

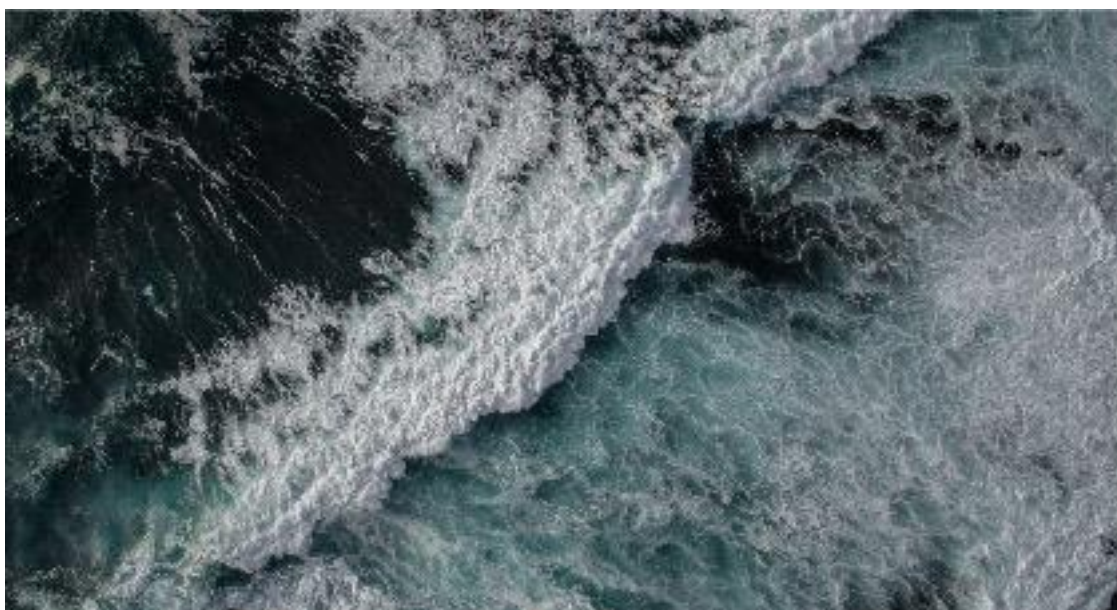
Building a Strong High Seas Treaty: What is the Role for Regional Ocean Governance?

High Level Expert Meeting

Hosted by Germany, the Abidjan Convention Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific and the STRONG High Seas Project

8th September 2018 (9.30 am – 3.30 pm)

Studio Arte, 265 West 37th Street, 17th Floor, New York, USA



09:30 – 09:45	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Guido Genrich, Federal Foreign Office → Abou Bamba, Abidjan Convention Secretariat → Méntor Villagómez Merino, Secretariat of the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific (CPPS) → Sebastian Unger, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)
09:45 – 10:30	Regional Governance of ABNJ: Lessons Learnt & Challenges <i>Round table chaired by Julien Rochette (Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations, IDDRI) with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Mariana Blanco, MarViva Foundation → Richard Cronin, OSPAR Commission → Abou Bamba, Abidjan Convention Secretariat → Ruth Fletcher, UNEP WCMC
10:30 – 11:00	Q&A, discussion
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:15	Underpinning a Strong Global High Seas Agreement on BBNJ through Regional and Sectoral Governance: Possible Options <i>Round table chaired by Sebastian Unger (Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, IASS) with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Kristina Gjerde, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) → Glen Wright, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) → John Brincat, European Commission → Edvard Hviding, Scientific Advisor to the Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations
12:15 – 13:00	Q&A and Discussion
13:00 – 13:45	Lunch
13:45 – 14:30	The contribution of ongoing processes to strengthening governance of ABNJ <i>Round table chaired by Ben Boteler (Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, IASS) with</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Jihyun Lee, CBD Secretariat → Julie Rigaud, IOC UNESCO → Renée Sauvé, Fisheries and Oceans, Canada → Finnian Cheshire, New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations
14:30 – 15:15	Q&A and Discussion
15:15 – 15:30	Closure of the Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Nicola Breier, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) → Abou Bamba, Abidjan Convention Secretariat → Méntor Villagómez Merino, Secretariat of the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific (CPPS) → Sebastian Unger, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)

Meeting objective

It will provide an informal space for delegations and participants to the Intergovernmental Conference on BBNJ to discuss the role and contribution of regional ocean governance in developing and underpinning the implementation of a strong high seas agreement.

Background

Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) cover about half of the planet's surface, have high biodiversity and deliver important ecosystem services. While there is a growing economic and political interest in exploitation of marine resources in ABNJ, there is to date no comprehensive global instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in these areas (BBNJ). To this end, the negotiations agreed by UNGA Resolution 72/249 and starting in September 2018 aim at a global and legally binding agreement under UNCLOS to ensure and put into practice enhanced and cross-sectoral co-operation. An effective implementation of the global agreement will need to be supported by the competence, capacity and expertise of regional and sectoral ocean governance mechanisms. Hence, strengthening regional and sectoral ocean governance contributes to the objectives and functions of the new BBNJ Implementing Agreement.

About the STRONG High Seas project

The STRONG High Seas project is a five-year project that aims to strengthen regional ocean governance for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ. Working with the Secretariat of the Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS; Permanent Commission for the South Pacific) and the Secretariat of the West and Central Africa Regional Seas Programme (Abidjan Convention), it brings together key science and policy actors in the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic regions to develop and propose targeted measures to support the coordinated development of integrated and ecosystem-based management approaches for ocean governance in ABNJ.

The STRONG High Seas project is coordinated by the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) and implemented together with the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), BirdLife International, the International Ocean Institute (IOI) – Southern Africa, the Universidad Católica del Norte (UCN), WWF Colombia, and WWF Germany.

For more information about the STRONG High Seas project, please visit: <https://www.prog-ocean.org/our-work/strong-high-seas/> or contact: stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de.

Partners of the STRONG High Seas project



ABIDJAN CONVENTION
CONVENTION D'ABIDJAN



International Ocean Institute
African Region



Supported by:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

The STRONG High Seas project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI; www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/). The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.