



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

**INFORMAL INTERSESSIONAL BBNJ HIGH SEAS TREATY DIALOGUES****MAY AGENDA**

The informal intersessional BBNJ High Seas Treaty Dialogues on 23, 24 and 25 May 2022 will pick up on discussions at the fourth session of the BBNJ Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) on marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits, capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology, as well as financial resources and mechanism(s), environmental impact assessments, and measures such as area-based management tools, including marine protected areas.

The Dialogues are aimed at providing delegations with an opportunity to have an exchange of views regarding proposals they made during and/or after IGC 4, and, if available, also the President's revised draft text of an agreement for the fifth session of the IGC.

23 May: Marine Genetic Resources, including Questions on the Sharing of Benefits (3 hours)

The 3-hour dialogue will start at 14:00 CEST / 08:00 EDT / 20:00 SGT

Moderated by Ms. Gabrielle Goettsche-Wanli

The dialogue will have two parts: a presentation on scientific aspects and Q&A with Professor Marcel Jaspers, followed by an exchange of views among delegations on marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits.

The dialogue is aimed at providing delegations with an opportunity to have an exchange of views regarding proposals they made during and/or after IGC 4, and, if available, also the President's revised draft text of an agreement for the fifth session of the IGC.

While delegations are welcome to address any aspect of this element of the package, the organizers invite delegations to begin the discussions with an exchange of views on operationalizing the fair and equitable sharing of benefits, and monitoring and transparency.

24 May: Capacity-building and the Transfer of Marine Technology, as well as Financial Resources and Mechanism(s) (3 hours)

The 3-hour dialogue will start at 14:00 CEST / 08:00 EDT / 20:00 SGT

Moderated by Mr. Eden Charles

The dialogue will have two parts: A presentation by expert Marjo Vierros exploring financial mechanisms that have been able to support capacity building, what made them effective and what challenges they have faced. A representative from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Ms. Chizuru Aoki, an environment specialist leading on GEF's engagement with Multilateral Environmental Agreements, will also join the dialogue with a structured intervention.



This will be followed by an exchange of views among delegations on discussion on Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Marine Technology, as well as on Financial Resources and Mechanism(s).

The dialogue is aimed at providing delegations with an opportunity to have an exchange of views regarding proposals they made during and/or after IGC 4, and, if available, also the President's revised draft text of an agreement for the fifth session of the IGC.

While delegations are welcome to address any aspect of this element of the package, the organizers invite delegations to discuss elements that are essential to ensuring capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, including a financial mechanism(s) that is fit for purpose.

25 May: Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) (2 hours)

The 3-hour dialogue will start at 14:00 CEST / 08:00 EDT / 20:00 SGT

Moderated by Ms. Gabrielle Goettsche-Wanli

The dialogue is aimed at providing delegations with an opportunity to have an exchange of views regarding proposals they made during and/or after IGC 4, and, if available, also the President's revised draft text of an agreement for the fifth session of the IGC.

While delegations are welcome to address any aspect of this element of the package, the organizers invite delegations to begin the discussions with an exchange of views on the pros and cons of a Conference of Parties (COP)-led and of a State-led EIA process, and the relationship between the EIA processes under relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies and the processes under the future BBNJ agreement.

25 May: Area-Based Management Tools (ABMTs), including Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) (1 hour)

Moderated by Mr. Eden Charles

The dialogue is aimed at providing delegations with an opportunity to have an exchange of views regarding proposals they made during and/or after IGC 4, and, if available, also the President's revised draft text of an agreement for the fifth session of the IGC.

While delegations are welcome to address any aspect of this element of the package, the organizers invite delegations to begin the discussions with an exchange of views on definitions and decision-making (including questions around voting and 'opt-out' clauses) with respect to area-based management tools, including Marine Protected Areas.