



## News Release

# WOC SUSTAINABLE OCEAN SUMMIT 2017 DELIVERS OCEAN INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

## World Ocean Council's Annual Global Gathering of Industry Leaders Drives Ocean Sustainable Development Forward – and Looks to Hong Kong for SOS 2018

5 December 2017

**The World Ocean Council 5<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) highlighted commitments that ocean industry leaders are making to sustainable development and advanced ocean business community collaboration - both among industry sectors and between business and other ocean stakeholders.**

**The SOS high level opening session "Blue Sky Thinking for a Blue Ocean and Blue Economy"** spotlighted industry commitments to solving ocean challenges with Captain Patwardhan, COO, Tai Chong Cheang Steamship Co., presenting the cutting-edge research TCC supports on reducing emissions through ship engine innovation.

Collaboration between the private sector and other ocean stakeholders was exemplified in the high-level presentations in the opening SOS session on "Blue Sky Thinking":

- Ken Paul, Director of Fisheries and Integrated Resources, Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat (kicking off the SOS with the First Nation's welcome and presentation)
- James Michel, former President, Seychelles
- Serge Segura, Ambassador for the Oceans, France
- Wendy Watson Wright, CEO, Ocean Frontier Institute
- Cristiana Paşca Palmer, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Peter Hinchliffe, Secretary General, International Chamber of Shipping
- Jim Cannon, CEO, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership

Cross-cutting interaction among ocean business sectors was advanced in **the signature SOS "Ocean Executive Forum"** – an extraordinary dialogue of ocean industry CEOs from a range of sectors. The **"Ocean 2030"** session's authoritative projections for future of key ocean sectors displayed WOC's unique leadership in advancing the understanding of global sustainable development and the ocean economy.

**The SOS plenary on "Digital Ocean, Big Ocean Data and Ocean Cloud Computing"** featured leadership companies that are pioneering the development of instruments and the collection and analysis of the growing wave of data as digital technologies spread across the seas and a vast fleet of satellites begins to criss-cross the skies.

**Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, Marc-Andre Blanchard, opened the SOS plenary on “Financing Ocean Sustainable Development”**, highlighting the role of private finance in implementing the UN SDGs. Under the guidance of Session Chair, Jacques Demers (Chairman and Managing Partner, Agawa Partners), Michael Maduell (President, Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute) and Hermann Leiningen (Managing Director, International Family Office Investments, Enterprise Strategic Client Group, Royal Bank of Canada) considered the future of institutional finance for ocean sustainable development. They were followed by Bill Staby (CEO, Resolute Marine Energy) who described the reality of funding for ocean energy startups.

**United Nations Special Envoy for the Ocean, Ambassador Peter Thompson** closed the final SOS 2017 plenary session with clear call for industry leadership in sustainable development and a solid endorsement of the WOC role in mobilizing the global ocean business community.

Following this the WOC CEO announced that the **Sustainable Ocean Summit 2018 will be held in Hong Kong in November 2018.**

The WOC demonstrated its leadership role through a wealth of SOS 2017 sessions focused on tackling the challenges and advancing the opportunities of ocean sustainable development:

- Biofouling and Invasive Species: Addressing the Threat through Industry Collaboration
- Marine Sound: Tackling a Global Problem through Science-Based Industry Leadership and Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration
- Arctic Sustainable Development: Vessel Traffic and Maritime Infrastructure Projections and Scenarios
- Cross-Sectoral Conflicts and Developing Synergies: Offshore Wind Energy and Fisheries
- Ship Strikes and Marine Mammals: Practical Solutions for Ocean Industries
- Synergies in Shipping and Sustainability: International Collaboration on Green Shipping Programs and Infrastructure
- Ocean NETs: CO2 Sequestration Via Ocean-Based Negative Emissions Technologies
- Coastal Infrastructure, Extreme Weather Events, Green Infrastructure, and Blue Carbon: Advancing Adaptation, especially for Small Island States and Least Developed Countries
- Sustainability Practices and Local to Global Seafood Markets: Real Solutions for Fishery Sustainability, Ghost Gear and Traceability in a Multiple Use Ocean
- Aquaculture: Advancing Sustainable Aquaculture in a Multi-Use Ocean
- Ocean Energy: Scaling Up Low Carbon Energy Sources from the Sea, with a View Towards Small Island States and Least Developed Countries
- Smart Ocean-Smart Industries: Advancing Ocean Industry Data Collection, including on Ocean Acidification and Bathymetry
- Maritime Clusters: Innovation and Collaboration for Ocean Sustainable Development
- The Law of the Sea New Legally Binding Instrument on Biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ): What Will It Mean for Ocean Industries?
- Dark Ships: Advancing Ocean Governance and Maritime Security by Improving Detection of Illegal or Suspicious Vessel Activities
- Social License for the Blue Economy: What It Is and How Companies Can Achieve It
- WOC Young Ocean Professionals (YOP) and MIT Solve Workshop: Identifying Innovation Challenges For Ocean Sustainability

If you were not in Halifax for this extraordinary ocean industry event, the full scope of speakers and sessions can be found in the [SOS 2017 Program](#).

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## Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

5-6 December, WASHINGTON DC

**Caribbean Climate Smart Coalition Workshop** - Task Team Member

8-9 December, SHENZHEN

**China-EU Blue Industry Cooperation Forum** - Invited Speaker

12 December, PARIS

**One Planet Summit** - Invited Participant

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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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