



Invitation to Informal Meeting of **Friends of BBNJ Capacity Development**

Tuesday, August 27, 2019, 18:15 PM to 19:45 PM

Room S-1522FC/S-1523FC, 15th Floor, UN Secretariat¹

Convenors: Global Ocean Forum and the State of Palestine

PURPOSE: A well-structured BBNJ capacity building system involving global, regional, and national levels, and with adequate and stable financial support, will be essential for achieving the major purposes of the BBNJ Agreement. *Capacity Development and Technology Transfer*, the fourth major issue being addressed in the BBNJ process, is in fact, the “enabler” of the other three major issues (marine genetic resources and access to benefit sharing, area-based management, and environmental impact assessment).

An informal Friends of BBNJ Capacity Building Group is envisaged to bring together Member States, UN agencies, and civil society participants to actively consider and act on ways of advancing capacity building with adequate financing in the BBNJ process.

This meeting provides an informal opportunity for discussing how an informal “Friends” group could assist Member States in achieving, and ultimately implementing, a set of ambitious capacity building measures in the International Agreement, by, e.g.: 1. Providing additional information/knowledge/research on issues requiring additional clarification; 2. Providing a forum for informal discussion of the issues; 3. Promoting pathways for the identification and eventual mobilization of resources from public and private sources to support capacity development and technology transfer.

DRAFT PROGRAM: Brief interventions (1-2) minutes by representatives of member States, UN agencies, and civil society.

SPEAKERS:

Amb. Serge Segura, France; Amb. Olai Uludong, Palau (TBC); Amb. Suka Mangisi, Tonga; Mr. Fuad Bateh, Palestine (G77 Chair); Dr. Biliانا Cicin-Sain, Global Ocean Forum; Mr. Takehiro Nakamura, UN Environment; Mr. Alfonso Ascencio Herrera, ISA; Mr. Philippe Vallette, Nausicaá/World Ocean Network; Prof. Ronan Long, World Maritime University; Dr. Miko Maekawa, OPRI/SPF, Japan; Mr. Fredrik Haag, IMO; Dr. Piero Mannini, FAO; Ms. Kristina Gjerde, IUCN; Ms. Peggy Kalas, High Seas Alliance; Dr. Marjo Vierros, Global Ocean Forum

All interested delegates to the BBNJ Intergovernmental Conference and members of civil society are welcome to participate. Since space is limited, please RSVP to Alexis Maxwell, Global Ocean Forum, alexismaxwell@globoceans.org

¹ Please kindly arrive at the 15th floor room by 7 PM, the elevator in the Secretariat Building doesn't go up (only down) after 7:00 PM.