solutions to Marine Pollution	Present and discuss developing country experiences with successful marine pollution abatement interventions
Bluerise, Imares	Ocean thermal energy for food security and Blue Growth	Inform the public about the ocean's resources and the potential for tropical regions to make use of ocean thermal energy in achieving a sustainable future
FAO	ABNJ Programme	ABNJ Programme; <u>Objectives of side event:</u> - inform participants about the ABNJ Program and Projects in particular: a) Major goals; b) Components and structure of the 4 projects; c) current status of the 4 projects - Provide an opportunity for discussion
The World Bank	How to develop and apply Integrated Management of the Marine Environment (IMME)	To provide technical information about how Integrated Management of the Marine Environment (IMME) can be applied in Low and Middle Income Countries (IMMEs).

WWF with partners	Marketplace for partnerships to finance restoration of the marine environment	Capitalize on momentum gained in session 5: (Financing mechanisms, existing and new) and present opportunities for action and form partnerships around restoring marine ecosystems through financial incentives
Rockefeller Foundation	Spotlight on small-scale fisheries	Elevate attention to small-scale fisheries