



menaco   
blue initiative

27 MAY 2026 MONACO

17<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

OCEANOGRAPHIC MUSEUM  
OF MONACO

PROGRAMME

[monacoblueinitiative.org](https://monacoblueinitiative.org)







INSTITUT  
OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE  
MONACO

## OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, PRINCE ALBERT I OF MONACO FOUNDATION

The Oceanographic Institute is committed to increasing awareness of the riches and fragility of the ocean, and to promoting its sustainable management and rational and effective protection. To achieve this, it acts as mediator between, on the one hand, scientific and socio-economic players, and, on the other hand, the general public and political decision-makers. It implements this mission highlighting the exceptional heritage of Prince Albert I and the exemplary commitment of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco to “Promote knowledge, love and protection of the Ocean”.

For more information

[www.oceano.org](http://www.oceano.org)  
+377 93 15 36 00

 Institut océanographique de Monaco  
   @OceanoMonaco



PRINCE ALBERT II  
OF MONACO  
FOUNDATION




## PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO FOUNDATION

HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco decided in June 2006 to create His Foundation in response to the worrying threats to our planet's environment. For the past 20 years, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has been leading actions in three main geographical areas: the Mediterranean Basin, the Polar Regions and the Least Developed Countries in order to limit the effects of climate change and promote renewable energies, preserve biodiversity, manage water resources and combat desertification.

Active at the international level, the Foundation mobilizes citizens, political leaders, scientists and economic players in the protection of nature, the common heritage of humanity.

For more information

[www.fpa2.org](http://www.fpa2.org)  
+377 98 98 44 44

 Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco  
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 FondationPrinceAlbertIIddeMonaco

OCEANOGRAPHIC MUSEUM OF MONACO  
**WEDNESDAY, 27 MAY 2026**

08:00 | 09:00

Welcome coffee and networking

## OPENING

09:00 | 09:40

### WELCOME ADDRESS

by **HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco**

### KEYNOTE SPEECH

**Ms Jennifer Nordquist**, Deputy Director-General,  
World Trade Organization

## SESSION 1

09:40 | 10:30

### PANEL 1

## THE POST-2025 OCEAN AGENDA: CONSOLIDATING MILESTONES AND CONFRONTING BLOCKAGES

- *The session will unpack how the 2025 international milestones have reconfigured the ocean governance architecture, with a focus on what is materially changing for implementation across institutions, sectors and geographies.*
- *It will critically examine where political alignment and financial flows are genuinely accelerating, and where systemic inertia, fragmented mandates or geopolitical tensions continue to constrain progress.*
- *The discussion will aim to delineate a credible course of action towards 2030, identifying priority leverage points in a landscape increasingly shaped by competing global agendas.*

### Panelists

**Ms Ashleigh McGovern**, Senior Vice President,  
Center for Oceans, Conservation International

**Dr Vincent Pieribone**, Co-Chief Executive Officer  
and Chief Science Officer, OceanX

**Ms Karen Sack**, Executive Director, ORRAA

10:30 | 11:15

Group photo and coffee break

## SESSION 2

11:15 | 12:00

### KEYNOTE SPEECH

**Mr Sofjan Jaupaj**, Minister of Environment,  
Albania

### PANEL 2

## GOVERNING AND FINANCING THE OCEAN IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD

- *The panel will explore how overlapping and sometimes inconsistent governance frameworks are translating into operational constraints or opportunities for both public authorities and private investors.*
- *It will assess how regulatory uncertainty and geopolitical fragmentation are being priced into investment decisions, affecting capital allocation, risk management and long-term planning across ocean sectors.*
- *Particular attention will be given to high-exposure geographies and ecosystems, where governance gaps intersect with acute climate and biodiversity pressures, requiring more targeted and coordinated responses.*

### Panelists

**Ms Sylvie Goulard**, Co-Chair, International Advisory  
Panel on Biodiversity Credits

**Ms Valerie Hickey**, Group Director for Environment,  
World Bank

**Mr Humphrey Kariuki**, Founder,  
Janus Continental Group

**Ms Mahima Sukhdev**, Chief Growth Officer,  
GIST Impact

12:00 | 14:00

Networking lunch, standing buffet format

## SESSION 3

14:00 | 14:15

### KEYNOTE SPEECH

**Mr Wallace Cosgrow**, Principal Minister and Minister for Fisheries, Agriculture and the Blue Economy, Republic of Seychelles

**Dr the Hon Arvin Boolell**, GOSK, Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries, Mauritius

14:15 | 14:55

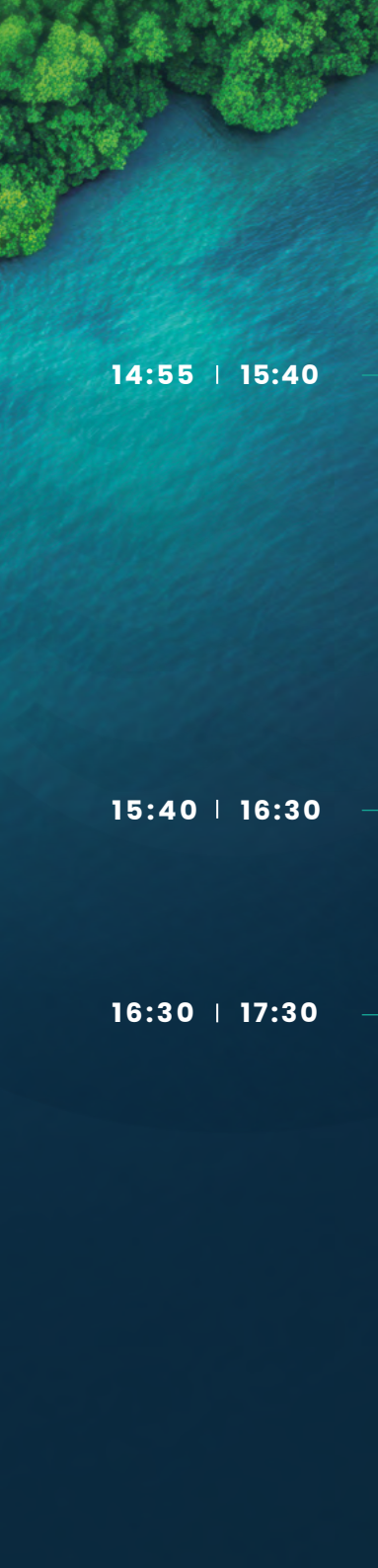
### PANEL 3

## BBNJ AND HIGH SEAS MPAs – LOOKING AHEAD

- *The discussion will take stock of the immediate implications of the BBNJ Agreement's entry into force, with a focus on the institutional, legal and operational steps required ahead of COP1.*
- *It will examine how to structure the end-to-end process of high seas MPA designation and management, from scientific identification to governance arrangements and sustainable financing mechanisms.*
- *The session will also address implementation risks, including political deadlock and capacity gaps, while exploring the enabling role of advanced data systems, monitoring technologies and emerging tools.*

### Panelists

**Dr Grethel Aguilar**, Chief Executive Officer, International Union for Conservation of Nature  
**Dr Harriet Harden-Davies**, Director of the Nippon Foundation-University of Edinburgh Ocean Voices Programme, The University of Edinburgh  
**Mr Kristian Teleki**, Chief Executive Officer, Fauna & Flora International  
**Mr Torsten Thiele**, Founder & Executive Director, Global Ocean Trust



## SESSION 4

14:55 | 15:40

### BBNJ THEMATIC WORKSHOP

This workshop will focus on the implementation challenges of the BBNJ Agreement in the lead-up to its first Conference of the Parties (“Ocean COP 1”), scheduled for January 2027.

Various aspects of BBNJ implementation will be explored across tables:

- *The role of technology, data and AI*
- *Impacts and adaptation for the private sector*
- *Financing BBNJ*
- *BBNJ in the Mediterranean*
- *Priority areas and science*
- *Interactions with other international bodies*

15:40 | 16:30

Coffee break

## CLOSING

16:30 | 17:30

### WORKSHOP WRAP UP

Fireside chat

### CLOSING ADDRESS

**Mr Romain Ciarlet,**  
Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer,  
Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

**Mr Robert Calcagno,**  
Chief Executive Officer, Oceanographic Institute,  
Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation



**17:30 | 19:00**

**BEFF ACCREDITATION PICK-UP**

Hall of the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco

Free access to the Museum with your accreditation


Free time before cocktail

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**19:00 | 22:00**

**MBI-BEFF COCKTAIL RECEPTION**

Oceanographic Museum of Monaco



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FULL  
PROGRAMME

