

Strengthening MCS through a High Seas Treaty

Tuesday 17 November 2020 – 16:00-17:30 CET

English-speaking webinar, with simultaneous translation in Spanish on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/w/89738794024>

Introduction (5 mins)

- **Glen**
 - Welcome, STRONG High Seas project
 - Overview of UN negotiations & MCS

Speakers (~15 mins each)

- **Tony**
 - Introduction to MCS technologies, GFW's work
 - Overview of GFW country partnerships, e.g. Chile, Panama and Peru
 - Need to build capacity: technology transfer, data collection and sharing, cooperation
- **Klaudija**
 - Overview of existing MCS frameworks and challenges for effective MCS on the high seas
 - Opportunities to strengthen MCS on the high seas
- **Sophie**
 - Recap of the status of the negotiations (IGC 4 postponed, informal discussions taking place)
 - Overview of EU's position/proposals in the BBNJ negotiations
 - Thoughts on how MCS fits into these proposals

Discussion (~40 mins, proposed moderator questions below + audience questions)

- **Tony**
 - To what extent has/can increased transparency improve the situation on the water?
 - Technology/transparency appears to be advancing faster than legal regulations – so what role for treaties?
 - What do you see as the future role of civil society in national and regional MCS policies? (e.g. MoU with PACIFICO to collaborate with Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador and Panama on joint strategy to improve transparency and regional fisheries management, strengthen MCS capacity)
- **Klaudija**
 - Given the late stage of the negotiations, what are the prospects for inclusion of your proposals in a new treaty?
 - What are some best practices that have strengthened MCS?

- What is the role of regional fisheries management organisations in strengthening MCS?
- **Sophie**
 - Reaction to Klaudija's proposals? (e.g. MCS in the clearing-house mechanism, requiring an MCS strategy for MPA proposals)
 - What type of support does the EU provide to strengthen MCS on the high seas? (e.g. through the European Fisheries Control Agency and the EU's work on international ocean governance)
 - Can you give us an update on the negotiations on the revision of the EU's Control Regulation? How will this revision strengthen MCS?