



The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

Reports from the Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

January 23-28, 2006, UNESCO, Paris

OCEAN INDUSTRIES: BEST PRACTICES IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE SECTORS

Summary prepared by Paul Holthus, Private Sector Coordinator, Global Forum on Ocean, Coasts and Islands; and Executive Director, Marine Aquarium Council

The Global Conference considered the issue of ocean industries, using the goal of identifying best practices now used by global leaders in marine industrial sectors to reduce risks to marine environment effectively while achieving business objectives efficiently. The expected outcomes for consideration by the panel on ocean industries included: Identify opportunities and next steps to develop best practices within the global marine business and industry community and how to share these within the private sector and with other stakeholders.

The panel was chaired by Paul Holthus, Private Sector Coordinator, Global Forum on Ocean, Coasts and Islands; Executive Director, Marine Aquarium Council. Panel participants included: Tim Wilkins, Environmental Manager, International Association of Independent Tank Owners (INTERTANKO); Dierk Peters, International Marketing Manager for Sustainability, UNILEVER; Arthur Bogason, Co-Chair, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers; John Connelly, President, National Fisheries Institute and International Coalition of Fishing Organizations; Mark Caney, President, Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) Europe; Jose Matheickal, International Maritime Organization (IMO); and Bruno Corr eard, Manager for Sustainable Marine Resources, Carrefour.

The panel on Ocean Industries focused on the importance of industry responsibility for sustainable practices and the need and opportunity for building cross-sectoral partnerships among business and industry and with other ocean stakeholders to ensure the sustainable use of ocean space and resources. The panel presentations highlighted the leadership that several industries are providing in defining and implementing sustainable practices which address the sustainable use of marine resources, responsible operations in the marine environment and conservation of ocean biodiversity. The panel highlighted the efforts of leaders from industries as diverse as shipping, fisheries, oil and gas, and recreational diving who are working for the protection and management of the oceans and the improvement of industry standards for activities in the marine realm. Partnerships with NGOs are often an important part of understanding and implementing best practices and achieving sustainability. Many ocean industry sectors are moving to establish higher quality standards for a variety of products and practices in relation to marine resources or operations in the ocean environment. This is being led by leadership companies and by industry associations. The panel supported the need for increased industry attention to sustainable development of ocean areas and resources that is consistent with conservation goals and includes interaction with multiple stakeholders.

Building on the first Business and Industry Leaders Roundtable held at TOPS 2005: The Ocean Policy Summit on October 12, 2005 in Lisbon, Portugal, the second roundtable brought together an increased number and a greater cross-section of the industries and user groups that depend on or use ocean and coastal space and resources. The second meeting of the Business and Industry Leaders Roundtable was also chaired by Paul Holthus, Private Sector Coordinator, Global Forum on Ocean, Coasts and Islands; Executive Director, Marine Aquarium Council, and included the following participants: Lahsen Ababouch, Chief, Fish Utilization and Marketing Service, FAO Fisheries Tsunami Task Force; Daniel Bailey, Chairman, Batostar Fighting Ltd., South Africa; Arthur Bogason, Co-President, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers; Mark Caney, President, Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) Europe; John Connelly, President, National Fisheries Institute, International Coalition of Fishing Associations; Bruno Corréard, Manager for Sustainable Marine Resources, Carrefour Group; Jean Courjault, MIF Liaison, French Suppliers Council (GEP), Policy Advisor, European Oil and Gas Innovation Forum (EUROGIF); Rob Cox, Technical Manager, International Petroleum Industry Environment and Conservation Association (IPIECA); Richard Delaney, Executive Vice President, Horsely Witten Group; Philippe Ferlin, Ingénieur Général, French Conseil General du Genie Rural des Eaux et Forets (GREF); Michel Goujon, French National Fisheries Commission (CNPMEM); Shelby Hockenberry, Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy, University of Delaware and Secretariat, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands; Hector-Lysis Kyriakidis, Managing Director, Teledyne R.D. Instruments-Europe; Jose Matheickal, Technical Adviser, GloBallast Water Management Programme, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization (IMO); Jane Mauro, Biologist, PETROBAS; Cor Nobel, Secretary-General, Shipping Emissions Abatement and Trading Association (SEAaT); Paul Nemitz, Head of Unit, Legal Affairs, Deputy Head of Maritime Policy Task Force, European Commission; Dierk Peters, International Marketing Manager, Sustainability Projects, UNILEVER; Kathrin

Runge, Marketing, Friedrichs FeinFisch; Scott Truver, Group Vice President, CSSO Anteon Corporation; Takehiro Nakamura (for Dr. Veerle Vandeweerd, Director, UN Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Seas Programme, and Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities); Tim Wilkins, Environment Manager, International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (INTERTANKO); and John Young, Marine Sound Management Team Coordinator, ExxonMobil Exploration Company.

The Business and Industry Leaders Roundtable provided an opportunity for the representatives of this range of private sector entities to explore both the differences and the commonalities in the sustainable development and use of the oceans. Key issues that emerged from the discussions were:

1. There is an important need and opportunity for building cross-sectoral partnerships among business and industry and with other ocean stakeholders in support of the sustainable use of ocean space and resources, and this should be pursued by continuing to develop a network on ocean business and industry and sustainable development.
2. The identification and sharing of best practices within industry sectors and among different components of business and industry is a practical and useful way for the private sector to interact on ocean sustainability.
3. In particular it would be valuable to exchange experiences, lessons learned and case studies in developing and implementing partnerships for addressing conservation and sustainable use issues in the marine environment.
4. Science and data provide a common language and basis for industries to interact with each other and with other stakeholders, and there are important opportunities for collaboration on undertaking research to support sustainable industry operations that would benefit a wide range of concerned parties.
5. Ocean business and industry are important globally, regionally, and nationally, and it would be valuable to pull together a report highlighting the contribution of ocean industries to the global economy.