



FUTURE of our SEAS

MARINE STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE

Agenda

17 December 2021

#FutureOfOurSeas

09:30-10:00 **Opening Session: Protecting our seas and ocean**

Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius, *Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, European Commission*

Alexandra Cousteau, *National Geographic Emerging explorer and environmental activist*

10:00-10:40 **Plenary Session: State of our seas**

Pierre Karleskind, *Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Fisheries*

Jutta Paulus, *Member of the European Parliament, Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee*

Hans Bruyninckx, *Executive Director, European Environment Agency*

Monica Verbeek, *Executive Director, Seas at Risk*

10:40-11:00 **Plenary Session: The Marine Strategy Framework Directive – State of Play**

Veronica Manfredi, *Director, Zero Pollution, DG Environment, European Commission*

11:00-11:30 **Comfort break**

11:30-13:00 **Break-out sessions**

Theme A: Achieving “Good environmental Status” of EU seas

- **Session A1: Objectives and timeline**

The objective of this session will be to explore the continued relevance of the overall objective and timeline of the Directive, achieving GES, in the current context.

Caroline Roose, *Member of the European Parliament*

Roberto Danovaro, *Università Politecnica delle Marche*

Richard Cronin, *Principal Adviser for the marine environment, Irish Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage*

- **Session A2: A coherent framework**

The objective of this session will be to examine the the interplay between the MSFD and other EU policies and legislation.

Vera Coelho, *Senior Director, Advocacy in Europe, Oceana*

Jan Terstad, *Deputy Director General and head of the Division for Natural Environment, Ministry of Environment of Sweden*

Mark Dickey-Collas, *Chair of the Advisory Committee, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea*

Wim van Urk, *Marine and International Water Policy, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management in the Netherlands*

- **Session A3: Taking action – Measures**

This session will look more specifically at measures: why are measures taken in some areas, and not others, at what level should they be taken, what makes them effective.

Emma Nohrèn, *Member of the Committee of the Regions, Vice Mayor of Lysekil Municipality, European Committee of the Regions*

Itziar Martín, *Deputy Director General for the Protection of the Sea, Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge*

Noelia Ortega Ortega, *CEO, CTN- Marine Technology Centre*

Rüdiger Stempel, *Executive Secretary, Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission – Helcom*

13:00-14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00-15:30 **Break-out sessions**

Theme B: Making the Directive work

- **Session B1: Designing the law to achieve the objectives**

The objective of this session is to question whether the current design of the Directive needs to be improved and how, including to allow to track progress towards GES.

Catherine Chabaud, *Member of the European Parliament*

Katrine Nissen, *Marine Director, Danish Ministry of Environment*

Angel Borja, *PhD Marine Ecology, AZTI*

- **Session B2: Implementing the Directive – working together**

The objective of this session is to discuss some of the issues that make implementation of the Directive difficult and how through better coordination implementation might improve.

Dominic Pattinson, *Executive Secretary, OSPAR Commission*

François Galgani, *Project Manager at IFREMER, and board member of the EU Horizon Europe mission on healthy oceans and rivers*

Gheorghe Constantin, *Director for water resources management, Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests of Romania*

Tatjana Hema, *Coordinator, UN Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan-Barcelona Convention Secretariat*

- **Session B3: Communication & enforcement**

The objective of this session is to examine two aspects that are key to make the Directive work: enforcement and communication.

Nils Höglund, *Marine and Fisheries Policy officer, Coalition Clean Baltic*

Friel Colm, *Principal manager, European Court of Auditors*

Mitja Bricelj, *Water and Investments Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning*

15:30-15:45 **Comfort break**

15:45-16:00 **Plenary Session: Reporting back from the break-out sessions**

16:00-16:30 **Closing Session: We are part of the ecosystem**

Patrick Child, *Deputy Director-General in DG Environment, European Commission*

Charlina Vitcheva, *Director General of DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission*