

BBNJ IGC-2 Side Event

Facilitating Capacity Development, Transfer of Marine Technology and Ocean Science in BBNJ

Ocean Networks Canada

WED 27 March 2019

1:15 – 2:45 pm

UN HQ conference room 12

There is a continuous need to ensure that the best available scientific knowledge is generated and used to support the elements of a future BBNJ instrument, requiring the establishment of a robust science-policy interface at the core of the governance structure of the instrument. Moreover, through science, new knowledge to address current gaps and uncertainty will be generated. Therefore, ocean science could be a unifying focus for this new agreement. In this context, ocean science should be interpreted broadly as including social sciences and human dimensions; the infrastructure that supports ocean science (observations, data systems); the application of those sciences for societal benefit, including transfer/application in regions/situations that hitherto have not benefitted; and the science-policy/user interface.

Several Member States have identified the IOC Criteria and Guidelines for the Transfer of Marine Technology as a guiding principle that could be applied in the context of a new BBNJ instrument – recognizing that marine technology includes more than physical infrastructure –, but also access to data and information, technical know-how, manuals, guides, standards and best practices. The potential contribution of IOC of UNESCO will be through the establishment of clearing house for transfer of marine technology, its work in training and capacity building, as well as the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) as an effective global platform involving a network of national authorities for the sharing of marine biodiversity data and information.

The purpose of the side event is therefore to articulate the science requirements underpinning BBNJ issues and exploring how the IOC and the UN Decade of Ocean Science could facilitate and coordinate marine scientific research to advance our scientific knowledge. It is furthermore the intention to show how the work of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), a global organization that develops science and advice to support the sustainable use of the oceans, provides an international platform for developing science and advice of relevance to all oceans, including areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). The side event will illustrate the process from the collection and processing of samples, the analyses, management and publication of the data through open-access data systems and subsequently, once data is available, how these can contribute to science-policy applications, including area-based management tools, to support effective monitoring, assessment and regulation.

Programme

Welcoming Remarks

- Ariel Troisi, Vice-chair IOC of UNESCO

Panel Presentations

Introduction to facilitating Capacity Development, Transfer of Marine Technology and Ocean Science in BBNJ

- Ariel Troisi (Naval Hydrographic Service, Argentina & IOC Vice-Chair)

The UN Decade for Ocean Science and the role of IOC in facilitating and coordinating international cooperation in Marine Scientific Research

- Kristina Gjerde (IUCN & DOSI)

Cruises, collections and data: enabling ocean science and sharing benefits from MGR

- Muriel Rabone (NHM London & DOSI)

A data and information Clearing-House Mechanism, examples from IOC

- Ward Appeltans (IOC-UNESCO/OBIS)

From data to science, to scientific evidence as a basis for decision-making on sustainable use of the ocean

- Anne Christine Brusendorff (ICES)

Open forum

Concluding remarks

This event is organized by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO and its Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS), in cooperation with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) and the Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI)



International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
Conseil International pour l'Exploration de la Mer



Contacts on organisational and substantive matters

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