

Global Penguin Society contributed to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

On 25 September 2015, the 193 countries of the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development called: Transforming our world. It includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are an inter-governmentally agreed set of targets relating to international development.

These goals included issues like ending poverty and hunger, improving health and education, making cities more sustainable, combating climate change, and protecting forests and oceans. Specifically, Dr. Pablo Borboroglu, President of the Global Penguin Society member of the National Research Council of Argentina, was part of the group that contributed to goal number 14, related to the conservation and sustainable use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/oceans/>).

The agenda states that..." The world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents and life – drive global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind. Our rainwater, drinking water, weather, climate, coastlines, much of our food, and even the oxygen in the air we breathe, are all ultimately provided and regulated by the sea. Throughout history, oceans and seas have been vital conduits for trade and transportation. Careful management of this essential global resource is a key feature of a sustainable future."

As part of this initiative, Dr Borboroglu addressed the United Nations at the high-level symposium: "ONE OCEAN, achieving sustainability through sanctuaries", held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 5th March 2015. His presentation showed how sanctuaries are necessary to protect seabirds and other marine wildlife, the ecological and financial reasons to create marine protected areas and why science is fundamental to optimize their design.

The initiative seek to commit UN member countries to increase and improve ocean protection, a goal accomplished last Friday when the new Agenda was final approved at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit.

Links:

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/oceans/>

<http://www.globalpenguinsociety.org/>

<http://www.globalpenguinsociety.org/news.president-of-gps-addressed-the-united-nations-at-high-level-symposium.95.eng.htm>