

9th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction

SIDE EVENT ON

Capacity Development and ABNJ: Regional and National Perspectives Examples from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific Islands

21 January 2015, 1:15 to 2:45 PM

Conference Room 7, United Nations Headquarters

Organized by the Global Ocean Forum and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,
with support from the Global Environment Facility

Capacity Development has been an important topic of discussion in the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (BBNJ) process (e.g., A69/177, paragraphs 71-75). This side event will feature commentaries from ABNJ Regional Leaders from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, Indian Ocean, and Pacific Islands regions, on the challenges and opportunities regarding ABNJ issues and areas facing their countries/regions. The aim of the side event is to contribute national/regional perspectives to the ongoing global discussions on ABNJ.

Presentations will cover: 1) a synopsis of the EEZ/ABNJ context from the perspective of selected regions/nations; 2) discussion of perceived needs for capacity development on ABNJ from regional/national perspectives.

Co-Chairs:

H.E. Mr. Mahe 'U. S. Tupouniua

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Tonga to the United Nations and Chair of the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS)

Dr. Biliana Cicin-Sain

President, Global Ocean Forum

Speakers:

AFRICA (ATLANTIC AND INDIAN OCEAN):

Abou Bamba, Abidjan Convention, Cote d'Ivoire; **Rose Mtui**, National Environment Management Council, Tanzania; **Steven Ambabi**, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia; **Mohammed Badal**, Prime Minister's

Office, Mauritius; **Rodney Quatre**, National Parks Authority, Seychelles (joint presentation)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ATLANTIC):

Andrei Polejack, Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation, Brazil; **Amrikha Singh**, CARICOM Secretariat; **Raymon Van Anrooij**, Netherlands, WECAFC (Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission) (joint presentation)

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS:

Hendra Siry, The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI – CFF) Regional Secretariat, Indonesia; **Zheng Miaozhuang**, Institute for Marine Affairs, China; **T. Suka Mangisi**, Kingdom of Tonga; **Michael Donoghue**, New Zealand, SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme), Samoa (joint presentation)

Perspective on Capacity Development in ABNJ

Merete Tandstad, Fishery Resources Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome

Discussion

About the ABNJ Regional Leaders Program

The **ABNJ Regional Leaders Program** is designed to strengthen the capacity of leaders from developing countries and small island developing States (SIDS) at the regional and national levels to better address resources and issues in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) and to more effectively participate in global and regional ABNJ processes. The first session of the Program is taking place 14-22 January 2015 at the United Nations



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in New York, with participation by the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, the University of Delaware, FAO, IMO, ISA, CBD, UNU, IOC, ICPC, NEAFC, Sargasso Sea Commission, and other organizations. The ABNJ Regional Leaders Program is organized by the GOF/FAO project on ***Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction***, supported by the Global Environment Facility and involving a wide range of partners noted below. The project is part of the *GEF/FAO Program on Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction* (Common Oceans Program) (www.commonoceans.org).

Fourteen ABNJ Regional Leaders (out of a pool of 108 applicants) are participating in the ABNJ Regional Leaders Program, gaining background information and knowledge on ABNJ policy issues across all sectors, especially on fisheries and biodiversity conservation; an understanding of regional and global ABNJ policy frameworks that address ABNJ issues; and an understanding of global ABNJ processes by observing the negotiations of the UN Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (BBNJ). As well, the ABNJ Regional Leaders will have the opportunity to present perspectives from the regional and national levels in a side event at the global negotiations; and are acquiring relevant information that could be applied towards improved regional and national policy-making in relation to the sustainable use of marine resources in ABNJ.

The GEF/FAO/GOF Project on ***Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction*** would like to thank the following project partners:

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat

Deep Sea Conservation Coalition

French Marine Protected Areas Agency

Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC-UNESCO)

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

International Ocean Institute, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IIDDRI)

Nausicaa Centre National de la Mer, France

Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

SeaOrbiter

UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS)

UNESCO Natural Sciences

University of Delaware

Vietnam National University (VNU-University of Science);

Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)

World Ocean Network (WON)

