

UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF HIS MAJESTY KING MOHAMMED VI



BLUE AFRICA
SUMMIT

The Academy of the Kingdom of Morocco

&

La Saison Bleue

Present

TANGIER DECLARATION

Tangier, Morocco 2025



Tanger Commitments — 3rd Blue Africa Summit

On 9–10 October 2025 in Tangier, Morocco, during the third edition of the Blue Africa Summit held under the high patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI and supported by the Academy of the Kingdom of Morocco and La Saison Bleue, ministers and high representatives of States and local authorities, members of the scientific, economic and financial world, and civil society—both African and international partners were reunited.

This 3rd Blue Africa Summit has acted on :

- The importance for Africa of the 3rd United Nations Conference on the Ocean (Nice, June 2025), during which the Continent benefited from a unique space for dialogue with the Heads of State and Government Summit “Africa for the Ocean” and the “Africa–Europe–Mediterranean” side event.
- The mandate given at UNOC3 to the Blue Africa Summit, in partnership with the Academy of the Kingdom of Morocco and La Saison Bleue, to prepare and draft the first Pact for a Sustainable Blue Africa.
- The organization of preparatory meetings by the four expert colleges for the Pact’s work: **“Governance, Territories and Maritime Security,” “Science and Education,” “Blue Economy and Finance,” and “Civil Society.”** More than 100 participants representing nearly 30 countries facilitated these four college meetings on 10 October. They will meet several times in early 2026 to pursue the working process for the Pact.
- The official presentation of the Pact at the 4th Blue Africa Summit in autumn 2026.

On 10 October 2025, His Majesty King Mohammed VI reminded Moroccan members of parliament of two major objectives:

- “Seriously carry out the optimal operationalization of the levers of sustainable development of the national coastline, including the law on the coast and the National Coastal Plan.”
- “Contribute to ensuring the necessary balance between the accelerated development of these areas and the requirements of their protection and enhancement, within the framework of a national maritime economy, generating wealth and jobswealth and jobs.”

The Blue Africa Summit also reaffirmed the following principles and priorities to public decision-makers and ecosystem stakeholders:

- The urgency to act at all levels by implementing concrete solutions to address climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, which directly affect local populations, ecosystems and global value chains;
- The recognition of multilateral and legal instruments that have recently entered into force, and called for rapid additional ratifications — particularly the agreement on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) and the World Trade Organization's Fish 1 agreement on the prohibition of subsidies for IUU fishing — and the recognition of the important role played by the coalition (already joined by 40 countries) calling for a precautionary pause on deep-sea mining;
- The offer to African States to join the Ocean Pioneers group, currently composed of 25 countries that have both ratified the BBNJ treaty and joined the coalition for a precautionary pause on deep-sea mining — key criteria of a genuine ocean stewardship commitment;
- The commitment of African States to participate at high political level in COP-1 of the High Seas in the second half of 2026 at the United Nations General Assembly headquarters in New York;
- The need to implement adaptation policies to address climate change impacts — notably coastal erosion and ecosystem pollution, whether plastic or hydrocarbon-related — which directly affect fish stocks, fishery quality and coastal integrity;
- The necessity to develop collaborative scientific agencies to provide regional coverage and to advance both basic and applied research; the identification and operationalization of scientific and economic centres of excellence to foster innovative, decarbonized solutions to maritime challenges;
- The establishment of innovative financing tools regarding the critical decline in development aid and debt levels on the continent — including private sector mobilization (e.g., private equity), diaspora savings mobilization, and credible blue carbon credit mechanisms;
- The recognition of the importance of the Kunming-Montreal Agreement (target: 30% of marine areas protected by 2030) and the need to create new MPAs, as current achievements remain well below targets. An African–Mediterranean–European network of MPAs to support capacity exchanges for transcontinental maritime action will be established under the Pact;

- The promotion of sustainable fishing techniques based on small-scale practices to achieve food security objectives while ensuring good management of fish stocks;
- The need for true gender parity, especially in executive positions within African maritime organizations, and full recognition of the pivotal role of African youth.
- The essential cooperation with other continental spaces, particularly the European Union, which has established political partnership and financing instruments between the two continents
- Jointly advancing a regenerative blue economy and ocean resilience through the establishment of an “African-European Hub for Innovation and Finance” providing support for blue industrialization and mobilizing financing and investment tools for the African continent.