

Universiteit Utrecht



Protecting deep seabed ecosystems under the future Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of BBNJ and by the ISA – Perspectives of Government, Civil Society, Stakeholders, and Law and Science

Online workshop, 13-15 December 2021

Organized by the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea (NILOS), the Utrecht Centre for Water, Oceans and Sustainability Law (UCWOSL) of Utrecht University, and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs in collaboration with The Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ)



Program of the Workshop

(provisional – version 3 December 2021)

Monday 13 December 2021

- 13:45-14:00 Online check-in
- 14:00-14:15 Welcome and introduction of the workshop

Alex Oude Elferink (NILOS and UCWOSL)

Jeroen Gutter (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands)

14:15-16:15 Session 1 – The ISA and the future Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of BBNJ

Moderator: Alex Oude Elferink (NILOS and UCWOSL)

• Including an Introduction to the BBNJ and ISA processes

Panelists:

Wini Broadbelt (Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands)

"The not undermine provision(s) in the draft BBNJ Implementing Agreement: sense or non-sense?"

Thembile Joyini (Department of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa) "Marine Genetic Resources in Areas beyond National Jurisdiction"

10 min health break

Pradeep Singh (University of Bremen) "The International Seabed Authority: Mandate, institutional arrangements and environmental responsibilities"

Commentary by **Lowri Griffiths** (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom)

Plenary discussion

16:15-16.30 Health break

16:30-18.00 Session 2 – The role of civil society, stakeholders and science in the protection of deep seabed ecosystems: perspectives on the BBNJ process, the future Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of BBNJ and the ISA

Moderator: Catherine Blanchard (NIOZ/UU)

Panelists:

Anna Metaxas (Dalhousie University) "Ecological connections between the Area and the High Seas: considerations for management"

Laurens de Jonge (Royal IHC) "Developing activities on the high seas: the Deep Sea Mining example"

10 min health break

Duncan Currie (Deep Sea Conservation Coalition) "Civil society and transparency in the future BBNJ Agreement and implications for the ISA"

Plenary discussion

18.00 Closing of the day

Tuesday 14 December 2021

- 13:45-14:00 Online check-in
- 14:00-15.45 Session 3 ABMTs and MPAs and their relationship

Moderator: Erik Molenaar (NILOS and UCWOSL)

Panelists: Elisabetta Menini (Duke University) "The Global Management of Deep Seabed Hydrothermal Vents"

Catherine Blanchard (NIOZ/UU) and **Lise Klunder** (NIOZ) "Protecting Deep Seabed Hydrothermal Vent Fields through Area-Based Management Tools"

10 min health break

Malou van Kempen (WWF Netherlands) "An interconnected system - the threat of jeopardizing current conservation measures including MPAs"

Plenary discussion

- 15.45-16.00 Health break
- 16:00-17.45 Session 4 The EBSA process and the ISA

Moderator: Erik Molenaar (NILOS and UCWOSL)

Panelists: **Daniela Diz** (Heriot Watt University) "An introduction to EBSAs: Their legal basis and the evolution of the EBSA process under the CBD"

Kristina Gjerde (IUCN Global Marine and Polar Programme) "Responsibility for conserving marine biodiversity in ABNJ: case study on CBD EBSAs, ISA and the BBNJ Agreement"

10 min health break

Pat Halpin (Duke University) "The scientific process for describing CBD EBSAs versus ISA Sites and Areas in Need of Protection"

Plenary discussion

17.45 Closing of the day

Wednesday 15 December 2021

13:45-14:00 Online check-in

14:00-15:45 Session 5 – The work on REMPs and APEIs in the framework of the ISA, with a focus on the work on the Clarion-Clipperton Zone and Mid-Atlantic Ridge from a comparative perspective

Moderator: Alex Oude Elferink (NILOS and UCWOSL)

Panelists: Sabine Gollner (NIOZ) "Scientific data for effective REMPs"

Harald Ginzky (German Environment Agency) "Perspectives from policy-making" (title to be confirmed)

10 min health break

Samantha Smith (Global Sea Mineral Resources) "The Clarion Clipperton Zone REMP - part of the environmental obligations in the Area" – online

Matthew Gianni (Deep Sea Conservation Coalition) "REMPs, APEIs and the conservation of biodiversity in the marine environment"

Plenary discussion

15:45-16:00 Closing of the workshop