



News Release

WOC CEO ADDRESSES U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP IN OCEAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

World Ocean Council (WOC) Brings the Voice of Business Leadership in “Corporate Ocean Responsibility” to the Global Stage for World Oceans Day

8 June 2017

World Ocean Council (WOC) CEO Paul Holthus was invited to speak to the U.N. General Assembly on the occasion of the U.N. Ocean Conference, in recognition of the WOC role as the only global, multi-industry leadership alliance on ocean sustainable development.

Holthus emphasized the need, opportunity and importance of business leadership and collaboration in addressing the challenges of ocean sustainability, science and stewardship. He highlighted WOC progress in bringing together the diverse ocean business community, noting in a live interview on the U.N. Conference opening day that “Every day is World Ocean Day at the World Ocean Council”.



The WOC also convened a number of key panel events at the U.N. Ocean Conference:

The Ocean Business Community: Partnering for Implementation of SDG 14

- Paul Holthus, President and CEO, World Oceans Council (chair/moderator)
- Louise Kantrow, Permanent Representative to the UN, International Chamber of Commerce
- Lise Kingo, CEO and Executive Director, United Nations Global Compact
- Jean-Louis Chaussade, CEO, Suez
- Jon Erik Reinhardsen, President and CEO, PGS
- Joao Metelo, CEO, Principle Power
- Rich Stavis, CEO, Stavis Seafood
- Donnie Brown, VP, Maritime Policy, Cruise Line International Association
- Simon Bennet, Director Policy & External Relations, International Chamber of Shipping

Financing Ocean Sustainable Development

This ocean finance session brought together key investment and industry representatives:

- Paul Holthus, President and CEO, World Oceans Council (chair/moderator)
- Naoko Ishii, CEO of Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Jacques Demers, Founder, Agawa Partners; Chair, WOC Ocean Investment Platform
- Courtney Lowrance, Global Head, Environmental and Social Risk Management, Citi
- John Tobin-de la Puente, Professor of Practice of Corporate Sustainability, Cornell University; former Global Head of Sustainability, Credit Suisse
- Simon Dent, Co-founder, Athelia Ecosphere
- Bill Staby, CEO, Resolute Marine Energy
- Jayme Kurtyka, Chief Finance Officer, EagleRail Container Logistics

The WOC was also invited to be a speaker or moderator in numerous other sessions and activities at the U.N. Ocean Conference:

- **U.N. Partnership Dialogue “Increasing scientific knowledge, and developing research capacity and transfer of marine technology”** (Industry input)
- World Bank **“Blue Economy - Challenges and Opportunities”** (Commentator)
- High Level Exchange **“Pacific Leadership through Innovative Approaches to the Oceans Economy – Pacific 2050”** (Speaker)
- **“The Role of the Private Sector in Fighting Climate Change Affecting the Ocean”** (Panellist)
- **“The Global Partnership for Sustainable Transport (GPST): Maritime Transport and the future of the Sustainable Oceans Economy”** (Panellist)
- **“Swedish Initiative for Agenda 2030”** (Moderator)
- **“Joining hands to help achieve SDGs 6 and 14 – a win-win for freshwater and oceans”** (Panellist)
- **“The Coral Triangle - Partnerships to achieve SDG14 in the World's Epicentre of Marine Biodiversity”** (Panellist)
- **SDG Media Zone live interview: “Public-Private Partnerships on Ocean Issues”**
Paul Holthus (WOC CEO), Lise Kingo (Executive Director, U.N. Global Compact)
- **“Celebrating Business Leadership in Ocean Conservation and Sustainable Development”** (Co-organiser of the conference’s business community reception)

SAVE THE DATE

Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2017: 29 Nov-01 Dec, Halifax, Canada

**SOS 2017 Theme: “The Ocean Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 14):
Business Leadership and Business Opportunities”**

Mark your calendars for this unique gathering of the global ocean business community.

Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

5-9 June, NEW YORK

U.N. Ocean Conference (Invited Speaker, Side Event Organizer and Co-Organizer)

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.

Contact email: info@oceancouncil.org **Web:** www.oceancouncil.org

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