

## THE CASCAIS DECLARATION

## Why is this important?

The Ministerial Declaration is the key political outcome from the OSPAR Ministerial meeting 2021. It aims to reflect the collective ambition of the OSPAR Contracting Parties to recommit to their obligations under the OSPAR Convention to protect, conserve, and use sustainably the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic, and to address the challenges facing the ocean. It signals the OSPAR Ministers' and the EU Commissioner's agreement to adopt, implement and resource the delivery of the new OSPAR North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy (NEAES) 2030.

## What is OSPAR doing?

OSPAR Contracting Parties are demonstrating their continued, shared commitment to the international rules-based order and multilateral regional cooperation in the protection and sustainable use of the North-East Atlantic. The Declaration reaffirms that the Contracting Parties are stronger when they work together and commits them to inclusive, transparent consensusbased decision-making.

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## How will this benefit the North-East Atlantic?

The NEAES 2030 sets out a series of ambitious new objectives to address the challenges facing the ocean. Delivery of the NEAES will help to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, prevent and eliminate pollution, and address the effects of climate change and ocean acidification on the marine environment.





For more information on OSPAR's Ministerial Declaration, please visit the OSPAR website

