

# THE ISC AT THE UN OCEAN CONFERENCE

11 March 2025 | Anda Popovici, ISC Science Officer

# The UN Ocean Conference

- UNGA-mandated event aimed at advancing SDG14 'Life below water'
- Two previous UNOC editions: 2017 in New York and 2022 in Lisbon
- Outcome: political declaration along with voluntary commitments

## UNOC-3

- Co-convened by France and Costa Rica, to be held in Nice, France, from 9 – 13 June 2025
- Plenary sessions, ten Ocean Action Panels, opening/closing segments
- Preceded by three Special events, including the One Ocean Science Congress
- Negotiations on the political declaration co-facilitated by Australia and Cabo Verde



## UNOC-3: ISC roles

- As co-lead of the S&T Major Group, the ISC has a formal role as a convenor of the globally active scientific community in the UNOC-3 and preparatory process. This role entails:
  - Make statements in preparatory meetings
  - Contribute inputs to the programme
  - Facilitate access and participation of scientists
  - Speaker nomination
  - Work closely with UN Secretariat (UN DESA) to ensure the latest scientific evidence is made available to Member States and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. webinars, briefs)
- Support the Group of Friends on Science for Action: thematic science-policy briefing on oceans
  - Support the organization of a scientific briefing for GoF members on ocean
  - Nominate in-person speakers
- UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development: ISC as key partner in its implementation

# ISC ocean science community

## Affiliated Bodies



The Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) -



The Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) -



The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) -



Future Earth Ocean Knowledge Action Network -



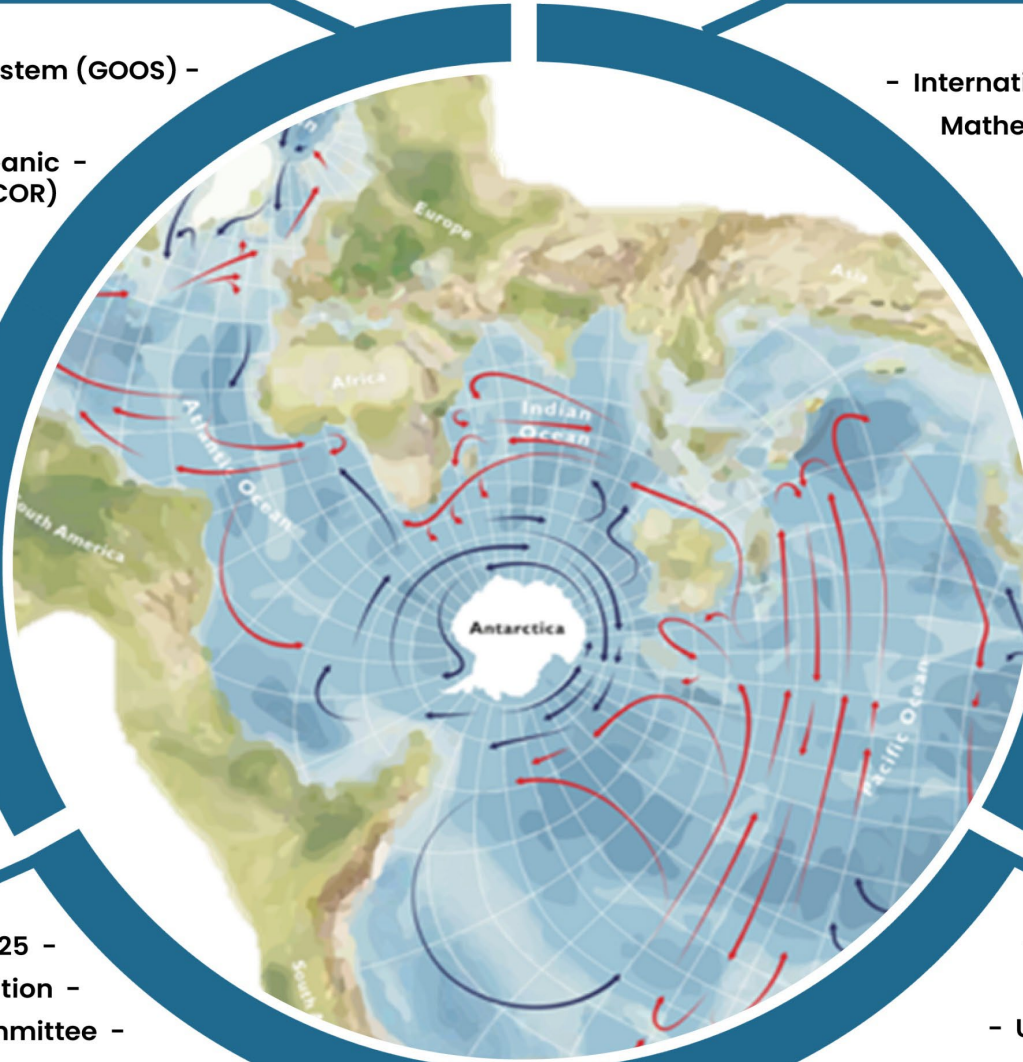
The World Climate Research Programme (including global projects on the Ocean) (WCRP) -



Committee on Data of the ISC (CODATA) -

## Relevant expert groups and committees

- ISC expert group for UNOC 2025 -
- ISC expert group on plastic pollution -
- ISC SIDS Liaison Committee -



## ISC members

- International Council for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM)



- The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), including International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO)



- International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA)



- International Geographical Union (IGU)



- The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS)



## Partners

- UN DESA



- UNESCO IOC



- UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development



# UNOC-3 engagement

## Objectives

- Ensuring a strong and unified voice for the ISC's ocean scientific community
- Develop and contribute multidisciplinary inputs, key scientific framings
- Contribute to a strong, evidence-based political declaration
- Advise Member States, UN DESA and other relevant stakeholders

## Deliverables

- High-level, science-based key messages as input into the political declaration
- Policy brief highlighting latest thinking and key scientific framings
- In-person and/or virtual events, e.g. UNOC side events, Members' session at the ISC GKD
- Communication materials such as blogs and op-eds
- Talent book

# ISC expert group for UNOC3

## Co-chairs



**Lynne Shannon**  
Deputy Director/  
Principal Researcher  
MARIS, University of  
Cape Town



**Peter Haugan**  
Policy Director  
Institute of Marine  
Research, Norway



**Dr. Ilka Peeken**  
Vice President  
Scientific Committee on  
Oceanic Research



**Dr. Fangli QIAO**  
Deputy Director General  
of the First Institute of  
Oceanography (FIO)  
Ministry of Natural  
Resources of China



**Dr. Kwame Adu  
Agyekum**  
Lecturer/Researcher  
Department of Marine  
and Fisheries Sciences,  
University of Ghana



**Maritza Cárdenas  
Calle**  
Professor & Researcher  
University of Guayaquil,  
Ecuador



**Dr. Awnesh Singh**  
Associate Professor and  
Acting Director  
Pacific Centre for  
Environment and  
Sustainable  
Development, The  
University of the South  
Pacific



**Sabrina Speich**  
Co-chair  
Ocean Observations  
Physics and Climate  
Panel of Global Climate  
Observing System  
(GCOS)



**Valérie Masson-  
Delmotte**  
CEA scientist  
Laboratory of Climate  
and Environmental  
Sciences, Paris Saclay



**Dr. Michelle Mycoo**  
Professor of Urban and  
Regional Planning  
University of the West  
Indies, St. Augustine



**Rashid Sumaila**  
University Killam  
Professor  
Institute for the Oceans  
and Fisheries,  
OceanCanada  
Partnership



**Dr. Mia Strand**  
Ocean Nexus  
Postdoctoral Research  
Fellow  
Nelson Mandela  
University

# ISC membership engagement

## Call for action to the ISC membership (deadline: 15 March)

- Share ocean-related resources
- Inform us about your participation

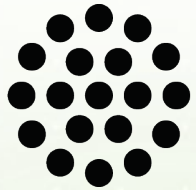
## Membership campaign

- Join the ISC in its campaign to advance a unified and impactful science voice at UNOC-3

## UNOC3 registration

- Reach out to us if you need support with UNOC-3 registration





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**Thank you!**

Contact us at **anda.popovici@council.science**