



The International Business Alliance  
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

## ADVANCING INVESTMENT IN THE OCEAN ECONOMY

### **World Ocean Council CEO Addresses Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute (SWFI) Summit on Investing in Ocean Sustainable Development**

27 February 2017

**In the keynote interview at the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute (SWFI) Summit - Scottsdale, Arizona, 21-22 February, 2017 - the World Ocean Council (WOC) CEO, Paul Holthus, described for institutional investors the opportunities for investing in responsible ocean economic development.**

Holthus provided an overview of the ocean economy and recent trends for wealth fund operators and asset managers gathered at the SWFI Summit during the interview conducted by Jacques Demers, Managing Partner of Agawa Partners and Agawa Fund Management.

The discussion outlined the important opportunities for long term investment which are resulting from societal, environmental and policy drivers of change in the ocean economy, for example:

- Driver: Food security > Opportunity: Offshore mariculture
- Driver: Low carbon energy > Opportunity: Floating offshore wind energy
- Driver: Minerals for renewables > Opportunity: Seabed mining
- Driver: Low carbon transport > Opportunity: LNG-fuelled shipping
- Driver: Climate change > Opportunity: Port infrastructure adaptation to extreme weather events

Carl Linaburg, Chairman of the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute, said, “Our Institute has been actively supporting and conducting research into the potential for fiduciary institutional investors to pursue ocean focused investment opportunities. The SWFI members and participants fully welcomed and appreciated Paul’s introduction of both the World Ocean Council and the range and scale of potential ocean related investment opportunities”.

The SWFI Summit keynote by Holthus also presented the WOC “Ocean Investment Platform”, which is being developed to provide a global structure and process to identify and evaluate ocean industry opportunities for investment in responsible ocean development. Through this platform, and through collaboration with other forward-thinking organizations such as the SWFI, the WOC is facilitating synergies and economies of scale among investors and the ocean business community as a way to accelerate ocean sustainable development.

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## Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

2-3 March

BRUSSELS: **Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance, Board Meeting** (Member)

27-31 March

LONDON: **WMO-IOC JCOMM Ship Opportunities Team** - World Meteorological Organization (WMO) - UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) (Invited Speaker)

27 March - 7 April

NEW YORK: **U.N. Law of the Sea, Preparatory Committee Meeting** Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) (Industry Representative)

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### About the World Ocean Council (WOC)

*The WOC is the only international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership and collaboration in sustainability, stewardship and science. Companies from a range of industries worldwide are distinguishing themselves as leaders in “Corporate Ocean Responsibility”, including: shipping, oil and gas, tourism, fisheries, aquaculture, mining, renewable energy, ocean technology, investment. WOC Members are listed [here](#), a part of the WOC Network of 35,000+ ocean industry stakeholders around the world. The WOC is a registered not-for-profit organization in the US and the UK/Europe.*

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