



International Platform for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS)

A commitment to a novel global knowledge-policy-society interface to deliver Ocean sustainability

Recognising:

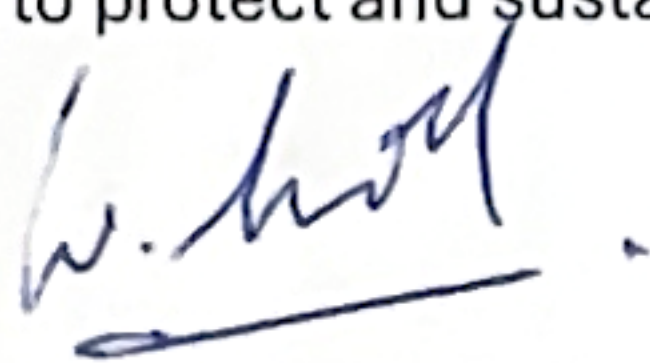
- **The importance of the Ocean for all life on Earth**, accounting for more than 90% of liveable space; absorbing 25-30% of the annual anthropogenic CO₂ emissions and close to 90% of the excess heat caused by human activities; and supporting livelihoods and delivering key services to many communities in terms of wellbeing, food, medicine, energy, and resources; as well as acknowledging the Ocean's significance to address climate change and reverse biodiversity loss;
- **Our shared responsibility** to address the many, and growing, threats and pressures on Ocean health stemming from anthropogenic activities via climate change, pollution, extraction of living and non-living resources, ecosystem and habitat degradation and biodiversity loss;
- **Our global commitment** to protect and sustainably use the Ocean to transition to a resilient future, as envisioned in the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - in particular SDG 14 "Life Below Water"; the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework – in particular Targets 3 (30 x 30) and 10 (sustainable fisheries); and the Paris Agreement on climate change; and
- **The urgent need to strengthen the global knowledge-policy-society interface** in order to ensure easy access to robust, timely, contextually relevant, actionable, inclusive, and verified knowledge from all sources - the scientific community including through the United Nations (UN) Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, civil society, local and indigenous communities, and the private sector – in an effort to accelerate action to not only achieve but go beyond global commitments and targets.

Committing to:

- **Endorse the vision of IPOS** - a world where strong political will and diverse actions across all sectors towards Ocean sustainability are driven by access to scientifically robust, timely, contextually relevant, actionable, inclusive, and robust knowledge. By overcoming fragmentation in Ocean knowledge and fostering collaboration, IPOS supports practical and equitable solutions to meet global and regional Ocean sustainability goals such as Sustainable Development Goal 14 "Life Below Water" and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets.

- **Support a phased approach to the establishment of IPOS** - a global platform helping States and groups of States to accelerate the fulfilment of their international Ocean commitments, to be established as a Decade Collaborative Centre (DCC) of the UN Decade for Ocean Science and Sustainable Development (UN Ocean Decade). During an initial two year test phase commencing in September 2025, the IPOS will offer demand-driven, tailored services to deliver actionable knowledge and policy options that are responsive to the timelines of decision-makers. It will integrate and enhance the best available knowledge and expertise from a wide array of reliable sources, linking Ocean knowledge, policy and society at national and regional scales. It will provide three services: in-depth co-produced evidence bases with policy options to help States navigate complex questions on implementation of Ocean goals over a period of one year; a fast turnaround service which will provide knowledge outputs within a matter of weeks, based on expert responses supported by a bespoke AI tool drawing on curated peer-reviewed literature; and a service which will catalyse dynamic exchange between diverse stakeholders on Ocean policy solutions, barriers to solutions and implementation, emerging priorities, and lessons learnt. On completion of the test phase, the added value of IPOS services and the efficient functioning of its governance arrangements will be evaluated for adaption prior to a possible integration as a program within UNESCO-IOC, with support of member States.
- **Promote IPOS complementarity** with relevant Actions, Programs, Collaboration Centres and Coordination Offices within the UN Ocean Decade; scientific programs and subsidiary bodies within the IOC-UNESCO as well as other UN ocean related bodies; and relevant global ocean, climate change and biodiversity assessment processes in order to benefit from and contribute to synergies and collaboration with key ocean partners. Key knowledge sources include global environmental assessment reports from the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC), and findings from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) or the World Ocean Assessments (WOA). Additionally, IPOS will draw on local and Indigenous knowledge systems, as well as peer-reviewed academic literature and expertise from the public and private sector and civil society to develop action-oriented and context-specific policy options.
- **Extend the invitation to support IPOS to States and partners** from across, governing bodies and organisations, the scientific community, civil society organisations, local and indigenous communities, and the private sector to **support the test phase of the IPOS** – so that we, together, can establish an inclusive and viable IPOS and deliver on our shared global commitment to protect and sustainably use the Ocean.

State



9-6-2025

I Willem van de Voorde, special envoy for climate and environment of Belgium on June 9th, 2025 in Nice, France endorse the establishment of IPOS and commit to support its vision.

towards **ipos**



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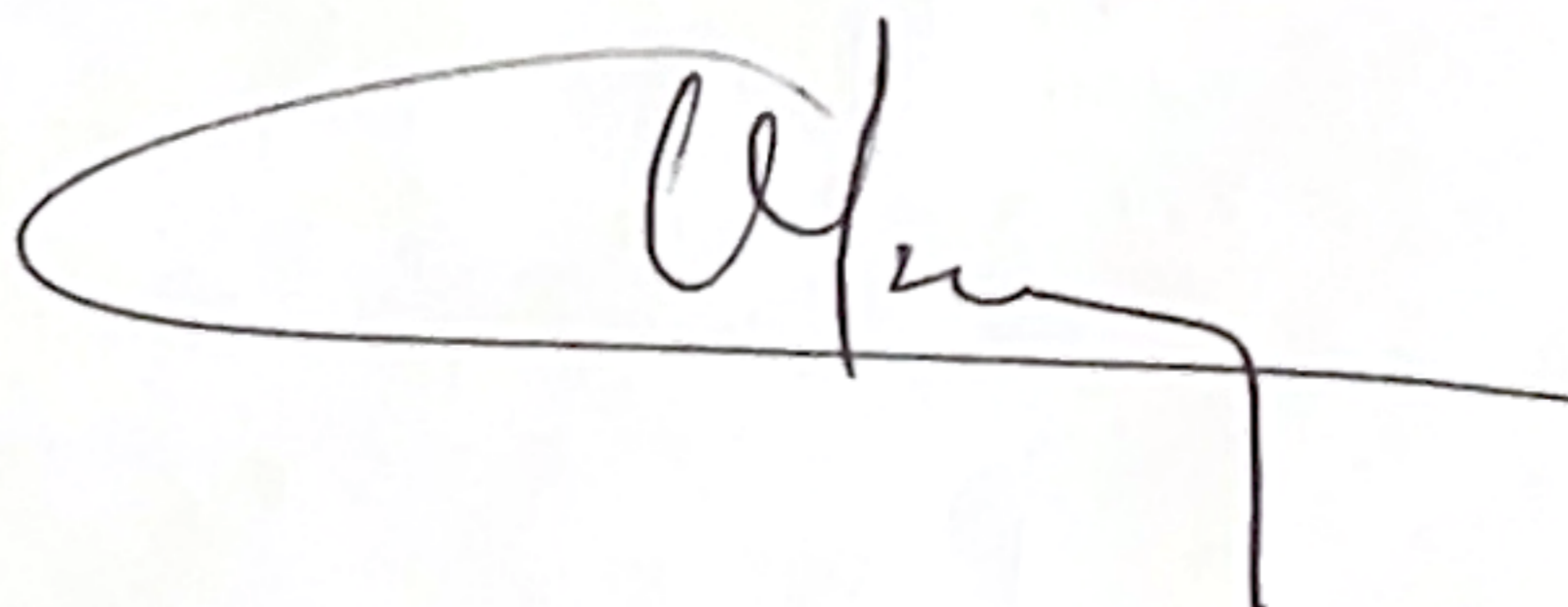
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I Alcide Ponga, president of Government of New Caledonia on June 9th, 2025 in Nice, France endorse the establishment of IPOS and commit to support its vision.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alcide Ponga', written over a horizontal line.



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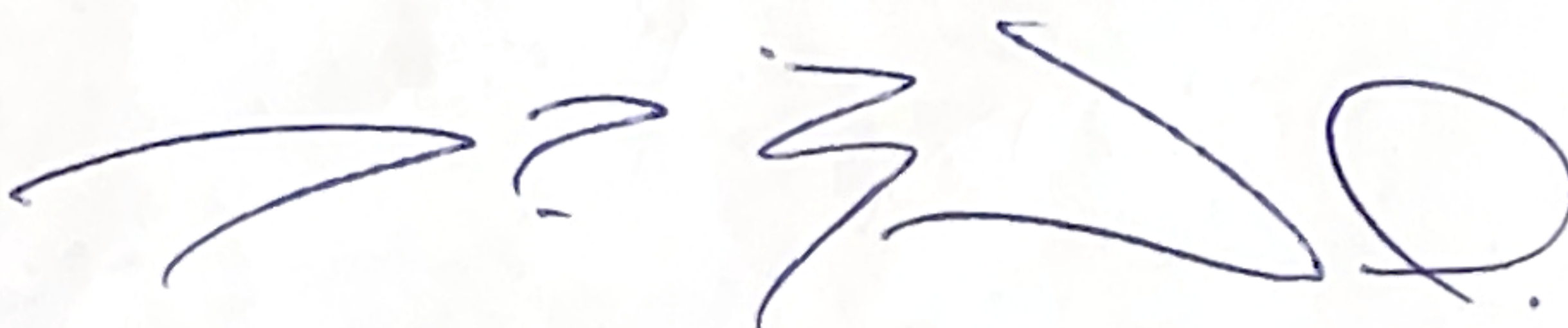
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Handwritten signature and date:
JAN
9-6-25

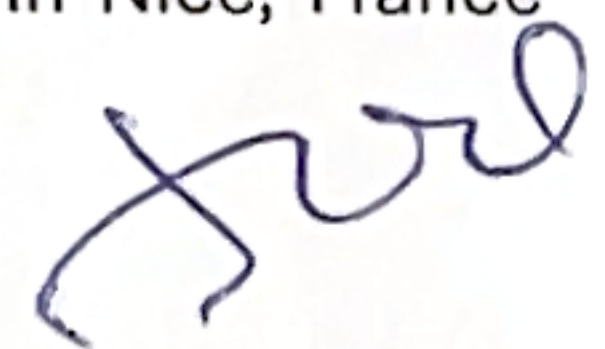
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9.6.25



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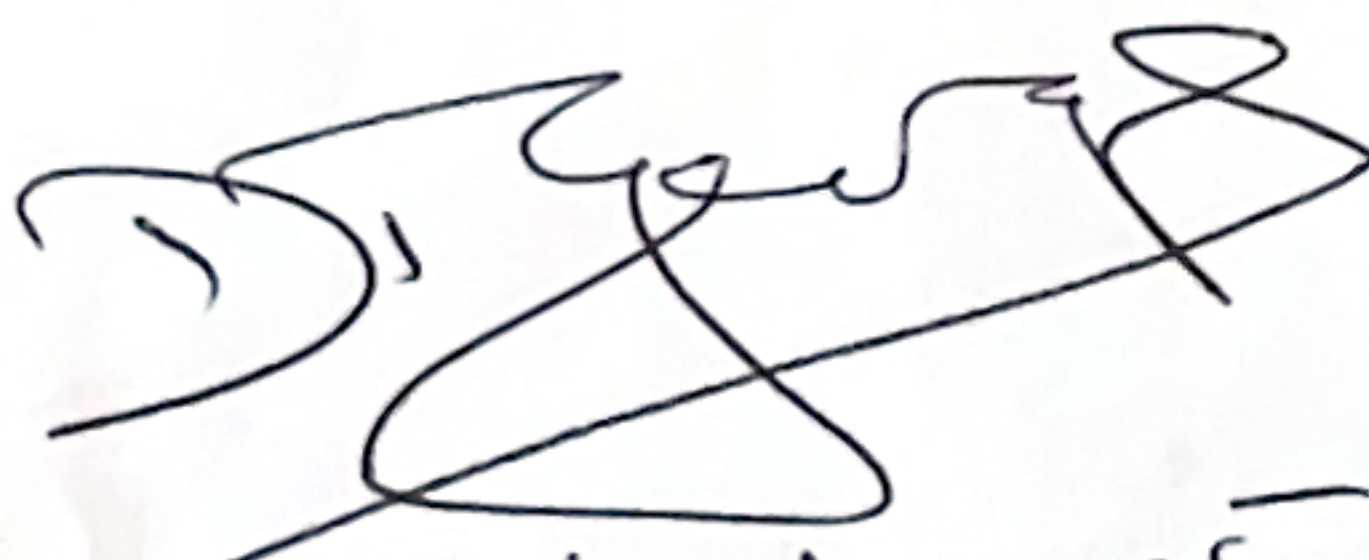
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