

# **Recommendations of the Oceans 20 Engagement Group**

Third G20 Sherpa Meeting, 3-5 July 2024, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

### **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OCEAN POLICIES**

- The joint, overall policy ambition of the G20 should be to ensure a clean, healthy and productive ocean, while, concurrently, developing a sustainable and equitable ocean economy by scaling up sustainable ocean industrial activities;
- As the ocean transcends national, regulatory, industrial and scientific boundaries, it should be
  integrated across global policies and frameworks, and coherent ocean policy development,
  implementation and enforcement must be based on an inclusive multi-stakeholder approach, and
  globally accepted rules;
- Given the scale and urgency of actions needed to address the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and the main priorities stated by the Brazilian G20 Presidency, governments, regulatory bodies, private sector and civil society decision-makers must act simultaneously, and in a consistent, coordinated and cooperative manner;
- Governments must act swiftly and decisively to recognise the ocean-climate interlinkages and the opportunities for climate change mitigation and adaptation through sustainable ocean-based actions.

#### SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE PRIORITIES OF THE G20 BRAZIL:

## 1. SOCIAL INCLUSION AND THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

- Scale up sustainable production of aquatic foods and build its resilience to contribute to sustain healthy and nutritious food for 3 billion people, and livelihoods for 10-12% of the world's population;
- Act swiftly and forcefully to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing;
- Raise awareness, build capacity, and empower coastal communities and indigenous peoples, especially women, traditional communities and youth, to participate meaningfully in ocean conservation, decision-making and management efforts by enhancing ocean literacy and supporting ocean education initiatives;
- Promote food security through blue food systems by supporting coastal and small-scale fishing communities;
- Ensure safe and secure international waterways for global trade of food, feed and fertilizers.

### 2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENERGY TRANSITIONS

- In line with the <u>G7 Declaration on the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction</u> (BBNJ Agreement, commit to pursue its swift ratification at the earliest date possible, endeavoring to do so by the third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC-3), to be held in Nice, France, in June 2025;
- Work actively to conserve coastal and marine habitats and ensure ecological connectivity for safeguarding marine biodiversity, reducing cumulative impacts and strengthening resilience;
- Support and underpin the work of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to fully decarbonize shipping by 2050;
- Pursue a just energy transition by aligning ocean-climate solutions within Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with other national strategies and international frameworks, e.g. the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Support the articulation of comprehensive research and development projects in critical areas such as energy transition, digital twins of the ocean, observing systems, biodiversity and ecosystem monitoring, climate adaptation, and fisheries and aquaculture.

### 3. REFORM OF GLOBAL GOVERNANCE INSTITUTIONS

- Support the adoption and implementation of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) frameworks that balance conservation with economic activities, following the example of the <u>Ocean Action 2030 Sustainable</u> <u>Ocean Plans</u> (SOPs);
- Seek official support from the EU delegation in G20 for partnership between the G7 Future of the Seas and Ocean Initiative (FSOI) and the G20 Ocean Engagement Group (O20), that present commonalities that could be explored, particularly if the Ocean Engagement Group is to become a standing group of the G20;
- Enhance cooperation and capacity-building efforts within the key international maritime organizations and bodies, such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), and the International Seabed Authority (ISA).















