

**News Release** 

## INVITATION FOR INDUSTRY TO JOIN DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL ARCTIC OCEAN DECADE ACTION PLAN

World Ocean Council Encourages Industry Participation in Developing the Arctic Ocean Action Plan for the U.N. Decade of Ocean Science; Registration Closes 25 September 2020

19 September 2020

The WOC and the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) signed an MOU in 2016 to formalize the role of WOC as the global ocean business organization engaging the private sector on ocean science and data collection.

As part of this, the WOC is now focusing on engaging industry involvement in the U.N. Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

To implement the U.N. Decade of Ocean Science in an Arctic Ocean context, a <u>Task Force</u> is preparing an Arctic Ocean Action Plan, an opportunity for stakeholders to formulate, discuss and prioritize proposals for actions in support of the Ocean Decade.

The development of an Arctic Ocean Action Plan includes workshops in late <u>2020</u> around the **Ocean Decade societal goals,** providing stakeholders with the opportunity to:

- 1. Participate directly in working groups to draft key inputs to the Arctic Ocean Action Plan, including potential partnerships for Arctic activities to support Ocean Decade. Participation in working groups include participation in at least two online meetings. Learn more about the process and FAQ.
- 2. Network with other Arctic science, governance, industry and NGO stakeholders to identify key shared Ocean Decade priorities for Arctic Ocean challenges and solutions.

For more information and to register, <u>click here</u>. Registration closes on 25 September 2020.

The World Ocean Council (WOC) is working to facilitate regular and sustained interaction between the Arctic science community and industry, and ensuring the private sector is engaged as a key stakeholder through WOC's roles as working partner of the Horizon 2020 ARICE (Arctic Research Icebreaker Consortium), EU-PolarNet and Blue-Action projects. WOC is participating in the Arctic Ocean Action Plan working groups for the U.N. Ocean Science Decade, and encourages industry to engage in the development of the Arctic Ocean Action Plan.

## **# Blue Economy by the Numbers #**

Average annual economic growth of Arctic regions of Arctic countries, 2000-2012: **3.2 per cent** Average annual economic growth of non-Arctic regions of Arctic countries, 2000-2012: **2.0 per cent** 

Source: The Economy of the North. 2015. Solveig Glomsrød, Gérard Duhaime and Iulie Aslaksen (eds.)

## **Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement**

23-24 September, Online Summit Shipping & the Blue Economy Virtual Forum (Speaker, Key Partner)

30 September, 10:00 BST, Webinar <u>Breakbulk – The Digital Special: Growing a Sustainable Future</u> (Speaker)

1-2 October, Online Conference <u>Reuters Offshore and Floating Wind Europe</u> (Speaker)

6-8 October, Rotterdam/Online Conference World Conference on Floating Solutions (Keynote Speaker, Partner)

14-16 October, Online Event <u>CMA Shipping</u> (Speaker, Supporting Organization)

15-16 October, Online Event Global Forum on Human Settlements 2020 (Speaker, Partner)

## 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 <u>here</u>, 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 France.

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