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IIOE-2 input opportunity for High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy

- Late last year several countries accepted Norway's invitation to establish a *High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy:* <u>https://oceanpanel.org</u>
- Chaired by the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for the Ocean, the Panel brings together the **Heads of Government from 14 countries (including 3 Indian Ocean countries)**, namely: Australia, Canada, Chile, Fiji, Ghana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Namibia, Norway, Palau, and Portugal.
- The 14 Heads of Government will meet early next year to endorse "bold, pragmatic" recommendations for international action "for Ocean health and wealth that support the Sustainable Development Goals and build a better future for people and planet". Regional (as opposed to unilateral) actions are likely to be given high priority. Accepted recommendations (and financial accompanying investments) will be officially launched at the UN Oceans Summit in mid 2020.
- I've been appointed to the 30-member Expert Group that advises the Panel, and have been tasked with co-leading the development of recommendations focused on "ocean accounting". The scope of this brief is intentionally broad and includes both ocean assessment, and ocean observation systems.
- If IIOE-2 colleagues have ambitious, actionable recommendations concerning ocean science and observation in the Indian Ocean, I can feature these in the ocean accounting recommendations that will be read by the Heads of Government. I'd encourage colleagues to take this as an opportunity to "think big" e.g. what types of ocean observation and supporting infrastructure should the Heads of Government invest money in to address big picture societal issues in the Indian Ocean? What specific policy changes are required to deliver this?

## Science Theme One Synthesis Paper

As per SCOR-led Kiel Germany IIOE-2 Science Planning Workshop, 28-30 Nov 2018: in prep. through liaison with Hermann Bange and Raleigh Hood (IIOE-2 Science and Research WG 1 Co-Chairs)