

HIGH AMBITION COALITION FOR A QUIET OCEAN: OBJECTIVES AND PARTICIPATION

REMPEC Regional webinar

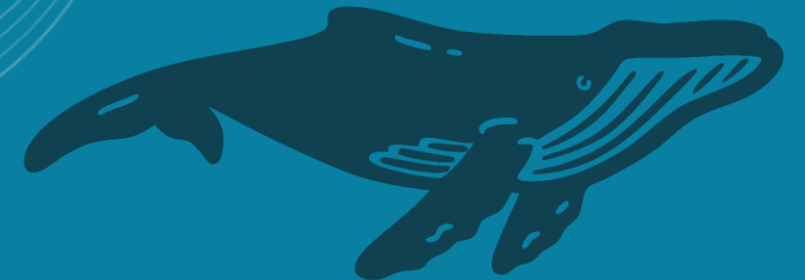
*The Hidden Threat Beneath the Waves:
Underwater Noise in the Mediterranean*

Dr. Aurelie Cosandey-Godin (Canada)

aurelie.cosandey-godin@tc.gc.ca

29 May 2026

||||||| FOR A |||||
QUIET OCEAN



LOCAL TO GLOBAL: VESSEL NOISE IN THE CANADIAN CONTEXT



- Expanded URN measures over the past decade to protect endangered whales; many port projects or traffic increases require acoustic impact mitigation.
- Strong protections for Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW), an endangered species with cultural significance for many coastal Indigenous Peoples.
 - Summer vessel noise exceeds ambient levels by over 10 dB, reducing SRKW communication space by ~90% and echolocation space by >80%.
- Vessel growth projected to increase on Canada's west coast.

||||| FOR A |||||
QUIET OCEAN



3RD UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE

June 10, 2025

The Coalition was officially launched at UNOC 3 and featured high-level participation from:

- Ten countries
- European Commission
- International Maritime Organization
- BIMCO
- Inuit Circumpolar Council
- Environmental NGOs



38

Led By:



Canada



Panama



Austria



Belgium



Belize



Bulgaria



Chile



Costa Rica



Croatia



Cyprus



Czechia



Denmark



Dominican Republic



Estonia



Finland



France



Germany



Greece



Guatemala



Hungary



Ireland



Italy



Latvia



Lithuania



Luxembourg



Malta



Mexico



Monaco



Netherlands



Peru



Poland



Portugal



Romania



Slovakia



Slovenia



Spain

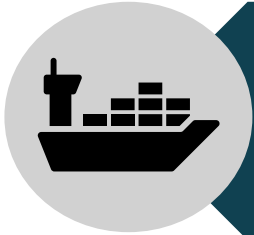


Sweden



Uruguay

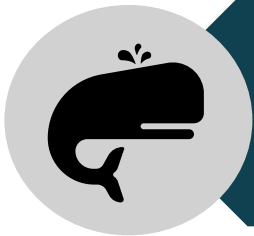
DECLARATION ACTION POINTS



Developing new policy to drive the design and operation of quieter ships at the International Maritime Organization (IMO)



Establishing marine protected areas that take into account the protection and restoration of the natural ocean soundscape



Investigating and implementing effective solutions to reduce vessel impacts on sensitive ocean wildlife



Supporting capacity-building to assess and reduce ocean noise by sharing available tools and knowledge

HIGH AMBITION COALITION FOR A QUIET OCEAN

- Member state driven coalition coordinated by Panama and Canada
- Supported by Executive Secretariat (5 eNGOs)

The Coalition focuses on three types of action:

- Raising global awareness of underwater noise as an environmental priority;
- Promoting science-based solutions to reduce underwater noise from vessels and other human activities;
- Strengthening international cooperation among governments, industry, scientists, and civil society.

||||| FOR A |||||
QUIET OCEAN



HAC RESOURCES AND COORDINATION TOOLS

- Network of contacts (focal and technical experts)
- Annual work plan outlining multilateral activities (workshops, side-events, joint submissions, etc.)
- Coalition website – Declaration, Partners, Resources tabs
- Quarterly newsletter with workplan updates, upcoming events, and country highlights
- Communications Toolkit (English, Spanish, and French)
- End-of-Year HAC Annual Virtual Meeting
- HAC-IMO Collaborative Group (ahead of relevant IMO meetings)

Scan to subscribe
and read the HAC
Newsletter



AT A GLANCE: HOW HAC MEMBERS CAN ENGAGE

Members are invited to:



Propose or participate in at least one HAC activity per year



Share relevant events and initiatives for inclusion in the HAC work plan



Identify opportunities for collaboration and Secretarial support



Keep HAC contact information up to date



Engage in HAC meetings and exchanges, as feasible

PROCESS FOR STATES TO JOIN THE HIGH AMBITION COALITION

Interested in Joining the Movement?

- Send a request to Panama to express your interest in joining the Coalition.
- Panama will transmit the official invitation letter and the HAC information package to initiate the formal onboarding process.



REPÚBLICA DE PANAMÁ
— GOBIERNO NACIONAL —

Veronica Herrera

Alternate Permanent
Representative II of
Panama to the IMO

vherrera@panamauk.org

||||| FOR A |||||
QUIET OCEAN





The High Ambition Coalition for a Quiet Ocean: Accelerating Global Action on Underwater Noise

Side event hosted by Panama in collaboration with
Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, France, and Mexico

June 17, 12:30-1:30pm
Mombasa Continental Resort

*A complimentary buffet and refreshments
will be provided.*



REPÚBLICA DE PANAMÁ
— GOBIERNO NACIONAL —

||||| FOR A |||||
QUIET OCEAN



Scan to
learn more.



IMO MEPC 84 OUTCOMES AND MEPC 85 TIMELINE

- Outcomes of MEPC 84
 - Extension of the URN Experience-Building Phase (EBP) approved for an additional two years, extending SDC and MEPC work on URN to 2028
 - Circular on Energy Efficiency and Underwater Radiated Noise approved, providing guidance on co-optimizing Energy Efficiency and URN at the design and retrofit stage
 - Terms of Reference for the Global IMO URN Study approved; the IMO Secretariat will present its assessment at MEPC 85
 - Invitation to contribute to the development of a URN Policy Roadmap (Action Plan item)
- MEPC 85 (30 November – 4 December)
 - Early September — Deadline for bulky submissions
 - Early October — Deadline for short and INF papers

