Side Event

National Decade Committees Forum

16:30-18:30 pm, Wednesday 12 March 2025

***Meeting venue**: The Auditorium on the 3rd Floor of the East Building of MEXT*

National Decade Committee (NDC), as an essential element of the Decade coordination ecosystem, is supposed to play an instrumental role in engaging national stakeholders and facilitating national contributions to the UN Ocean Decade as well as promoting awareness and interest.

To facilitate the sharing of experience among NDCs in the region, the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC) convened the 1st NDCs Forum on 5 April 2023, during the 14th Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (4-7 April 2023, Jakarta). Six NDCs in the region shared their development status, identified their challenges and potential opportunities, and made suggestions for enhancing Decade coordination at national level. For more details, please refer to the event news coverage **here**. The NDCs Forum also concluded that it is useful to gather NDCs together on a regular basis in order to help their development and eventually accelerate the development of the UN Ocean Decade.

As the Ocean Decade reaches its halfway point, therefore, it is timely to convene the 2nd NDCs Forum, update their progress, and further explore ways to energize NDCs, translating the Decade Vision 2030 into concrete actions. The 2nd NDCs Forum will be convened during the 15th Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (11-13 March 2025, Tokyo, Japan).

Objectives:

The 2nd NDCs Forum, as a side event to the Session and co-facilitated by the NDCs of Japan and Thailand, aims to:

- Facilitate dialogues among NDCs in the region about their progress, including their functions, key activities, challenges and opportunities;
- Explore ways of how NDCs can help translate the Decade Vision 2030 into concrete actions.

Notes:

1. For other documents about the WESTPAC-XV, please visit https://ioc-westpac.org/event/westpac-xv/
2. Report of the 1st NDCs Forum is available at https://ioc-westpac.org/session/xiv/Working%20document/PPT/NDCs%20Forum-Report%20to%20the%20plenary.pdf

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Tentative Programme

16:30-16:35	Opening and briefs on the side event *by Mitsutaku Makino (Japan) and Ukkrit Satapoomin (Thailand)*
16:35-16:50	A global overview of the NDCs development *by IOC/DCU*
16:50-17:50	Briefs about the progress of NDCs in the region, including their **compositions, functions, operation, activities, stakeholder engagement, challenges and opportunities** (tentative list, 5-6 minutes each) • China (TBD) • Indonesia (*Wahyu Widodo Pandoe*) • Japan (*Mitsutaku Makino*) • Korea (*Tie Lee*) • Philippines (TBD) • Vietnam (*Dao Viet Ha*) • Russia (*Vyaheslav Lobanov*) • Thailand (*Suree Satapoomin*) • USA (TBD)
17:50-18:20	Open discussions and sharing of NDCs' perspectives and suggestions
18:20-18:30	Wrap-up and closure *by Ukkrit Satapoomin and Mitsutaku Makino*
	Group Photo