

**Joint session of the London Convention/Protocol Scientific Groups
(LC/SG 49 & LP/SG 20)**

Science Day

Thursday, 5 March 2026

"The effects of climate change on permitting and monitoring under the LC/LP"

The Parties to the London Convention and London Protocol hold a Science Day as part of their joint session of the Scientific Groups each year in an effort to broaden their shared scientific understanding of a topic in a more informal setting. In some cases, a symposium format is adopted where presentations and a summary of proceedings are shared publicly after the session and speakers may be invited that are not otherwise participating in the meeting.

In 2025, the governing bodies endorsed "The effects of climate change on permitting and monitoring under the LC/LP" as a suitable topic for Science Day 2026, which was subsequently confirmed by the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Scientific Groups.

The 49th meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Convention and the 20th meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Protocol will be held at IMO Headquarters in London, United Kingdom. The half-day Science Day symposium will take place on the morning of Thursday, 5 March 2026. Remote presenters can be accommodated.

Contracting Parties and experts are invited to share research activities, assessments, and experiences relating to effects of climate change on permitting and monitoring under the LC/LP, including topics such as ocean oxygen depletion, ocean acidification and ecotoxicology, monitoring lessons from Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), and the impacts of dredging and dumping on coastal fluxes.

All delegates registered for the joint session of the Scientific Groups will automatically be registered to attend Science Day. Delegations who have proposed speakers or wish to invite colleagues to attend must also ensure they are registered via OMRS. The event will also be streamed live on IMODOCS and the IMO YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/imohq>.

The Science Day programme can be found at annex.

Programme for Science Day 2026

Thursday, 5 March 2026

| Time | Title | Speaker |
|---------------|---|--|
| 09:30 – 09:40 | <i>Opening remarks</i> | Dr Yeon Chang Second Vice Chair of LC/LP Scientific Groups |
| 09:40 – 10:05 | <i>The ecosystem effects of ocean acidification</i> | Dr Jason Hall-Spencer Professor of Marine Biology University of Plymouth, United Kingdom and University of Tsukuba, Japan |
| 10:05 – 10:30 | <i>Potential impacts of marine carbon dioxide removal on ocean oxygen</i> | Dr Andreas Oschlies Professor of Marine Biogeochemical Modelling GEOMAR, University of Kiel, Germany |
| 10:30 – 10:55 | <i>Climate change and ocean acidification amplify metal toxicity and drive biological stress in Mediterranean mussels: an innovative multi-method convergence analysis</i> | Dr Andrea Gaion Technologist Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), Italy |
| 10:55 – 11:15 | <i>Coffee break</i> | |
| 11:15 – 11:40 | <i>Dredging and dumping impact coastal fluxes of sediment and organic carbon</i> | Dr Lucas Porz Scientist Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany |
| 11:40 – 12:05 | <i>Ocean deoxygenation (TBC)</i> | Dr Douglas Wallace Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Ocean Science and Technology at Dalhousie University, Canada |
| 12:05 – 12:30 | <i>Climate-Driven Ocean Variability and the Challenge of Monitoring: Lessons from a CCS case study</i> | Dr Katherine Romanak Professor Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas, United States of America |
| 12:30 – 13:00 | <i>Discussion and closing remarks</i> | Dr. Yeon Chang (Second Vice Chair of LC/LP Scientific Groups) Dr. Cristian Mugnai (Chair of LC/LP Scientific Groups) |