

Romain Troublé, opening MUNISIT's UNDP committee

Romain Troublé, former sailor and Executive Director of the Tara Ocean Foundation, spoke at Carrières Internationales' MUN for the UNDP committee.

This morning, Carrières Internationales had the chance to welcome Romain Troublé, sailor, President of the Ocean and Climate Platform, and Executive Director of the Tara Ocean Foundation, for its MUNISIT.

Troublé's statement, opening the UNDP committee on "Realising the Sustainable Development Goal for Water and Ocean Governance" highlighted the importance of international cooperation for the preservation of seas and oceans.

According to USGS, water makes up 71% of the Earth's surface and two thirds fit in international waters. "The oceans hold an essential part of our planet: large ecosystems", said Troublé. Marine genetic resources are helping to develop cosmetics and medicine: "we need to share the values encouraged by the UN. We must continue our research: 50% of species and 90% of molecules that we find are unknown. There is still a lot to learn and we must cherish it carefully", added the former sailor.

Troublé mentioned the work done by the UN on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their importance regarding the preservation of oceans. The oceans are a great source of oxygen, they absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide, thus regulating the climate. "The SDGs link different subjects on water such as education, gender work at sea, the regulation of climate, different partnerships, the economy and pollution etc. We all have to make an effort to find out, in every field, how to keep the dialogue open", stated Troublé.

The 17 SDGs, adopted by the UN in 2015, provide a shared vision for peace and prosperity for people and the planet. The 14th Goal, Life below Water, aims to "sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, as well as address the impacts of ocean acidification, enhancing conservation and the sustainable use of ocean-based resources". "The goals are fantastic, the true question is how to implement them and at which pace?", asked the Director of the Tara Ocean Foundation with a serious tone.

Troublé also mentioned the issue of high seas, overfishing and regulating countries on their fishing activities. High seas are not regulated nor controlled to this day. At a global scale, satellite surveillance could be an option, although costly.

Troublé concluded his talk with a few words on the current Covid-19 pandemic. "I think this pandemic is a chance. It is the first time ever that mankind is facing the same crisis in every

country around the world. Yes, this pandemic can be solved by a vaccine, however, soon the same issue will happen with climate change and no vaccine will be able to help us. So, what can we learn from it?”. Troublé pleads for another way of thinking,

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