

# Status of the BBNJ Process

WORKSHOP SIDS CAPACITY-DEVELOPMENT ASPECTS IN THE BBNJ  
PREPCOM, 7 – 9 March 2017,

Brussels, Belgium

*Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea  
(DOALOS), Office of Legal Affairs  
United Nations*



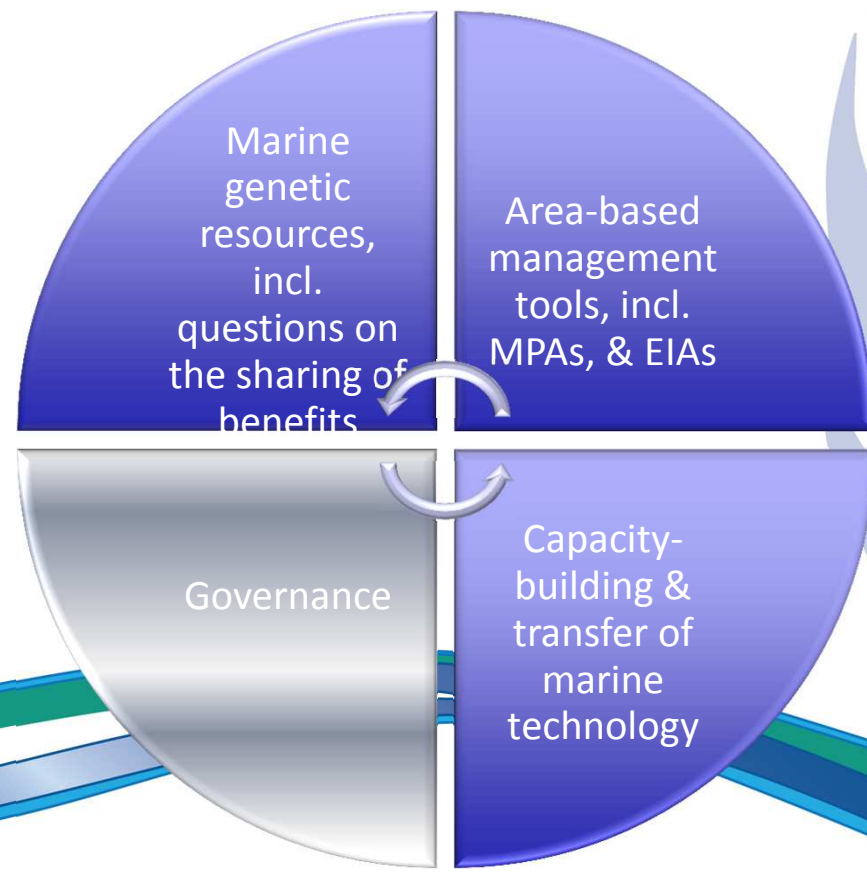
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# The UNGA process so far



- ❑ Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (2006 - 2015)
- ❑ Preparatory Committee (resolution 69/292)



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# BBN Working Group (2006-2015)

## Exploration of issues

2006

List of  
studies

2008

Environmental impacts of  
anthropogenic activities

Coordination and  
cooperation

Area-based management  
tools

Genetic resources

Whether there is a  
governance or regulatory  
gap, and if so, how it should  
be addressed

2010

recommendations

Strengthening information base  
Capacity-building and technology  
transfer

Cooperation and coordination in  
implementation

Cooperation and coordination for  
integrated ocean management and  
ecosystem approaches

Environmental impact assessments

Area-based management tools, in  
particular marine protected areas

Marine genetic resources

Way forward



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## BBNJ Working Group (2006-2015)

2011

Package  
of issues

2012

Rio +20

2013

Workshops

2014

Scope  
parameters  
feasibility

2015

Recommendations



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## **GA resolution 69/292: Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction**

- ☐ Decision to develop an international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction
- ☐ Establishment of a Preparatory Committee (Prep Com)
- ☐ Not to undermine existing relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional and sectoral bodies
- ☐ Legal status of non-parties/parties to the Convention or any other related agreements
- ☐ Voluntary trust fund
- ☐ GA to decide on convening Conference before the end of its 72nd session





# General Assembly resolution 69/292 (cont.)

## ☐ Prep Com

- ☐ Topics to be addressed: package agreed in 2011
- ☐ Exhaustion of every effort to reach agreement on substantive matters by consensus
- ☐ Report on progress by the end of 2017 & making substantive recommendations to the General Assembly
- ☐ No less than 2 sessions of 10 working days each in 2016 as well as in 2017.
- ☐ Participation by all States members of UN, members of specialized agencies, Parties to UNCLOS; IGOs and NGOs invited as observers
- ☐ One Chair: H.E. Ambassador Carlos Duarte, Brazil – 2017 (H. E. Eden Charles, Trinidad and Tobago, 2016)
- ☐ DOALOS designated as secretariat of the Prep Com



# Prep Com to date

First session (28 March – 8 April 2016)

- Informal working groups on each issue of the package: MGR, including questions on the sharing of benefits; measures such as ABMT, including MPA; EIA; and CB and TMT

Chair's overview (Compilation of issues raised; Chair's reflections)

Second session (26 August - 9 September 2016)

- Chair's suggestions of possible issues and questions
- Informal working groups on each issue of the package & Informal working group on cross-cutting issues
- Chair's understandings of possible areas of convergence and possible issues for further discussion

- Chair's overview (Chair's understandings of possible areas of convergence of views and possible issues for further discussion emanating from the discussions in the Informal working groups)
- Rolling compilation
- Chair's non-paper



# Chair's non-paper

- **a structured presentation** of the issues and ideas
- **Chair's clustering** of proposed elements
- **a reference document** (not a negotiating document!)
- **Content is without prejudice** to positions of delegations



# Chair's non-paper: Capacity-building and transfer of Marine technology

- Objectives of capacity-building and transfer of marine technology
- 2. Scope of capacity building and technology transfer
  - *2.1 Capacity-building*
  - *2.2 Technology transfer*
- 3. Principles guiding capacity-building and transfer of marine technology
- 4. Types of and modalities for capacity-building and technology transfer
- 5. Repository / clearing-house mechanism
- 6. Funding
- 7. Monitoring, review and follow-up



## What next?

- ☐ 2 Prep Com sessions in 2017  
(27 March-7 April and 10- 21 July)
- ☐ Prep Com adoption of recommendations to the GA
- ☐ Prep Com report to the GA end of 2017
- ☐ GA to make decision on conference by mid-September 2018



***Thank you for your attention!***

**BBNJ Prep Com webpage:  
<http://www.un.org/depts/los/biodiversity/prepcom.htm>**



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