



PACEM IN MARIBUS XXXII

The Malta Declaration



The meeting of *Pacem in Maribus XXXII* was held in Attard, Malta from the 5th to the 8th November 2007 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the statement of Ambassador Arvid Pardo on behalf of the government of Malta at The United Nations General Assembly (1st of November, 1967) declaring the ocean space, the surface of the sea, the water column, the seabed and its subsoil as common heritage of mankind, that forever changed humanity's relationship with the ocean and environment of our planet.

We, the representatives from a variety of disciplines in the ocean community, reiterate our conviction in the moral and ethical values of the principle of the Common Heritage of Mankind. We express our deep concern for the deteriorating health of the ocean which is threatening humanity's very survival. Despite a complex multi-government architecture including UNCLOS, our oceans are being irrevocably destroyed in a process of slow strangulation. We deplore the continued unsustainable abuse of the services and resources of the ocean and call for an end to irresponsible and unconscionable behaviour.

We also express our concern that the current debate on climate change is focusing on a single vector and that the role of the ocean as a modulator of the weather and driver of planetary temperature and chemistry is not being adequately taken into account. We emphasize the linkage between the health of the ocean and the climate and the need to address the human imprint on the ocean jointly.

We express concern on the increasing stress in current and prospective use of ocean services and related re-emerging territorial conflicts. We therefore recall the recommendation of the Independent World Ocean Commission for the appointment of an ombudsman on ocean affairs and the recent appeals made by the International Ocean Institute (IOI) for the designation of a Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for the Ocean, albeit a goodwill ambassador, to provide policy coherences and good offices to ease tensions and for conflict prevention with regard to ocean and coastal space. We believe that such a designated personality would have authority to make direct representation to those with the power to effect change at the same time responding to the voice of the civil society.

We note with deep anxiety the increasing international tensions in the face of new and emerging ocean challenges including that of the high seas beyond national jurisdiction and the lawlessness that exists on the high seas in the absence of the effective exercise of trusteeship by the world community and enforcement and compliance with international law. We consider favourably a consensus building process for an implementation agreement of UNCLOS on areas beyond national jurisdiction. This should not be for the purpose of rewriting UNCLOS, but to fill the implementation gap while protecting the acquired rights of developing countries and their access to benefit sharing. We are convinced that it is in the interest of developing countries to develop a positive agenda for this purpose and call for the solidarity of all those able to provide capacity building and technical assistance to developing countries, one of which is IOI.

We call on IOI to provide a forum for consensus building, leadership promotion by bringing together representatives of the state, civil society and the private sector to promote a common vision.

We welcome the development of the EU maritime integrated and overarching policy and commend the manner in which the EU maritime policy is evolving, particularly the inclusiveness in the consultative process. We believe that it can become a model for advanced governance of oceans and seas, and call on the EU to address the issue of coherence with policies of neighbouring states and provision of capacity building to promote such coherence.

For the empowerment of women and the involvement of youth in the good governance of the ocean, the conference called for an encouraging community-based approach for the sustainable use of the ocean resources and services, particularly with the aim of achieving the Millennium Development Goals and also for addressing not only living from the ocean but also living with the ocean, particularly in mitigating and adapting to natural marine hazards. We call upon international development organisations to pay special attention to the worsening plight of coastal communities.

In order to build and maintain broad public support, especially at the grassroots level, the Conference welcomed the launching under the auspices of the IOI, of a five-year Global campaign for Sustainable Ocean Governance "Waves of Change". Designed to empower and mobilise women and youth, the Campaign would likewise seek to build a new global partnership network, utilise more effectively the power of the media, especially the new media, and promote new ocean literacy in keeping with the objectives of the International Decade for Sustainable Development Education, the MDG's, WSSD and UNCLOS.

We call on the IOI to encourage governments, stakeholders and all those empowered in education, to acknowledge the needs of the oceans by providing opportunities and encouragement to young people to study marine science, engineering and technology in all their facets, in particular to promote the concept of Operational Oceanography, technologies for the mitigation of climate change and multi hazards, and ocean governance.

We welcomed the convening and establishment of the first international Youth Ocean Parliament on the occasion of *Pacem in Maribus XXXII*, took note of the declaration adopted and annex hereto. We call on IOI to support future sessions of the Youth Ocean Parliament.

We took note of the intention of the patron of IOI, Dr. Mario Soares as expressed in his opening statement to revisit in 2008 the report of the Independent World Commission on the Oceans with experts and other personalities. IOI should consider contributing to that process.

The conference expressed its deep appreciation and gratitude to the government and people of Malta for their generous hospitality extended to all participants and excellent arrangements made to ensure the success of the conference.

Annexed hereto are sectoral recommendations addressed in the three themes of the 32nd *Pacem in Maribus* and the declaration of the first Youth Ocean Parliament.

ANNEX I

The State of the Ocean – Current Challenges and Future Prospects Implications for Women and Youth

(Theme 1)

Marine Biodiversity/Food Security:

The conference:

1. Recognised the need for a redistribution of the environmental wealth such that repayment can occur to benefit the regions from which the productivity is gained to the extent that living systems can be provided for through direct payments, such as replanting of mangroves, establishing ecologically representative MPA and other means in order to reverse the negative trends which mostly impact women and children.
2. Emphasised the need to develop further certification systems for all fishery areas, which involve local evaluation, monitoring, financial and environmental wealth distribution.
3. Stressed the need for effective implementation of existing legal instruments and compliance mechanisms in the protection of biodiversity.
4. Called on all stake holders to share the burden of environmental degradation based upon economic values so that mitigation measures can be implemented and called for those ecosystems to be monitored collectively by all entities concerned including governmental, non-governmental, industrial and citizens.
5. Emphasised the need for seeking alternative livelihoods for people who depend upon such resources, yet who are no longer able to benefit due to their destruction.
6. Recognised the need to improve consumer's awareness, since they drive the economics of change, with messages being developed appropriately for each age bracket towards the particular level of adoption that they can take.
7. Identified a need for improved actions at all levels of society, especially those that are directed towards youth and women to ensure delivery and action.
8. Recommended that renewed efforts be made efforts to put fully into practice the principles laid down in UNCLOS and Agenda 21. In particular, better control of operations in the deep ocean beyond national jurisdictions and in the Southern Ocean is urgently needed. Attention must also be given to the special provisions in UNCLOS regarding Highly Migratory Species and marine mammals – especially the iconic great whales – as well as to the requirements to manage the exploitation of prey species in such a way as not to impede the productivity of predators.
9. Called for IOI through its network to support projects that incorporate cores of the debate on Biodiversity for local and regional project development that include multi-sector involvement from the community including women, youth as consumers and action-oriented participants along with academic, non-governmental and governmental representation to define solutions

that can be implemented at various levels to increase biodiversity and sustainability on a global basis by acting locally and regionally.

10. Requested formal recognition and support for a meeting in June, 2008 for the Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation & Oil Resource Development in the Caspian Sea and Coastal Zone to provide a model programme to build community understanding and support for Biodiversity and Food Security.

Recommendations of the International Polar Year

- Capacity building and outreach components developed during the International Polar Year should be preserved and strengthened in the years after IPY in order to have a wide engagement of polar residents into the research, sustainable use and protection of Polar areas and their resources.
- Governments and international organizations should provide assistance in maintaining new research and educational facilities and offer support to a new generation of educated youth from polar regions that will be a valuable resource of researchers and decision-makers for the years to come.
- Close collaboration should be established between governmental and non-governmental organizations, e.g between IOI and Association for Polar Early Scientists (APECS), to assure adequate professional development of the next generations of scientists, educators and leaders in the fields of research, protection and sustainable use of polar oceans and their resources.

Marine Disasters and Coasts Vulnerability

- The Conference calls on the governments to support the efforts of the United Nations led by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, in developing tsunami early warning systems in all major ocean basins at risk;
- The Governments concerned should build tsunami warning and preparedness activities into their multi-hazard national plans, and to support and sustain them as part of their development efforts;
- An access to new information tools and technology should be available and widely used for a better understanding of marine hazards, and delivery of warning messages to communities;

- Improved education in marine natural hazards should become a key factor in increasing effectiveness of the preparedness efforts;
- Technological improvements should be implemented for the detailed assessment of risks and adaptations of strategies of early warning systems, appropriate land use, hazard micro-zonation, engineering guidelines and many other activities;
- Issues of social vulnerability should be sufficiently addressed and mitigated by local governments to assure sustainability.

Oceans and Climate

The Conference,

1. called for intensifying the interaction between scientists, engineers and technologists in national and international for a in order to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change and further encourage them to participate in cross-disciplinary for a to improve communication through debate and exchange of ideas and data.
2. called on governments in developed countries to assist developing nations through transfer of energy-efficient technologies
3. emphasized the nexus of ocean and climate and stressed that the health of the ocean plays a major role in climate change
4. stressed the need for the shipping industry to play a more positive and effective role in reducing CO₂ emissions

**Involvement of Women and Youth within the Millennium Development Goals
Strategies, Options and Challenges related to Ocean Protection**

(Theme 2)

Public Awareness, Youth and New Media.

Recommendations

Involvement of Women and Youth in achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals:

1. To intensify the role of women and youth in advocating the urgent need for sustainable coastal protection measures. Their advocacy should primarily aim at persuading stakeholders to develop the coasts and adjacent coastal zone in a sustainable manner to safeguard against irrational exploitation.
2. Acknowledge the contemporary leadership being shown by women and youth especially at the level of local communities, by showcasing important contributions and role models, and further enhance this role through the use of modern and available tools notably through innovative methods and media such as the internet. IOI is invited to prepare a volume on women of achievement, and consider a related bi-annual award.
3. Education of local communities should focus on the involvement and empowerment of women and youth, addressing items of priority as regards livelihoods and resources, and promoting the need to change attitudes and behaviour.
4. Women depend on the oceans and coastal habitats for their survival, sustenance and subsistence; the sustainable use of marine bio-resources and preservation of the coast is linked to the lifestyle of the population far removed from the coast; women need to have an effective and active role in governance, be given the opportunity to express opinions and strategies that give them a role in changing the attitudes of the community they come from.
5. Develop youth leadership and empowerment through specific cooperative national and international actions involving youth directly in civil society / international / governmental programs under their own coordination and leadership, including identification of focus problems to be addressed.
6. Develop global, inter-regional cooperation and networking to connect communities through cultural exchanges, common visions, dreams and stressing opportunities to achieve shared values.

Need for global involvement: action called for by the International community:

1. Implement UNCLOS, UNCED, Agenda21 and other related programmes by using the opportunities provided in the international legal regimes, in particular the EEZ and the "Common Heritage of Humankind", to achieve a fair use and distribution of resources and services.
2. Support governance based on an ecosystem-based management approach by: (a) efforts to raise public awareness; (b) intensifying training activities of officials and managers; (c)

acquiring and using the best available scientific knowledge; and (d) active involvement of civil society, stressing in particular the need to maximise women and youth participation in ocean governance. Introducing Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM), especially in vulnerable coastal areas, must be of highest priority.

Education for sustainable development: The conference recognised the need for the international community to:

1. Make available well-designed environmental education programmes, and provide adequate informational services to the women and youth communities as a means to educate and empower these communities for a constructive ownership by both governments and citizens of sustainable development in a responsible way.
2. Promote integrated curriculum in primary, secondary, university, and professional training (such as Ocean Learn) and experiential education through interactive learning opportunities (learns capes, art, hands-on experiments).
3. Go beyond simple awareness raising and promote use of frameworks (such as Community Based Social Marketing) that foster sustainable behaviour by uncovering the barriers to change.
4. Increase wide-ranging capacity building activities, promote initiatives such as training of trainers programmes, and provide opportunities for in-country dissemination of knowledge.
5. Support and strengthen education and the development of multipurpose curricula towards a more comprehensive education targeting skills development to deal with the challenges of environmental deterioration, global change, resource decline, poverty abatement, etc.
6. Invite the government of Malta, through the Ministry of Education, to examine the above endeavour possibly in consultation with UNESCO, thereby pursuing the legacy of Arvid Pardo as well as Elisabeth Mann Borgese.
7. Promote and facilitate career opportunities for women in marine science, engineering, and technology.

Providing access to ocean data and information:

1. The value of data resides in the extraction of knowledge and application thereof; the sharing and use of knowledge and information about the oceans among the world's nations must be supported as a means to build on gained experiences and past successes, and to learn from mistakes and failures.
2. All stake holders should support the synthesis and quality assurance of ocean data and information, and promote its wide dissemination to the benefit of wide ranging applications, supporting economic activities and strengthening the knowledge of people about the oceans.
3. Authorities and institutions should promote interoperability of data and information sharing systems to expeditiously deliver knowledge about ocean and coastal conditions to users in appropriate forms for their applications.

New Solidarities for Sustainable Ocean Governance:
Engagement of Women and Youth.
(Theme3)

Recommendations for improving opportunities for women in coastal and fishing communities by:

1. Increasing access to financial services (specialized loan products, insurance/risk management instruments, extended facilities for micro enterprises and self-help groups) that support income-generating activities and micro enterprises undertaken by women in inland and coastal communities: mariculture, aquaculture, fish and fishery product processing, and services (vending, contract-cleaning for fish, marketing and auctioning, net-making, agriculture).
2. Ensuring provision of basic social services including safe drinking water and sanitary facilities.
3. Expanding educational and skill development opportunities (financial and business management skills, vocational training, entrepreneurship, pre- and post-harvesting), where women lead and manage training initiatives.
4. Enhancing coordination and relief efforts between the private sector, government, microfinance institutions, and NGOs and promoting partnerships with like-minded groups that are already working on coastal community development and women's issues.
5. Supporting and upgrading effective community-based strategies, technologies and solutions.
6. Establishing community awareness programs about fisheries and disaster preparedness with the local or national government or a resource or disaster management group.

Women and Security on the Sea:

Recommendations aimed at finding solutions to and ensuring an effective to international migration response by:

1. Countries, while ensuring border control measures to curb illegal maritime migration, should not prevent legitimate refugees from gaining access to asylum procedures and protection to which they are entitled.
2. Extending a sympathetic helping hand to all people who have risked the dangers of the sea to find a long-term solution to their political and social situation.
3. Clarifying the responsibilities of different groups involved in international maritime migration: the country of origin, transit and final destination; international organizations and shipping companies as well as develop comprehensive action plans on regional levels that addresses migration issues.
4. Supporting and expanding existing community-based information programs about migration.
5. Strengthening the capacities of regions of origin and countries of first asylum.

Recommendations from the Women's Ocean Caucus

1. Intensify education for sustainable ocean governance with more effective utilisation of modern tools and technology to create new ocean literacy and to develop new skills and talents for ocean problem solving livelihoods.
2. convene regional women and the sea conferences
3. Establish an IOI Women's Caucus
4. Address issue of maritime migration and maritime human trafficking in international forum.
5. Explore possibilities of creating new financial mechanisms for micro ocean economy.
6. Educators and practitioners undertake fieldtrips to the sea shore to provide local populations with better orientation and appreciation of the oceans to their communities and lives.
7. Develop programmes and strategies for post disaster economies including training in fisheries technology including aquaculture, seaweed mariculture and self help programme including marine technical and vocational skills.
8. Expand media training in use of new digital photographic technologies and other programmes to enhance communication skills through better use of popular media.

Recommendations of the Women delegates to Pim XXII

1. To form a thematic steering group on: women, governance and the sea; youth, education and the sea and Identify problems and priorities for women in coastal regions
2. Ensure gender balance on all IOI activities including conferences, workshops, meetings and organising committees.
3. Promote female role models as examples for women and youth to raise women's profile; and presentation on life and achievements of Elisabeth Mann-Borgese.
4. IOI female-focused projects should be continued, funded and given priority.
5. Create IOI webpage of women, youth and the sea projects.

ANNEX II

Youth Ocean Parliament

Introduction

We the participants of the first international Youth Ocean Parliament, from all over the world, have come together to express our thoughts, concerns and recommendations on the state of the ocean.

These thoughts are summarized and embodied in this final declaration, which has an over-arching focus on the use of education and the media in raising awareness on ocean sustainability. It moreover details our ideas on sustainable management of our ocean resources, the mitigation of climate change, ocean governance and the outlook for future generations.

We believe in the rights of the future generations, and that it is our intrinsic duty to protect and ensure these rights

We gather at the Youth Ocean Parliament certain that, as young people, we have a valuable contribution to make to this debate, and pledging to take action upon this contribution.

However, we ask the international community to step up to the commitments it has taken, to take action and protect the ocean, its resources and environment, the life it affords us, as well as the right of the future generations to it.

Fostering Sustainable Use of Ocean Resources

Alarmed by the current exploitation of the ocean and its seabed, as well as the invaluable resources it affords us, we have come together to state our commitment for sensible use of the environment and for development that 'meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs', we recommend:

1. The application of stricter measures to fisheries organizations.
2. The establishment of a heavily regulated seasonal fishing action plan to combat the issue of overfishing that is evident in many states.
3. A common international approach for the operation of such measures by governments worldwide, further enhanced by the flexibility of the system in different regions and states to meet the needs of the area of implementation.
4. An investigation into alternative forms of seafood production that are environment friendly, sustainable and economically viable.
5. The global banning of all harmful forms of fishing practice.
6. The creation of small scale fisheries that supply their own areas and countries with seafood and a small export system in place to further enhance this, whilst eliminating the damage currently created by large scale international trawlers.
7. The establishment of more varied use Marine Protected Areas.

8. The initiation of a global program that has the ability to change the mentality of the wider population, through the promotion of a personal approach to understanding society's effects on the world's ocean

Climate Change

Concerned by the effect of climate change on our environs, we ask the international community to live up to its commitments, specifically by:

1. Enforcing its decisions and holding itself accountable for them, otherwise strongly considering the imposition of sanctions or fines.
2. Increasing security for people living in the already affected areas, particularly in coastal areas, through dyke and channel building, so as to alleviate the rise in sea water level.
3. Delivering financial and technological support to countries and areas where the environment-related imminent needs of people are not met due to lack of financial resources, either of national governments or local communities.
4. Enhancing ties between developed and developing states so as to provide energy alternatives whereby the environment in developing states would not suffer the same consequences that industrialization has caused in developed nations.
5. Providing a strong educational tool through which prevention of further degradation of the environment may occur, in all parts of the world.

Ocean Governance

Deeply troubled by the rapid and incessant degradation of the oceans and seas, and in support of the recognition of the ocean as a public good for all humanity, we ask for the establishment of a global ethics board, which we propose to name the United Oceans, that would be based on the preservation of the ocean environment, and that would, through the use of its legal framework, compel governments to comply to this preservation

The constitution of this board would comprise governments as well as civil society actors (specifically those involved in scientific, education and social issues), and whereby its regional-based constituency would tackle region-specific problems, whilst also offering a forum for consultation with the public, for more stakeholders to voice their opinions and be heard. Moreover, the executive decisions taken, based on existing international networks for data collection, would lead to executive actions, taken as a joint commitment between all countries and representatives.

Education, Training and Communications toward Sustainable Use of the Ocean

Education is not merely a static and formal component in the lives of many, but should provide formation that leads to citizenship and awareness in younger generations.

For this reason, we ask governments for:

1. Basic education programs about the oceans for all children and citizens, including natural disasters, human impact, ecosystems, oceanography, and global warming and
2. Direct contact with the ocean through swimming lessons for children which, combined with ocean education and emergency training, would form a holistic educational and awareness-raising approach to ocean heritage preservation.

3. Intensive emergency training programs, such as designating two days per year to reach out to schools and the community on disaster preparedness.
4. Use of the world wide web to promote communication between schools, specifically between those in coastal regions and those in inland regions, whereby children who may never have come in contact with the sea may experience it through the eyes of their peers.
5. Use of visual media in the creation of a form of distance education, awareness raising and the communication of ocean issues to children and communities away from the sea.

Commitment to the Future Generations

We call on national regional and international organizations and the citizens of the world to guarantee and protect the environment in which the rights of future generations may be exercised.

We demand that all stakeholders come together in responsible steps toward fulfilling the promises made to the international community and the citizens of the world.

For this reason we ask for:

1. Access to education and formative experiences in learning, targeted towards raising awareness on the global and local issues of sustainable development.
2. A true commitment by governments and education policy makers to develop and enhance programs for formal and informal citizenship education, with a special focus on the protection of the natural environment
3. We recommend the nomination of youth focal point within the International Ocean Institute

The Future of the Youth Ocean Parliament

We appreciate the opportunity given to us as young people to come together and in one voice communicate our hopes and concerns.

Moreover, we recognize and look forward to a continuation of this debate through suitable and further extended channels.

We are ourselves committed to the creation of a World Youth Ocean Network, possibly as an extension or under the auspices of the World Ocean Organisation, which will take a lead role in the preparation of future Youth Ocean Parliaments and youth representation on environmental issues within other regional and global fora.

Conclusion

As youth living on a planet of which almost 70% is covered in water, we have come together to appeal to all stakeholders to protect this large segment of our planet – protect the use of the life and resources it gives, to recognize its importance, and to enforce the decisions taken that will not only affect us, but that will have a longer term effect on the future generations.

This is our commitment – is it yours?