



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

WOC AND THE WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR WATERBORNE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE (PIANC) SIGN MOU

World Ocean Council and PIANC to Partner on Addressing Port/Coastal Infrastructure Adaptation to Extreme Weather Events and Advancing Young Professionals

16 August 2019

The World Ocean Council (WOC) and the [World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure \(PIANC\)](#) have signed an MOU on long-term cooperation.

The partnership agreement provides a commitment and framework for the two bodies to collaborate on ocean sustainable economic development through information exchange, communications, events, joint working groups, etc. on topics of shared interest.

More specifically, PIANC and WOC will begin by working together to develop:

- 1) **Tools and methods for port and coastal infrastructure adaptation** that can be scaled up to address port resiliency needs, especially regarding extreme weather events affecting Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and other developing countries.
- 2) **Interaction between the WOC Young Ocean Professionals initiative and the PIANC Young Professionals Network.**

The WOC's 7th Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS), 20-22 November 2019, will include:

- 1) **A significant focus on port and coastal infrastructure adaptation and**
- 2) **A major workshop on investing in Young Ocean Professionals for the Blue Economy.**

PIANC Secretary General Geert Van Cappellen stated, "The world's ports and waterways infrastructure is essential to the Blue Economy and must be developed in ways consistent with ensuring a healthy ocean, sustainable development and adaptation to sea level rise and extreme weather events. We are pleased to be working with the World Ocean Council to address these challenges."

Paul Holthus, WOC Founding President and CEO, added, "As the world's leading international association on port infrastructure, PIANC and its global network of experts and corporate members is a natural partner for the World Ocean Council. The WOC, the Global Blue Economy Business Organization, can bring leadership companies from the ocean business and investment community to engage with PIANC to tackle critical infrastructure challenges in the context of sustainable development."

PIANC - The World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure - is the leading international association on ports and waterways infrastructure, comprising a network of 2,100 individual members and 450 corporate members from 75 countries. Established in 1885, PIANC provides expert guidance by bringing together international professionals from public and private sectors on the technical, economic and environmental issues pertaining to waterborne transport infrastructure. PIANC is the main partner for governments and private sector in the design, development and maintenance of ports, waterways and coastal areas.

SAVE THE DATE

Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2019: 20-22 Nov, Paris

“Investing in Ocean Futures: Finance and Innovation for the Blue Economy”

Mark your calendars for this unique gathering of the global Ocean Business Community.

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

15 August, HONOLULU

Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) - Comprehensive Maritime Security Cooperation Course (Speaker)

19-30 August, NEW YORK

U.N. Law of the Sea, BBNJ Treaty - 3rd Negotiation Session on the international, legally binding instrument under the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea re the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) (Industry Representative)

World Ocean Council (WOC) – The Global Blue Economy Business Organization

The WOC is the international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership, collaboration and action on ocean 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 and 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, UK and France.

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