

Mombasa Declaration

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

Recently, 15 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, and the Pacific have adopted the Mombasa Declaration.

- **Mombasa declaration** - It urges governments to increase transparency by improving public access to information on fishing vessels, their ownership, and licensing.
- It also emphasizes enhanced data sharing among countries to better monitor fishing activities and enforce regulations effectively.
- Named after the Kenyan city of Mombasa, which hosted the 11th *Our Ocean Conference*.
- **Signatories** - Belgium, Cameroon, Chile, the Dominican Republic, France, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Republic of the Congo, Somalia, and South Korea.
- **Objective** - To tackle *Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing*, a major threat to marine biodiversity and the livelihoods of communities that depend on fisheries.
- **Other support** - The declaration also reinforces support for the *Global Charter for Fisheries Transparency*,

Global Charter for Fisheries Transparency, outlines ten policy principles aimed at improving fisheries governance through practical and cost-effective measures such as modernizing vessel registries and making fishing authorizations publicly available.

Quick facts

Our Ocean Conference

- **Launched in** - 2014.
- **Launched by** - The *United States Department of State* under the leadership of former U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.
- **2026 conference** - Held in Mombasa, marking the first time the summit took place on African soil.
- **Theme of 2026 conference** - “**Our Ocean, Our Heritage, Our Future.**”
- **Function** - It serves as a leading global platform that brings together governments, businesses, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions to advance ocean conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.
- **6 Priorities** - The conference focuses on six priority areas:
 - Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)
 - Sustainable Blue Economy
 - Climate Change
 - Maritime Security
 - Sustainable Fisheries
- - Marine Pollution
- **Achievements** - Inspired more than 2,600 commitments worth over \$160 billion, making it one of the most influential international forums for ocean sustainability.

Reference

[Oceana| Mombasa Declaration](#)

