

Dear World Leaders,

Next week, the world will look to you as you meet at a historic Ocean Summit - a moment that holds extraordinary political power as this year marks ten years since the Paris Agreement was signed.

As athletes who see the beauty and fragility of the oceans in our daily life, we urge you to prioritize the protection of these precious places.

The ocean is our planet's great pulse - vast, fragile, and essential. It shapes our climate, sustains life, and nourishes cultures, dreams, and identities.

But today, this living force is under siege. Climate change, fuelled by the expansion of fossil fuels and plastic pollution, is suffocating marine life and accelerating the collapse of its ecosystems.

Coral bleaching is turning vibrant reefs into underwater graveyards, oil spills are poisoning entire food chains, and acidification is eating away at the ocean's very foundation. Plastic waste now blankets the seafloor and chokes marine animals.

Rising sea levels are submerging nations, and extreme weather events are devastating coastal communities: humanity is now on an odyssey of despair. Communities on the front line of the climate crisis are being robbed of their right to a thriving, healthy ocean, without their consent.

In solidarity with [the Alliance of Small Island States](#), we call on you to rise to this moment.

We, athletes from across the world, ask you to:

- **Put the ocean at the heart of climate action this year.** We urge all nations - especially major polluters - to honor the 1.5°C commitment by submitting strong climate plans ahead of COP30. These plans are our lifeline to a healthy ocean.
- **End the era of fossil fuels**, especially at sea. We cannot afford any new fossil fuel infrastructure or polluting fuels powering our trade; instead, we must urgently turn the tide toward renewable energy.
- **Help end the plastic wave** by backing a Global Plastics Treaty that truly protects island nations and ocean life by capping plastic production.
- **Stand up for the High Seas.** Help bring the High Seas Treaty to life and protect the deepest waters of our planet.
- **Chart a new course towards sustainable finance**, easing the burden of debt that holds back many nations from protecting the seas that sustain us all.

The ocean is not merely a resource, but a living legacy that shapes who we are. In the spirit of *mutirão* - collective action for the common good - we join Small Island Leaders' calls. We are committed to doing our part, and we trust that you are ready to do yours as well.

We urge you to act - for the ocean, for the climate, and for all life on Earth.

With hope,