Climate Change & the Ocean: Charting a Resilient Path Forward

Co-sponsors: Government of Chile, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Nippon Foundation, Walton Family Foundation, Environmental Defense Fund

The ocean is under great threat from the effects of climate change; it is also our greatest weapon in the fight against it. While the ocean will be a critical tool in helping us mediate climate-induced impacts, we must take every opportunity to make it more resilient. On the heels of the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere, and the upcoming 'Blue COP' and UN Ocean Conference, international momentum is building for urgent action. For example, as waters warm and become more acidic, the distribution and abundance of global fish populations are shifting. What might this mean for governments, fishermen, and their communities, and what can we do now to ensure healthy, reliable, and equitable fisheries in the face of climate change? In this session, global leaders and scientific experts will outline the scope of the impacts that we have already observed, while presenting a new roadmap for how we can build resilient global fisheries in the coming decades. Moderated discussion about best steps for collaborative action will follow.

SPEAKERS

- His Excellency Waldemar Coutts, Ambassador of Chile to Norway and Iceland
- Manuel Barange, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Yoshitaka Ota, Nippon Foundation Nereus Program
- Jane Lubchenco, Oregon State University