

High Seas Youth Ambassador Letter to G20 Leaders

#ListenToTheOcean

Dear G20 Leaders,

As you meet in Rome, Italy from 30-31 October, 2021 for the G20 Leaders' Summit, we urge you to listen to the science and make ocean action an integral part of discussions on the climate crisis and biodiversity decline.

As [High Seas Youth Ambassadors](#), we are working towards the protection and conservation of the high seas for future generations. We know that we need to listen to the science and use it to guide our actions and we can see from our education and the frontlines of our work with communities, species, and marine habitats, that we need to act -- now.

We will not be able to tackle climate breakdown if we do not protect the ocean. This was a clear message delivered by scientists from around the world in the [IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere](#). This same science also tells us what needs to be done. There are clear measures that can and must be taken now to help stop the rapid decline in ocean health and the loss of support it provides. As High Seas Youth Ambassadors, one of the best measures to help stop the decline in ocean health and combat the climate crisis, is the adoption of an ambitious and robust High Seas Treaty that is in the best interests of the ocean and humanity and allows for the needed transformative change in how we manage, govern and protect fifty percent of our planet – the high seas.

As a global common, the High Seas belong to all of us and we must ensure its protection and equitable use. The sheer size of the high seas alone indicates how critical it is for combating the climate crisis and our survival on this planet. As twenty of the largest economies in the world, you have each disproportionally contributed to the climate and biodiversity crises and as such, have a responsibility and crucial role ensuring its reversal.

A commitment to conclude a robust and ambitious High Seas Treaty at the fourth and final slated negotiations in March 2022 should be included in the final communiqué, as a demonstration that the G20 countries are serious and effectively ready to take a global lead in preventing and reversing climate change and protecting global biodiversity.

We hope that you will champion the ocean at the summit and throughout this critical year to the upcoming UNFCCC COP26 in November, to the High Seas Treaty negotiations scheduled for March 2022. Our climate, our planet and future generations depend on it

Signed,

High Seas Youth Ambassadors



Ghaamid Abdulbasat - Tanzania



Fabio Arturo López Alfaro - México



Gayathra Bandara - Sri Lanka



Britney Hay - Antigua & Barbuda



Milla Heckler - United States



John Paul Jose - India



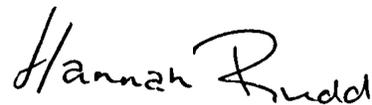
Jihyun Lee - South Korea



Catarina Lorenzo - Brazil



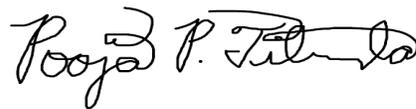
Oluwaseyi Moejoh - Nigeria



Hannah Rudd - United Kingdom



Lydia Rysavy - Sweden



Pooja Tilwawala - United States