

Common Oceans: Why Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Are Essential for People and Planet

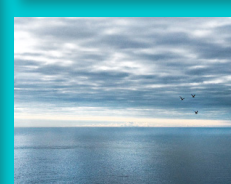
High-Level Dialogue and Global Media Forum

*On the Occasion of the Inauguration of the World's First-Ever
Large-Scale High Seas Aquarium and Exhibit*

26-28 June 2018

**NAUSICAA, The French National Sea Center
Boulogne-sur-Mer, France**

*Organized by the Common Oceans Program through the
GEF/FAO/GOF ABNJ Capacity Development Project*



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Global Ocean
Forum



Nausicaá
La Mer est sur Terre



www.fao.org/in-action/commonoceans

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Background

The Common Oceans ABNJ Program, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), works towards achieving efficient and sustainable use of fisheries resources and biodiversity conservation in the marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) by fostering international cross-sectoral cooperation and information-sharing, increasing capacities to sustainably manage ABNJ, and promoting an ecosystem approach for sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation in ABNJ.

Covering 62 percent of the surface of the oceans, and nearly 95 percent of its volume, ABNJ includes complex ecosystems at vast distances from coasts, making sustainable management and biodiversity conservation difficult, but imperative for planetary survival and for human wellbeing.

The complex ecosystems in the ABNJ are subject to a variety of challenges and threats from human activities in many sectors, from shipping to marine pollution to overfishing, and the list of threats is likely to increase with time. But above all, the seriousness of these threats on the health of the oceans is compounded by the weak implementation of regulatory frameworks and management options and by a general lack of coordinated, cohesive and integrated interventions. Without urgent action, unsustainable management will have devastating results on marine biodiversity, and the socio-economic well-being and food security of the millions of people directly dependent on ABNJ resources.

Moreover, the problems facing the ABNJ are multi-faceted, cutting across the very interests of the diverse array of stakeholders, all of whom have different priorities and agendas. These include industries and fishers themselves, artisanal and industrial, conservationists, marine shipping, the Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs), representing the coastal countries as well as the distant water fishing nations. The Common Oceans ABNJ Program plays a key role in building and improving cross-sectoral multi-stakeholder dialogue, engaging high-level decision-makers, and contributing to information sharing and public awareness of ABNJ issues.

As part of planned public outreach activities and exhibits, the Common Oceans ABNJ Project on Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage ABNJ,¹ in close collaboration with fellow Common Oceans ABNJ Projects,² and partners NAUSICAA³ and the World Ocean Network.⁴ will showcase the major issues facing the ABNJ and insights derived through the Common Oceans ABNJ Program at the newly-opened large-scale High Seas Aquarium inaugurated at NAUSICAA in May 2018. The meeting will bring together high-level experts working on ABNJ as well as media practitioners.

The NAUSICAA Opportunity

This first-ever high seas aquarium opened in May 2018 at NAUSICAA, Boulogne-sur-Mer, France. Encompassing 35,000 square meters, this new addition to NAUSICAA makes it Europe's largest aquarium, highlighting the relationship between mankind and the high seas, where visitors can discover this unique marine environment in a fun, educational, and scientific way. The new building housing the high seas exhibit, built by noted architect Jacques Rougerie, is shaped like a manta ray and contains one of the world's largest aquaria, including nearly 60,000 sea creatures and a large-scale 10,000m³ capacity tank. NAUSICAA's intent in creating the exhibit is to rally the public around efforts to improve the way in which oceans and their resources are managed, with emphasis on the areas beyond national jurisdiction which lie outside the control of any one nation.

Registration for the meeting. Registration is mandatory to allow for access into the building and to all the social events. Please register on the Nausicaá site at this link: <https://www.eventbrite.fr/e/billets-high-seas-international-conference-the-challenges-of-the-high-seas-public-event-46439045435?aff=es2>

Schedule at-a-Glance

June 26, 2018, 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Pre-Conference Global Media Workshop, Océan Indien Conference Room

June 27, 2018, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Common Oceans High-Level Dialogue and Global Media Forum, Océan Atlantique Conference Room (*see draft schedule below*)

June 27, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM, Highlighting the UNESCO World Heritage Convention for High Seas Conservation (*organized by UNESCO World Heritage Centre*), Océan Atlantique Conference Room

June 27, 7:30 PM, Cocktail and Visit of the High Seas Exhibit

June 28, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Follow-up Media Workshop

June 28, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Perspectives on Area-Based Management Tools for ABNJ; Trans-Atlantic Assessment and Deep-Water Ecosystem-Based Spatial Management Plan (*organized by Nausicaá, the French Agency for Biodiversity, the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative*)

¹ The Common Oceans ABNJ Capacity Development Project is jointly executed by the Global Ocean Forum and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

² Fellow Common Oceans ABNJ Projects include Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity, Sustainable use of Deep-Sea Living Resources and Biodiversity, and Ocean Partnerships for Sustainable Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation

³ NAUSICAA, the French National Sea Center, is the largest marine aquarium in France. The name Nausicaá was inspired by Homer's Odyssey whereby a princess resembling a goddess with the same namesake falls in love with a stranded Odysseus. After staying on the beach for three years, Odysseus is guided home with the help of Nausicaá. The name is meant to evoke a sense of poetry, the sea, and adventure.

⁴ The World Ocean Network (WON) is an international association, representing over 400 museums and aquaria around the world, working to raise public awareness about the importance of the ocean for humanity and the impact that our everyday actions can have on the marine environment.

June 28, 2:30 PM to 5:30 PM, Socio-Economic Contributions to the Negotiations on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (organized by Nausicaá and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

June 28, 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM, High Seas Public Evening Dinner Event (organized by Nausicaá)

June 27, 2018

Main Event on Common Oceans: Why Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Are Essential for People and Planet

9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Océan Atlantique Conference Room

8:30 AM
Registration, Coffee

9:00 to 9:30 AM
Opening

Welcome: Dr. Biliانا Cicin-Sain, Global Ocean Forum, Tina Farmer, FAO, Philippe Vallette, NAUSICAA

Welcome remarks, Mayor of Boulogne-sur-Mer Frédéric Cuvillier

Special Address: H.E. Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General Special Envoy for Ocean, *The Global Ocean Agenda (video)*

9:30 to 11:00 AM
Session 1: Setting the Scene: The Values and Issues Surrounding Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)

Chair: H.E. Ambassador Serge Segura, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of France

Dr. David Johnson, Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative, *Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction: Why Should We Care?*

Mr. Romain Trouble, Director General, Tara Expeditions, *What Our Oceans are Suffering—Climate Change, Marine Pollution, Plastics: The Findings of the Tara Expeditions*

Ms. Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli, Director, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, United Nations, *Outlook for the Negotiations on a New International Legally Binding Agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction*

Dr. Biliانا Cicin-Sain, President, Global Ocean Forum, *The Central Importance of Building Capacity for Understanding and Managing Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction*

Mr. Philippe Vallette, General Manager, Nausicaá, *Public Understanding Underpins Wise Management of the ABNJ*

11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Session 2: Tell Your Story: Common Oceans Experiences

Chair: Dr. Alejandro Anganuzzi, FAO, Coordinator, Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project, *The Common Oceans Program: Key Messages for ABNJ Management*

Ms. Corli Pretorius, Deputy Director, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre, *Toward Area-Based Planning in ABNJ*

Mr. Ludovic Schultz, Secretariat de la Mer, Prime Minister's Office, France, *Challenges in Achieving Concerted Public Action in ABNJ*

Mr. Tony Thompson, FAO Deep Seas Consultant and VME expert, *Deep Seas Fisheries and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs)*

Ms. Lizanne Aching, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations and Negotiator for Trinidad and Tobago for BBNJ and other Law of the Sea Processes, New York, *Trinidad and Tobago—Challenges and Opportunities in ABNJ*

Dr. Vishwanie Maharaj, World Wildlife Fund, World Bank ABNJ Ocean Partnership Project, *Public-Private Partnerships for Sustainable Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation*

Dr. Shelley Clarke, FAO Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project Technical Coordinator— *Other Fish in the Sea: Shark Conservation in the ABNJ*

Mr. Cyrille Barnerias, Senior Environmental Specialist, Global Environment Facility, *Perspectives on ABNJ in GEF-7*

12:30 to 2:00 PM

Lunch and High Seas Exhibit Visit

2:00 to 3:30 PM

Session 3: Panel Discussion on Opportunities and Solutions to ABNJ Challenges

Moderator: Dr. William Emerson, Project Manager, Common Oceans ABNJ Deep Seas Project

Mr. Eric Banel, Secretariat de la Mer, Prime Minister's Office, France, past chair, Federation of Shipping Organizations, France, *The Solutions to ABNJ and the Contribution of the Blue Economy*

Ms. Christine Valentin, World Ocean Council, *Mobilizing the Essential Leadership and Collaboration of the Ocean Business Community*

Mr. Ivan Lopez, International Coalition of Fisheries Associations (ICFA), Spain, *Perspectives of the Fishing Industry*

Mr. Alejandro Anganuzzi, FAO, Coordinator, Common Oceans, ABNJ Tuna Project, *Enhancing Compliance and Enforcement*

Ms. Safiya Sawney, Director, Blue Initiative, Grenada, *Building the Blue Economy: Linking National and ABNJ Initiatives*

Mr. Herman Wisse, Managing Director, Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative, Netherlands, *Affective Supply Chain Assurance and ABNJ*

Mr. Ram Boojh, Advisor, Society for Environment Education & Development (SEED), Lucknow, India, Former Science Specialist, UNESCO, *Creating Media and Information Literacy about Common Oceans (Video)*

3:30 to 4:30 PM

Global Media Forum: An Interactive Exchange Between the Media and ABNJ Experts

Mr. Lambert Wilson, French Actor/Director and Activist (*video*)

Keynote Speaker: Mr. James Honeyborne, Executive Producer, BBC Blue Planet II Series

Moderators: Dr. David Dunkley Gyimah, Head of the Digital Interactive Storytelling LAB, University of Westminster, and Ms. Tina Farmer, FAO, Lead Technical Officer, Common Oceans ABNJ Capacity Development Project

Interactive discussion between the media and experts on ABNJ issues.

Common Oceans Meeting Closing

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More information on the UNESCO and AFB sessions : <https://www.nausicaa.fr/save-the-date-rencontres-internationales-de-haute-mer/>

*The event will be translated in both English and French.

For further information, contact:

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