



# **Abidjan Convention Scoping Workshop on ABNJ**

**17<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting of the Regional Seas  
Conventions and Action Plans, 20-22  
October 2015, Istanbul, Turkey**

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Abidjan COP 11 (March 2015): Decision CP. 11/10 on the Conservation and Sustainable use of Marine Biodiversity of the Areas Located beyond National Jurisdictions

Creation of a working group to study all aspects of the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ within the framework of the Abidjan Convention

Which mandate for this Working Group? Which “aspects” to study? Which programme of work?

# Objectives of the workshop

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- To update participants on the negotiation process towards the elaboration of an UNCLOS IA
- To inform participants on existing regional initiatives in ABNJ, e.g. in the North-East Atlantic, Mediterranean, the Southern Ocean, Sargasso Sea regions
- To elaborate draft terms of reference (ToR) for the Working Group, as well as its draft programme of work (PoW), for consideration by the Abidjan Convention Parties.

# The scoping workshop

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20-21 June 2015, Mahe, Seychelles

Contracting Parties: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, Namibia, Senegal

Experts from RAMPAAO, DOALOS, WCMC, CBD, IOI South Africa, GRID Arendal, GOBI, World Maritime University, University of Pretoria

# Outcomes and next steps

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A fruitful first round of discussions on the possible ABNJ activities to be developed within the Abidjan Convention framework

ToR and PoW for the regional Working Group

Next Abidjan Convention bureau meeting:

- Approval of the WG ToR and PoW
- Steps towards the implementation the ToR and PoW



# Thank you!

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