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Note that this document was submitted after the established deadline. It will be decided by the Session whether the document can be discussed or is postponed to the next meeting.

Background

The Third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3), took place on the 9-13 June 2025 in Nice, France, representing a key moment for the global efforts to implement Sustainable Development Goal 14 ([SDG 14](#)): Life Below Water.

CCB's side event: "Quiet Seas in a Climate Transition: Aligning decarbonisation with Ocean Health" was held on the 11th June 2025, under UNOC3. The event aimed to foster dialogue among stakeholders (industry, government, and civil society) to explore solutions to reduce underwater noise, focusing on the Baltic and North Seas, while addressing climate-oriented technologies such as offshore wind energy, cleaner shipping, and carbon capture and storage (CCS).

Underwater noise pollution intersects with climate change as offshore renewable energy projects and shipping decarbonization measures, while essential for reducing emissions, can increase underwater noise levels. Moreover, emerging solutions like offshore carbon capture and storage (CCS) not only risk harming marine life through underwater noise, but also divert focus from root-cause climate action by prolonging fossil fuel dependency.

CCB's side event raised awareness of underwater noise impacts on marine ecosystems, highlighting the need to align decarbonisation with marine protection. Through expert presentations, a panel discussion, and an interactive dialogue with present participants, the event engaged discussions to identify integrated approaches and cross-sectoral partnerships that support biodiversity and a sustainable climate transition, contributing to the SDG 14, through marine conservation, sustainable use, and science-based solutions.

The main outcomes from the discussions were:

- Technological solutions for clean shipping and offshore wind are important steps towards decarbonisation and should address reduction and monitoring of underwater noise;
- Cordination, ecosystem-focused financing and stakeholder involvement are key to reduce noise pollution from different sources and close data gaps;
- CCS, involving seismic activities, is not a solution against climate change, but a marketing coup to continue bussiness-as-usual actions linked to oil and gas activities;
- We know that climate efforts are necessary but not at the expense of ocean health;
- Marine protection should not go against climate action. In fact, reducing noise and increasing marine protection are also climate actions.

Action requested

The Session is invited to take note of the outcomes of CCB's side event on underwater noise from climate-oriented technologies.