



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

WOC AND WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING & TRADING ASSOCIATION (WISTA) TO SIGN MOU AT SUSTAINABLE OCEAN SUMMIT

Partnership between World Ocean Council (WOC) and WISTA Will Advance Women's Leadership in the Sustainable Blue Economy

18 November 2019

The WOC and WISTA will be initiating a partnership to advance women's leadership in the ocean and coastal business community and the Sustainable Blue Economy at the [7th Sustainable Ocean Summit \(SOS\) 2019, Paris, 20-22 November](#).

The [Women's International Shipping & Trading Association \(WISTA\)](#) is a global organization connecting female executives and professionals from all sectors of the maritime industry. With more than 3,000 members in 49 countries, WISTA leads with the conviction that gender diversity and inclusions is the key to providing a sustainable future for the shipping, trading, and logistics industries worldwide.

Despina Panayiotou Theodosiou, President of WISTA International, said, "Sustainable development issues are key drivers to the future of the maritime and shipping sector and many women are leading the way in sustainable development, science and stewardship of our oceans. WISTA is proud to partner with the World Ocean Council to amplify the voice of female leaders in our industry to promote 'Corporate Ocean Responsibility'."

Paul Holthus, WOC Founding President and CEO, added, "The WOC is honoured to work with WISTA, as a leading international networking organisation for engaging management level women in the maritime, trading and logistics sectors, to promote women's engagement in 'Corporate Ocean Responsibility' among its members and the broader ocean business. We encourage women's network organizations from other ocean industry sectors to consider partnering with the WOC as well."

The MOU will be signed on **20 November** at the annual [WOC Sustainable Ocean Summit 2019 in Paris](#).

In addition, the SOS 2019 session on "**Women in Ocean Industries: Leadership, Sustainable Development and Maritime Security**" will be re-convening women leaders, including

representation from WISTA, from across the maritime business sectors in a high-level plenary discussion to consider how well women's leadership in the ocean business community is advancing and the challenges and opportunities for improving leadership by women in the ocean business community. For more information, visit <https://www.sustainableoceansummit.org/program/>.

With the theme of *"Investing in Ocean Futures: Finance and Innovation for the Blue Economy"*, the SOS 2019 will be the foremost international business conference dedicated to investment and innovation for ocean sustainable development.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE SOS 2019

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

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

Conference space is limited so register now to secure your place at the only global ocean sustainable development event developed by and for the Ocean Business Community!

<https://www.sustainableoceansummit.org/>

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

18-19 November, BOULOGNE-SUR-MER

High-Level Workshop on "The Role for the Private Sector on the High Seas Within the BBNJ Process" (Workshop Co-organizer)

27 November, PARIS

14th Meeting National Informal High Seas Group (Participant)

27 November, PARIS

Investing in Nature, Finance for Tomorrow (Participant)

29 November, PARIS

Climate Finance Day 2019 (Participant)

2-13 December, MADRID

U.N. Climate Change Convention – Conference of the Parties (COP) 25 (Participant)

4-5 December, HAMBURG

Arctic Shipping Summit (Speaker)

8-9 December, MADRID

World Climate Summit (Institutional Partner)

10 December, PARIS

GEF Marine Plastics Final Project Meeting (Participant)

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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