



UN-Oceans side event

“Striving for Ambitious Ocean-Based Action: How UN-Oceans can support States in scaling up ocean-related actions, including in the context of the next round of NDCs”

**United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
29th meeting of the Conference of the Parties – Baku, Azerbaijan
11-22 November 2024**

**Statement by Mr. Stephen Mathias, Acting Under-Secretary-General for
Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel and
UN-Oceans Focal Point**

**As delivered by Mr. Fernando Cabrera Diaz, Legal Officer, Division for
Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs**

**16 November 2024
11:30 A.M. – Room: Side Event 3**

Excellencies,

Distinguished participants,

Friends and colleagues,

On behalf of Mr. Stephen Mathias, Acting Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel, and UN-Oceans Focal Point, it is my great pleasure to open this UN-Oceans side event on the theme “Striving for Ambitious Ocean-



As you may recall, the ocean was mentioned in over half of the submissions by Parties and other stakeholders to the Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement. This reflects the increasing recognition of the ocean as not only one of the worst affected ecosystems to date but also of the key role of ocean ecosystems and activities in the race to mitigate and adapt to the catastrophic impacts of climate change. Indeed, earlier this week, the ocean was 3 (c)3.6(e)3.0 Td(,)T 0.28

