News Release

WOC CONTINUES TO LEAD EFFORTS TO ENGAGE OCEAN INDUSTRIES WITH OTHER OCEAN STAKEHOLDERS ON HIGH SEAS

The World Ocean Council (WOC) Ongoing Work to Ensure Business Involvement in International Discussions and U.N. Negotiations on Ocean Governance Continues at Two High Seas Events in June

21 June 2018

The WOC has been working since its inception to inform and engage the ocean business community in international ocean governance developments. Much of this has focused on the U.N. process to develop on a new legally binding instrument to expand the Law of the Sea to regulate the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).

The WOC has provided the consistent private sector presence at the BBNJ process over the past 4 years, working in close cooperation with the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and other key global private sector organizations, to provide analysis and guidance on the BBNJ developments. (click here for documents)

In June 2018, the WOC will ensure that there is ocean industry input at key multi-stakeholders events focused on ocean governance and the BBNJ negotiations.

The WOC COO, Christine Valentin, will address the challenges and opportunities linked with the High Seas and exchange with the ocean community at the "High Seas: What's at Stake?" organized by the High Seas Alliance, in coordination with other international institutions and the "High Seas International Conference", organized by Nausicaa, FAO, UNESCO, l'Agence Française pour la Biodiversité, the Global Ocean Forum and IUCN.

The formal BBNJ negotiations begin in September 2018 at the U.N. in New York, and the WOC will continue to provide leadership in informing and engaging the global ocean business community in this Law of the Sea process with significant implications for the future of ocean economic activity. The Law of the Sea BBNJ negotiations will continue with two sessions in 2019, and the final session in the first half of 2020, when a new legally binding agreement is expected.

The 6th WOC Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS), Hong Kong 14-16 November 2018, will again include a key session focused entirely on the BBNJ and what the ocean business community needs to know to be informed and engaged in this critical process.

SAVE THE DATE

Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2018: 14-16 Nov, Hong Kong

SOS 2018 Theme: *"Ocean Sustainable Development- Connecting Asia and the World"*

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

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

19-21 June, BOULDER
International Hydrographic Organization (IHO): Crowd-Based Bathymetry Working Group Meeting (Invited Participant)

21 June, PARIS
High Seas Conference (Invited Speaker)

24-26 June, DAVOS
Arctic Observing Summit (Invited Speaker)

26-27 June, MONACO
Transition Monaco Forum: Reinventing Business Models (Invited Moderator for session on "Transforming the Mediterranean")

26-28 June, BOULOGNE SUR MER
High Seas International Conference (invited speaker)

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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