
Dear Fellow United Nations Oceans Conference Participants,

The upcoming United Nations Oceans Conference hosted in Lisbon, Portugal from 27 June to 1 July, 2022, provides an unparalleled opportunity for government, industry, the scientific community, and civil society to collectively address ocean issues and continue progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 across all sectors. Reaching the SDGs and solutions to accelerating global challenges requires innovation and cross-cutting cooperation between all levels of society, not just government.

It is for this reason that I am delighted to invite you to attend our side event “Transparency, Technology, and Illegal, Unreported & Unregulated (IUU) Fishing”, which will focus on concrete actions to combat IUU fishing that are based on developments in policy and science and implemented via innovative tools and technologies. This event is a joint effort by Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States, Global Fishing Watch, and MDA, Ltd.

This event will also serve to launch the IUU Fishing Action Alliance, announce a contribution of global ocean observation data, and highlight the abilities of the new Joint Analytical Cell, which provides authorities with fisheries intelligence, data analysis and capacity building. This panel aims to create a cross-sectoral partnership to address the urgent issue of IUU fishing, galvanize other nations to follow suit by joining the IUU Fishing Action Alliance, and model science-driven policy and cooperation to secure a healthy, thriving ocean future. This side event is scheduled to be 75 minutes on Tuesday 28 June from 13:15-14:30 in the Interactive Dialogue Room.

This side event will be a meaningful step in using transparency and technology to address a serious threat to ocean health, and will support states with genuine tools in global sustainable management of the ocean. I highly encourage any interested organization to join us for this exciting event and take this opportunity to engage further on cross-sectoral partnerships to combat urgent ocean issues.

Sincerely,

Joyce Murray
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard