

Second Because the Ocean Declaration

Marrakech, 14 November 2016

The Second Because the Ocean Declaration was launched on 14 November 2016 at COP22, Marrakech by Heads of State and Government and Ministers from the following countries: **Australia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Fiji, France, Indonesia, Mexico, Monaco, New Zealand, Palau, Peru, Republic of Marshall Islands, Senegal, Seychelles, Spain, Sweden. Belgium, Guatemala, Haiti, Jordan, Luxembourg, Morocco, Netherlands, Singapore and Uruguay** joined at the Bonn Climate Conference in May 2017, **Malta** joined at the Fourth Our Ocean Conference in October 2017, and **Colombia, Finland, Honduras, Italy, Romania and the United Kingdom** joined at COP23 Bonn, elevating to **33 the total number of signatory countries**. It builds from the first Because the Ocean Declaration, signed by 23 countries at COP21 Paris, and the achievements that followed: the adoption and entry into force of the Paris Agreement, the decision by the 70th UN General Assembly to convene a High Level UN Conference on Oceans and Seas in June 2017, the 43rd Session of the IPCC's decision to undertake a Special Report on the Ocean and the Cryosphere.

Because the Ocean has a critical role in the global response to climate change in the context of the implementation of the Paris Agreement, we reaffirm the principles and ideas contained in the first *Because the Ocean* Declaration in Paris at COP21.

Because the Ocean and the cryosphere's interlinkages with climate change will be fully reviewed in the IPCC Special Report to be released in 2019, we would like to underline the importance of the further scientific knowledge that can be brought to light and that it can be critical for us policy-makers, to better understand, (1) in terms of mitigation: the biological interactions of marine biodiversity with greenhouse gas emissions and removals and the climate system, and (2) in terms of adaptation: the socio-economic and environmental implications of climate change impacts on the ocean. We look forward in this regard to the outcome of the scoping meeting for this report that will take place in Monaco in December 2016.

Because the Ocean is taking an increasingly central place in the global policy arena, we are encouraging UNFCCC Parties to consider submitting Nationally Determined Contributions that promote, as appropriate, ambitious climate action in order to minimize the adverse effects of climate change in the ocean and to contribute to its protection and conservation.

Because the Ocean plays an integral part in any longterm low-carbon strategy, we encourage UNFCCC Parties to include oceans in pre-2020 ambition and the Global Stocktakes. This could include considerations for mitigation and adaptation to climate impacts on ecosystems, livelihoods and economic activities that cannot be sustainable without a climate-resilient and healthy Ocean.

Because the Ocean and the Sustainable Development Goals require the urgent attention of governments and all stakeholders, we are committed to making the utmost of the opportunity to address climate and ocean interlinkages at the High Level UN Ocean Conference on the Implementation of SDG14 to be held in New York in June 2017.

Because the Ocean needs effective and urgent action from all non-State actors, we shall continue to foster and develop new bridges between governmental, intergovernmental and civil society initiatives and platforms working to address the role of the ocean both in the Global Climate Action Agenda and in the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Because the Ocean requires commitments to be transformed into concrete and ambitious action we emphasize the need to stimulate support for ocean-related projects, in line with the goals of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, through existing instruments.