CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK INTERNATIONAL Submission

Possible topics for the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue to take place in conjunction with SBSTA 56 in 2022

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Climate Action Network (CAN) is the world's largest network of civil society organizations working together to promote government action to address the climate crisis, with more than 1500 members in over 130 countries.
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INTRODUCTION

Following decision *1/CP.26 Glasgow Climate Pact (paragraph 61) to hold an annual dialogue to strengthen ocean-based action*, the Climate Action Network welcomes the request by the SBSTA Chair to observer organizations and Non-Party stakeholders to submit their views on possible topics for the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue to take place in conjunction with SBSTA 56 in 2022 and would like to hereby share its suggestions.

The ocean is the largest ecosystem on the planet and the most important carbon sink[1]. Its waters provide food and livelihoods for a significant percentage of the world's population, making it a key factor in enabling millions if not billions to adapt to climate change. The findings of the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC) clearly highlighted how the climate crisis is impacting the ocean and reducing its ability to mitigate climate impacts and to provide the ecosystem services required for humans to successfully adapt to climate change. The latest IPCC, published in early 2022[2], has presented some concerning findings regarding the state of the climate system. It presents evidence that some key and highly productive ecosystems are beyond their ability to adapt to climate change, this includes a high percentage of coral reefs. The Report is very clear in stating that our main focus should be in adaptation in the mid and long term, prioritizing the protection of around 30% - 50% of the land and ocean. We have a closing window for climate actions and the time to act

[1] IPCC, 2019: Summary for Policymakers. In: IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate [H.-O.Pörtner, D.C.Roberts, V.Masson-Delmotte, P.Zhai, M.Tignor, E.Poloczanska, K.Mintenbeck, A.Alegría, M.Nicolai, A. Okem, J. Petzold, B. Rama, N.M. Weyer (eds.)]. p.9

[2] IPCC, 2022: Summary for Policymakers [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, M. Tignor, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem (eds.)]. In: *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability.* Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press. In Press.

is now. But despite the ocean's importance in solving and adapting to the climate crisis, it has largely been ignored during climate discussions. Therefore, CAN strongly welcomes the mandate given to the SBSTA Chair to convene an annual dialogue to strengthen ocean-based climate action. This presents a unique opportunity for the ocean to gain the urgently needed recognition it requires in the climate action agenda, with its protection and sustainable management as key measures to ensure its full potential for climate action is realized.

This document consists of three main parts: **Part A** outlines general recommendations for the set-up of the dialogue; **Part B** incorporates CAN members' views on key topics/guiding themes and cross-cutting issues to be addressed by the dialogue, including language that recognizes the essential link between the ocean and climate; **Part C** presents CAN member's views on the potential structure of the upcoming dialogue and the dialogue series, including views on how to make best use of the dialogues outcomes for them to lead to concrete ocean-climate action and maximize the potential of this action to address the climate crisis.

A) General recommendations

The upcoming first annual dialogue should address the most relevant and pressing issues of the ocean-climate nexus with a clear focus on

a) mainstreaming ocean-climate action within the UNFCCC and other UN bodies,
b) drawing upon and integrating existing ocean-related outcomes, workstreams and processes of relevant other bodies under the UNFCCC,
c) addressing knowledge, capacity and process gaps and
d) identifying means of implementation.

The dialogue should set and follow a set of key principles:

(a) Regarding content

- The protection of the ocean should not be used as an offset for emissions that can and must be reduced. Fossil fuel emissions are the leading cause of climate change and are degrading marine and coastal ecosystems and thereby decreasing the ocean's natural capacity to act as a carbon sink and stabilize the climate. Marine protection hence cannot be a substitute for a rapid phaseout of fossil fuels and a reduction of human footprint, but rather depends on fast progress in these areas. Both emissions reduction and marine recovery are essential in the fight against climate change.
- The dialogue should focus on encouraging the creation of properly managed marine protected areas, along with other types of area-based conservation and management tools[3]. At the same time, a global call should encourage countries, especially coastal

[3] Simard, F., Laffoley, D. and J.M. Baxter (eds). (2016). *Marine Protected Areas and Climate Change: Adaptation and Mitigation Synergies, Opportunities and Challenges*. Full report. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN

ones, to include corresponding commitments in their updated NDCs, NAPs, LTEs, GST submissions, etc.

- The dialogue should acknowledge that any ocean-based conservation or restoration measure should be implemented with the full engagement and free, prior and informed consent of IPLCs respecting their cultural and ecological rights and be explicitly designed to provide benefits for biodiversity.
- Any discussion of the dialogue must be science-based and build on best available knowledge and evidence.

(b) Regarding modalities and participation

- The dialogue on oceans and climate change should not undermine the objectives of the UNFCCC and, the access of polluting industries, trade associations and other entities which represent and/or are beholden to the interests of polluting industry must be restricted or excluded from participation.
- The UNFCCC must ensure a balanced representation of expertise and knowledge during this dialogue, incorporating participatory processes that include State parties, observer organizations, in particular ENGOs, the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus, the Gender Constituency and representatives of coastal communities, who are highly vulnerable to climate change. CAN member's can provide valuable contributions to these discussions and should be active participants in the process.
- Public participation is key to achieving adequate management of coastal marine ecosystems with a focus on adaptation and climate resilience. The incorporation of these participatory processes can achieve important results in advancing climate action across the ocean, which is of utmost urgency.
- During the dialogue, priority should be given to the view and input of coastal countries, especially those highly dependent on marine ecosystems, such as the Group of Small Island Developing States, which will have to deal with major economic and political changes arising directly from climate change.

B) Suggested topics for 2022 dialogue

Key topics/guiding themes:

1. **Ocean-based mitigation, adaptation and resilience**

Coastal and marine blue carbon ecosystems not only provide climate mitigation benefits, but are key to adaptation by acting as buffers against the impacts of extreme weather events and sea-level rise. Similarly, managing healthy populations of fish and more complete marine food webs not only increases resilience of the ocean in the face of climate change, it also reduces the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere by increasing sequestration and reducing emissions. In

coastal areas, healthy benthic plant and algal communities can locally reduce the impact of ocean acidification, which is an effect of increased concentrations of CO2 in the oceans.

To ensure that (a) the contribution of ocean action to solving and adapting to the climate crisis is appropriately acknowledged, reflected and supported and to (b) make effective use of the huge synergies between ocean-based mitigation, adaptation and resilience, ocean action needs to be further **mainstreamed within other processes and workstreams** under the UNFCCC:

a. NDCs & NAPs - Support the development of ocean-based NDCs and NAPs by building more in-depth understanding of the mitigation and adaptation potential of all blue carbon ecosystems, other coastal and marine ecosystems and climate-ready fisheries management.

b. GLOBAL STOCKTAKE – The Global Stocktake offers an opportunity to highlight the need to integrate oceans directly into the UNFCCC including through the urging of action on ocean deoxygenation and acidification.

c. LT-LEDS – Consideration should be given to synergies between oceans governance, offshore spatial mapping and planning and Long Term Low Emissions Development Strategies. These mechanisms are strongly aligned across spatial and temporal scales, and mutual benefits will arise from cohesion and coordination.

Simultaneously, the dialogue on oceans and climate change should build upon and inform the ocean-related work of other Constituted Bodies and work programmes under the UNFCCC, such as the Nairobi Work Programme, the Adaptation Committee or the Marrakesh Partnership.

Appropriate support for ocean-based climate action also necessitates an increase of investment into marine nature-based solutions through **enhanced synergies on financing between the ocean and the climate agenda**. This will work to maximise the potential of marine ecosystems to sequester and store carbon, and to help communities to adapt to the climate emergency. Example investments include the protection and restoration of wetlands, mangroves, seagrass beds, kelp forests, and marine wildlife, effectively conserving over 30% of the global ocean through a network of Marine Protected Areas by 2030. Relevant bodies and funding sources to be included in discussions under the dialogue are the Standing Committee on Finance, the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility and the Adaptation Fund.

With regard to the **use and definition of the term nature-based solutions**, the dialogue should take the recent UNEA-5 Resolution on Nature-based Solutions for Supporting Sustainable Development[4] into account.

[4] https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/37720/EU%20resolution%20proposal%20on%20NBS_16Dec.pdf?sequence=1

2. **Blue Carbon - knowledge gaps and accounting approaches**

a. Coastal blue carbon ecosystems and GHG inventories:

The ocean covers about three quarters of our planet. Yet, mangroves, saltmarshes and seagrasses - referred to as “coastal blue carbon”- are currently the only marine ecosystems included under national mitigation strategies, as planned by the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement. The IPCC’s *2013 Supplement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands* (the “Wetlands Supplement”) provides GHG accounting methodologies for wetlands, both inland and coastal, thus supporting the inclusion of emissions and removals from these ecosystems in national GHG inventories and NDCs.

b. Other marine and coastal ecosystems functioning as carbon sinks or emission sources:

All marine sediments combine to form the largest pool of organic carbon on the planet. If disturbed by bottom trawling, these carbon stores can re-mineralize sedimentary carbon to CO2, currently estimated to release 1.47 billion tonnes of aqueous CO2 emissions annually, a volume similar to the global aviation industry which is likely to increase acidification, reduce the buffering capacity of the ocean and potentially add to atmospheric CO2[5]. Therefore, protecting the carbon-rich seabed is a potentially important strategy in addressing climate change, and it is currently missing from the UNFCCC process.

Beyond the seabed and coastal blue carbon ecosystems, there is encouraging new research and science, but also significant knowledge gaps on the capacity of other marine ecosystems such as kelp forests and algae, as well as the important ecological functions of key marine species as ‘ecosystem engineers’, including marine megafauna such as whale, but also fish, to mitigate climate change and biodiversity loss. More in-depth understanding of the sequestration potential of these blue carbon ecosystems through scientific research is needed to ensure adequate policy guidance building on sound scientific data is developed. The lack of methodological guidance on carbon accounting for these other blue carbon ecosystems could be addressed by a corresponding extension of the IPCC’s Wetlands Supplement.

In this context, it is worth noting that ocean acidification is largely ignored as a main driver of ocean health decline in the governance of these ecosystems - nationally, regionally and internationally.

In terms of accounting for offshore emissions and sinks, UNCLOS could play a vital role (see section on cross-cutting issues: Collaboration and linkages between the UNFCCC and other processes mandated to protect the ocean and ocean biodiversity).

c. Offsetting and non-market approaches:

Governments, industry and scientists should not use mitigation measures in the ocean as carbon offsets to enable more emissions on land. Apart from needing more aggressive emission

[5] Sala, E., Mayorga, J., Bradley, D. et al. 'Protecting the global ocean for biodiversity, food and climate' (2021)

reductions, too much CO2 being sequestered by the ocean is causing acidification which impairs the ability of the ocean to help with mitigating and adapting to climate change. Adaptation, increasing resilience and maximizing co-benefits through conservation and management should be prioritized, rather than establishing the ocean as a carbon offset. Mitigation and other positive results can be taken into account as co-benefits of marine conservation and explicit adaptation measures.

With regard to possible non-market approaches negotiated under Article 6, the dialogue on oceans and climate change should consider blue carbon-related submissions made following the invitation to Parties and observers to submit via the submission portal by 28 February 2022 views and information on: (...) (b) Examples of potential **additional focus areas of non-market approaches** that may be facilitated under the framework (e.g. social inclusivity, financial policies and measures, circular economy, **blue carbon**, just transition of the workforce, adaptation benefit mechanism) and existing relevant non-market approaches that may be facilitated under the framework in the potential additional focus areas that are in accordance with the provisions referred to in chapter II of the annex (Non-market approaches under the framework);[6]

3. Blue Economy

Funding for nature-based solutions has been estimated to account for just 3% of global climate finance, and the ocean less than 1%.[7] And yet the ocean asset base has been estimated to be worth $24 trillion per year with over 3 billion people reliant on a healthy ocean for their livelihoods.[8] The potential of the ocean in mitigating and adapting to climate change can only be realised with effective financial investment mechanisms, which must be urgently implemented. We should learn from and adapt the approaches used for investment in terrestrial nature-based solutions, as well as review the success of blue economy mechanisms in countries where they are already in place. The lack of scientific understanding of some blue carbon habitats and ecological functions of species - for instance in the high seas and deep sea - should not be a barrier to introducing investment for those habitats or species where the evidence-base is strong (e.g. mangrove, saltmarsh, seagrass) or emerging. Governments should also be encouraged to enter into partnership with private investors (who have a proven interest independent from their business model) to demonstrate commitment to blue economy mechanisms at the early phase of implementation.

a) Fishing:

Marine species, as part of the ocean's carbon pump, have an indispensable role in mitigating climate change. An ocean teeming with life allows for carbon sequestration; specifically, it has

[6] FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/L.20 (para 6)

[7] https://www.bluemarinefoundation.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/4751-Mindfully-Wired-Blue-Carbon-Report_LOW_V14.pdf

[8] https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/uk/Documents/risk/ocean-financing.pdf?msclkid=fc01739ca69611ecb944112214c795a3

been estimated that fish contribute to 16% of total ocean carbon flux[9]. Recent evidence suggests fishing activities remove significant amounts of blue carbon from the ocean, releasing it into the atmosphere[10]. Climate change is further accelerated through fuel consumption by fishing vessels, which in the EU alone, accounts for nearly 7.3 million tons of CO2 emissions per year[11]. The fishing sector's carbon footprint is further magnified when bottom trawling disturbs carbon retained in seafloor sediment.

Ending overfishing and shifting to low impact fisheries as an immediate climate action will restore fish populations and their ecosystems and ensure the enhanced climate resilience of the ocean. Healthy and abundant fish populations will also decrease the travel distance and effort required in catching fish, and therefore the amount of fuel required and CO2 emissions produced.

There is significant room for progress to better understand and assess the role of fisheries management in mitigating climate change. Comprehensive guidelines for accounting of emissions from the fishing sector through its impact on fish populations and the seabed need to be developed so that countries can measure and manage the full suite of ocean climate action strategies. Sustainable management of fisheries is also key towards achieving food security for current and future generations.

b) Shipping:
The impact of the shipping sector should be reduced through a International Maritime Organisation (IMO) ban on Heavy Fuel Oils in the Arctic and a reduction of ship speed, both of which will significantly decrease GHG emissions, while reducing noise level and whale strikes. In addition, the IMO should be requested to introduce an emissions reduction pathway for international shipping that is compatible with the Paris Agreement's objective of keeping warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

c) Energy sector:
Investments should focus on low-impact ocean-based renewable energy sectors, ensuring zero or minimal impact on the marine environment and species sensitivity. Expansion goals with regard to offshore renewable energy sources should not undermine marine conservation targets.

Where possible, all new offshore oil and gas exploration and production should be halted and the impacts of installations already running or under development should immediately be reduced. Strategies to phase out current offshore oil and gas extraction should be developed,

[9] Saba, G.K., Burd, A.B., Dunne, J.P. et al. (2021). Toward a better understanding of fish-based contribution to ocean carbon flux. Limnology and Oceanography, 66. https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.11709

[10] Mariani, G., Cheung, W.W.L., Lyet, A. et al. (2020). Let more big fish sink: Fisheries prevent blue carbon sequestration—half in unprofitable areas. Science Advances, 6. https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abb4848

[11] Our Fish (2021). The Fishing Industry's Financial Gains Due To Fuel Tax Reductions For The Past 10 Years. A selection of cases within European fishing fleets. https://our.fish/publications/report-climate-impacts-fishing-industry-profits-from-eu-fuel-tax-subsidies/

with mind to the opportunity of such initiatives to provide energy equity in countries where this is not established.

d) Subsidies:
All direct and indirect fisheries and fossil fuel subsidies including fuel tax exemptions for the shipping and fisheries industry must end. The UNFCCC should ensure, at the least, alignment with any outcomes that emerge from the WTO negotiations on the issue of harmful fisheries subsidies in particular as they relate to restrictions or removal of fossil fuel subsidies and other indirect financial incentives that worsen CO2 emissions and perpetuate overfishing.

Cross-cutting issues

1. **Collaboration and linkages between the UNFCCC and other processes mandated to protect the ocean and ocean biodiversity**

Creating a comprehensive and integrated system of international instruments to protect the ocean by increasing its resilience and capacity to adapt to climate change is vital to face the climate crisis. The link between oceans and climate has to be made clear in all international negotiations referring to oceans and/or to the climate. The recognition of this link is key to ensure our greatest potential for survival and well-being, in the face of the climate crisis.

a) United Nations Treaty for Marine Biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction and the Post-2020 Framework for Biological Diversity

The IPCC report is clear in stating that the protection of at least 30% of the ocean is key towards achieving successful climate adaptation in the long term. These protected areas must be biologically significant with clear management plans and surveillance and control mechanisms to ensure protection. This is only possible through strong coordination among international mechanisms such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the negotiations on the Treaty for Marine Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction at the UN.

Having a clear governance framework beyond national jurisdiction is key for achieving conservation goals, which in turn are essential for climate adaptation. Without an instrument that creates a legal framework for the protection and management on the high seas, effective ocean climate action is at risk. However, the fourth Intergovernmental Conference at the UN, held between March 4th - March 18th, did not result in a treaty and we are still awaiting on the next steps.

The Convention on Biological Diversity is hosting a set of meetings that have been postponed since 2020, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The post-2020 Biological Diversity Goals are being discussed. One of the main topics is the goal to protect 30% of the ocean by 2020, which has been proven by the IPCC as a critical point towards achieving effective climate action and adaptation. This goal will not only ensure climate adaptation, but it will also be key towards

achieving biodiversity protection and food security, however, it depends on a robust governance framework in areas beyond national jurisdiction in order to secure its effectiveness.

b) Marine pollution

The links between pollution of the ocean and the climate and biodiversity crises are strong. Sustainable consumption and production of chemicals and plastics, with particular focus on persistent chemicals, is needed for the ocean to maximise its' potential for climate mitigation and adaptation. The dialogue should therefore highlight relevant linkages between SDG 12, 13 and 14. Linkages with two critical processes just enabled by UNEA-5 resolutions, namely intergovernmental negotiations on an internationally legal binding instrument by 2024 to end plastic pollution and the establishment of a science-policy panel on chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, should be explored.

c) UN-Oceans

As an interagency coordinating mechanism, UN Oceans is charged with enhancing the coherence and effectiveness of competent organizations" and mandated to share information and identify possible areas of synergy. The UNFCCC first participated in this body in 2019. A review charged with consideration of an expanded role for UN-Oceans was initiated and then postponed due to COVID. A key element should relate to the enhancement of the attention to ocean-climate issues across mitigation adaptation and resilience including ocean acidification and disaster risk reduction.

d) UNCLOS

There is a need to better harmonise UNFCCC treatment of State rights and responsibilities beyond the coastline with those enunciated under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), in particular under Part XII. Within States Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) which extend out up to 200nm, UNCLOS confers on coastal States sovereign rights over living and non-living resources, and obligations relating to the protection and preservation of the marine environment. Greenhouse gas emissions are contemplated under the UNCLOS Part XII pollution provisions which are interpreted as recognising greenhouse gasses as a form of pollution, and the scope of which is likely to apply to both climate change induced ocean warming and acidification. As such both mitigation action through NDCs and emissions inventory reporting provisions, as assigned under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, should be applied out to the extent of States maritime jurisdiction. This could be facilitated in the first case through the mandated inclusion of offshore mitigation in NDCs. In regard to GHG emission inventory reporting an assessment and plan to replicate the terrestrial based LULUCF provisions of GHG inventory emissions reporting would provide for the recognition of ocean sinks, sources and stocks. Such should be required to be phased in and applied to a States' maritime areas and a request submitted to the IPCC to provide technical guidance and develop accounting methodologies for this. The LULUCF accounts should not be extended to include maritime areas, as this will impact years of data, but rather a new maritime reporting process be established, which aligns well with the IPCC rules of good practice. In doing so, it would be

useful to refer to the fact that UNCLOS Part XII pollution components have a higher burden of scientific reliance on "appropriate scientific criteria for the formulation and elaboration of rules … for the prevention, reduction and control of pollution of the marine environment".

e) Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

The Sendai Framework was endorsed by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) and advocates for *"the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries"*[12]. The dialogue on ocean and climate change should ensure that mainstreaming of ocean-based adaptation measures in NDCs and NAPs is aligned with measures and policies under the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, drawing on existing scope and mode of cooperation between the UNFCCC and the Sendai Framework and respecting relevant distinction of responsibilities with regard to disaster risk reduction and adaptation.

2. Climate vulnerability and climate justice

Enhancing ambition and action on emissions reductions, and increasing finance flows towards adaptation to the impacts of climate change are vital to address issues of climate injustice and protect vulnerable communities, particularly IPLCs. Increasing global temperatures will affect size and distribution of fish stocks and health and productivity of vital coral reef fisheries that feed island communities.

The issue of EEZ security in the face of rising sea levels should be acknowledged and ways to close corresponding gaps in UNCLOS related to this issue shall be discussed. Consensus is needed on pathways to secure the existing EEZs of Pacific Island countries in particular as inundation due to sea-level rise occurs.

Direct linkages with negotiations around Loss and Damage under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage should be addressed by the dialogue as coastal countries and island states, especially those highly dependent on marine ecosystems, such as the Group of Small Island Developing States, will and are already suffering from sea-level rise and an increased frequency of extreme weather events that cause storm surges and coastal floodings.

C) Structure of the 2022 dialogue

As detailed in Part B of this submission, the upcoming dialogue should ensure to **cover the following three key topics** that cover the most pressing issues of the ocean-climate nexus as identified by CAN members**:**

[12] https://www.undrr.org/implementing-sendai-framework/what-sf, accessed on March 27, 2020

1. Ocean-based mitigation, adaptation and resilience
   Building on the previous dialogue, recognise the potential of the ocean in climate processes, highlighting any substantive developments since December 2020.

2. Blue Carbon - knowledge gaps and accounting approaches
   Define the key habitats where the evidence base is strong and immediate action should be taken to protect and recover blue carbon, with accounting approaches adopted. Also review and encourage progress for other blue carbon habitats.

3. Blue Economy
   Highlight blue economy mechanisms and determine how they may be rapidly adopted for key blue carbon habitats.

We suggest allowing for each topic to be dealt with by an **individual discussion group or as an individual discussion topic** during the dialogue. In any case, equal and free participation of all relevant stakeholders must be ensured. Each topic-focused discussion should i**ntegrate reflections on the cross-cutting issues** as detailed in Part B of this submission:

1. Collaboration and linkages between the UNFCCC and other processes mandated to protect the ocean and ocean biodiversity
   Importantly, determine how ocean-climate action will be mainstreamed within and build upon provision of other international negotiation processes and UN bodies in order to urgently move from theory into practice in the delivery of ocean-climate action.

2. Climate vulnerability and climate justice
   Put Parties and communities most affected by and/or vulnerable to ocean-related climate change impacts at the center of the discussion and ensure bridge-building towards relevant mechanisms that aim to enhance climate justice.

Moreover discussions shall be guided by **a set of questions to be developed in advance of the dialogue** that ensure that each topic-focused discussion provides **concrete outcomes responding to the focus areas** suggested in Part A:

a) mainstreaming ocean-climate action within the UNFCCC and other UN bodies,
b) drawing upon and integrating existing ocean-related outcomes, workstreams and processes of relevant other bodies under the UNFCCC,
c) addressing knowledge, capacity and process gaps, and
d) identifying means of implementation.

In addition, the dialogue should identify **emerging issues in the context of ocean-climate action**, such as ocean-based geo-engineering, that would need to be dealt with in future sessions of the dialogue series.

Following the close of the dialogue, the UNFCCC Secretariat should prepare a **summary report** to share and inform relevant decisions at COP27 that includes key discussion points and focuses on the action items and clear recommendations identified by Parties and observers during the dialogue.