

NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY

UN World Oceans Day 2020

“How Innovations & Technology Are Supporting Our Oceans”

Wednesday, June 10, 2020 from 2:30PM to 5PM EST via Webinar



H.E. Ms. Penelope Beckles, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations. Ambassador Beckles has been a practicing attorney since 1988, she has held a number of ministerial portfolios in Trinidad and Tobago, including Minister for Public Utilities and the Environment, from 2003 to 2007, and Minister for Culture and Tourism from 2002 to 2003. From 2001 to 2002, she was concurrently Minister for Social Development, Minister for Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs and Minister for Health. Having first entered Parliament in 1995 as an Opposition Senator, she served as Leader of Opposition Business in Trinidad and Tobago’s Senate from 2010 to 2013 and its first female Deputy Speaker of the Parliament from 2007 to 2010. A past student of St Joseph’s Convent, San Fernando, Ambassador Beckles attended the University of the West

Indies, at both the St. Augustine, Trinidad and Cave Hill, Barbados, campuses where she graduated with honours. She then graduated from the Hugh Wooding Law School. As a resident of her local hometown of Arima, Ambassador Beckles is deeply involved in a number of community and national organizations, including the Arima Foundation for the Advancement of Women and Children and the Rape Crisis Centre of Trinidad and Tobago, where she served as President. Ambassador Beckles is also a member of the UNICEF Board in Trinidad, as well as the Commonwealth Institute for Women in Leadership. On 22 August 2016, she presented her credentials to then UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon as the Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations. Special interests include issue relating to women and children, health, and the environment. Born on 12 September 1961, she is married and has four step-children.



Dr. Francois Bailet, Senior Legal Officer, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, BSc (Environmental Sciences), Diplôme d'Étude Approfondies (Law and Economics of Development) and PhD (International Public Law) served as the late Elisabeth Mann Borgese’s Special Assistant for almost a decade until her passing in 2002, after which he was appointed Deputy Executive Director of the International Ocean Institute Network (IOI), then Expert Advisor in Ocean Governance to the IOI, and Honorary Adviser to the President of IOI. In 2004, he assumed a post in the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, where he now serves as Senior Legal Officer. While with the IOI, Dr. Bailet’s main responsibilities included: capacity development academic education; and development/implementation of ocean law and policy frameworks at all

levels of governance. He also represented the organization within numerous international, regional and national ocean law and policy processes, and at the United Nations. Currently, Mr. Bailet oversees the Capacity-Building and Trust Funds Unit of DOALOS, coordinates the Maritime Security Cluster, and leads the United Nations marking of World Oceans Day. He also served as the Secretary of the General Assembly’s Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects which produced the first World Ocean Assessment.



Fabien Cousteau, Founder and President of the Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center. Fabien is an aquanaut, ocean conservationist, and documentary filmmaker. As the first grandson of Jacques-Yves Cousteau, Fabien spent his early years aboard his grandfather’s ships Calypso and Alcione; learning how to scuba dive on his fourth birthday. From 2000–2002, Fabien was an Explorer-at-Large for National Geographic and collaborated on a TV special aimed at changing public conceptions about sharks called "Attack of the Mystery Shark". Then in 2003–2006, he produced the documentary "Mind of a Demon" that aired on CBS. With the help of a large crew, Fabien created a 14-foot, 1,200-pound, lifelike shark submarine called "Troy" that enabled him to immerse himself inside the shark world. For the next four years (2006–2010), Fabien was

part of a multi-hour series for PBS called "Ocean Adventures" with his father, Jean-Michel Cousteau, and sister, Céline. Inspired by his grandfather’s 1978 PBS series "Ocean Adventures." In early 2009 Fabien began working with local communities and children worldwide to help restore local water ecosystems. He continues to presently fulfill these initiatives through Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center ("FCOLC") his non-profit 501(c)(3) founded in early 2016 dedicated to the restoration of the world’s water bodies through active community engagement and education.



Jeremy McKane, Founder of OCEAN™ and Co-Founder of UltraMarine. Jeremy is an Artist with a background in technology. At 18, he found himself working in a startup that would one day become (for a time) the world's largest web hosting provider. Today the company is known as NTT VERIO. In that time the internet promised potential uses that we take for granted today. It was this early experience that provided an alternate perspective. As an artist, Jeremy's work has been shown around the world that often includes a mixture of technology and thought provoking imagery about our oceans. He uses Art to engage the public to do something about the threats facing the Ocean. He is also the founder of OCEAN™ that aims to protect Our Oceans by reducing enforcement expense and defining value with the biodiversity that exists within. OCEAN™ is a blockchain platform with a mission to protect 30% of the world's oceans by 2030. This is achieved

by reducing the cost of enforcement and defining financial value of the Ocean's resources. Thus providing an basis for the theory that the life in the oceans are worth more alive than dead. OCEAN™ is partnering up with technology firms to increase the amount of understanding we have in terms of the amount of fish, temperatures, and other data sets. If we can measure something, we can improve it. The OCEAN™ Platform enables other developers to take their ocean data and collaborate with others on a global network. In addition to this, Jeremy has autonomous ocean vehicles that analyze the health of Marine Protected Areas. By collecting millions of data points the hope is that we can actively predict dangers before they become full on catastrophic. In addition, the dual system called the MAKO serves as an autonomous enforcement system that will patrol areas looking for vessels that do not belong in the water. In extreme cases, these system will disable fishing vessels at sea that attempt to flee from enforcement. All of this can be done for the fraction of manned based systems. An independent study was done by the Blockchain Research Institute.



Susi Mai, Pro Kiteboarder, Ocean Activist and Co-Founder of Ultramarine. Susi Mai is no stranger to wind, water or adventure. Born in Germany to parents who were passionate windsurfers, her entire family moved to the Dominican Republic when she was five to pursue their love of adventure and great beaches. *Susi's childhood was the picture of carefree island life, with hours each day spent at the beach.* When she was a teenager, she discovered her life's passion: kiteboarding. After only eight months of practice, to everyone's surprise, she placed second in her first international world cup competition. From that point on, her career in kiteboarding exploded with three consecutive wins at the annual Red Bull King of the Air competition, considered the most prestigious event in the sport. After twelve years on the world kiteboarding tour, her passion for the ocean and bringing people together manifested into a number of creative, innovative and impactful projects that combine watersports and ocean conservation. Susi's latest

endeavor is Ultramarine, founder in 2019 together with fellow ocean activist Jeremy Mckane. Together they have built a community of innovators, politicians, scientists, artist, storytellers, entrepreneurs, investors and others to inspire actions and solutions to ensure a healthy ocean. Through a series of physical and virtual events, Ultramarine marshals the support of the community for environmental causes related to the ocean eco-system and produce meaningful results. Recent accomplishments include the creation of a platform for furthering the 30x30 initiative through the promotion of the Palau Pledge and other initiatives in the Caribbean and beyond. Web Links: www.susimai.com, www.ultramarineoncean.com, Social Media Accounts: www.instagram.com/ultramarineocean, www.facebook.com/susimai, www.facebook.com/ultramarineocean, www.instagram.com/susikite,



Gaelin Rosenwaks, Founder of Global Ocean Exploration, Inc. Gaelin is a marine scientist, explorer, photographer and filmmaker. Always fascinated by the marine world, she began diving at 14 and has since continued exploring ocean ecosystems. She began her career at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution where she researched over-wintering patterns of Southern Ocean zooplankton. Gaelin earned her Master's Degree in Coastal Environmental Management from Duke University working with the Tag-A- Giant program and conducting research on the migratory movements of Giant Bluefin Tunas. Alarmed by the changes happening in the oceans, Gaelin founded Global Ocean Exploration Inc (GOE) to share her passion for ocean exploration, marine conservation and photography. She now participates and conducts expeditions in every ocean to alert the public not only to the challenges facing the oceans, but also to what science is doing to

understand these changes. Gaelin is a US Coast Guard Licensed Captain, and a Fellow of both the Royal Geographical Society, the Explorers Club and a member of the Society of Women Geographers. She has published articles in scientific journals, newspapers and magazines and has delivered lectures at global conferences and many institutions including the Explorers Club, Patagonia, Inc, Duke University and Yale University. She has appeared as an expert on many TV programs including on The Discovery Channel, CBS News, and Business Insider, and as a presenter and angler on the National Geographic Channel Series, *Fish Warrior*. Her photography has been displayed in many exhibitions, including solo exhibitions at Duke University, The Maritime Aquarium, and the Patagonia Upper West Side Store in NYC. Gaelin serves as an Honorary Advisor of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY and an Ambassador for Oceanic Global and is a proud partner of UN World Oceans Day. To Gaelin, there is nothing better than being in the open ocean surrounded by endless blue water and passing wildlife. Gaelin's passion for the ocean and conservation is infectious and she hopes to inspire others to care about our planet through her work.



Skye Morét, Senior Researcher | TBA21–Academy. Skye is a data-driven designer and marine scientist. Her diverse background on the ocean—having sailed 80,000+ miles around the globe—fuels her belief in the power of art and design to engage citizens with nature and science. Skye is the Senior Researcher on TBA21–Academy’s Ocean Archive project, an Assistant Professor in the Collaborative Design + Design Systems MFA program at the Pacific Northwest College of Art, and Design Director at data visualization studio Periscopic. Her work investigates the complex relationship between nature and technology-mediated human expectations, experiences, and engagement. Through *in situ* investigations, frequently in marine and aqueous locations, she seeks to more deeply explore our human understanding of what information and systems make a place ‘a place’ and communicate this through design that transcends traditional academic formats.

Skye’s installations have been exhibited at Science Gallery Dublin, the European Parliament in Brussels, and at Palmer Station, Antarctica, among other venues. Her most recent art-science fellowship was a 2019 post at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis in Santa Barbara, California. Skye has authored multidisciplinary publications in *Science*, *Slate*, *Migrant Journal*, *Popular Science*, *Roads & Kingdoms*, and Public Radio International, among others.



Cassia Patel, Program Director of Oceanic Global. As a global NGO they engage new audiences in ocean conservation. Her work with Oceanic Global includes overseeing their grassroots initiatives, policy reform efforts, educational programming, and managing The Oceanic Standard (TOS), a free set of industry-specific resources for adopting sustainable practices that meet both business and environmental needs with a focus on eliminating single-use plastics and improving waste management. Cassia has formal training as an environmental engineer, underwater research biologist, and in sustainable design. Oceanic Global The non-profit taps into universal passions to raise awareness for issues impacting our oceans and to provide individual and industry solutions that drive positive change. Oceanic Global takes a uniquely creative approach to conservation, creating immersive experiences that engage local communities, amplify

the efforts of synergistic groups, generate measurable impact and ignite global action. The Oceanic Standard (TOS) is a set of research-backed guides and badge verification system that helps various industries minimize their environmental footprint and adopt sustainable operating practices. TOS industry-specific editions support shifts in operational infrastructure and is a resource for political action and reform. TOS connects businesses directly to approved sustainable vendors for cost-effective alternatives to products that threaten our planet. TOS badge verification system allows businesses to communicate their sustainability achievement.



Margo LaZaro, President and Chair, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY and Co-Founder/CSO of the SDG Impact Awards. She is Global Family’s Director of UN Relations, Board of Advisors Chair for Youth for a Better World/Montessori Model UN, and UN/Representative of the Huairou Commission. She is a Charter Member of Soroptimist International NY/Metro Chapter & member of COVIDxNOW and Empower a Billion Women-EBW. Margo is an Artist/Designer with over thirty years of experience at the United Nations working as a Chief Developer and Producer of meetings, conferences and Special Events engaging with all stakeholders to develop impactful programs and projects that include the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Margo’s work is mainly focused on connecting all areas of the 17 SDGs. She passionately champions SDG 17 on Building Partnerships and the NGOCSD-NY motto: “*Turn*

Your Passions into Actions for Change.” Under her leadership the NGOCSD-NY are proud Partners of the UN Secretary General’s UN75 Anniversary Dialogues, an Official Partner of UN Friends of World Ocean Day and a Coordinating Partner of the UN2020 Initiative. She Convenes the NGO Major Group Urban Cluster for the UN High Level Political Forum. Margo studied design at the Fashion Institute of Technology and changed direction to Costumes for Theatre, Film and TV. She later became an Instructor at FIT in Costumes. Margo brings entrepreneurs and private sector into the UN discourse to foster the success of the UN 2030 SD Agenda, so we “Leave No One Behind.”

Special thanks: Soroptimist International, UN2020, UNA-USA Council of Organizations, CoNGO, Huairou Commission, NGO/MG Urban Cluster, SDG Impact Awards, Global Family, Global NGO Executive Committee, Youth for a Better World: Montessori MUN, and the General Assembly of Partners.

“Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change”

www.ngocsd-ny.org