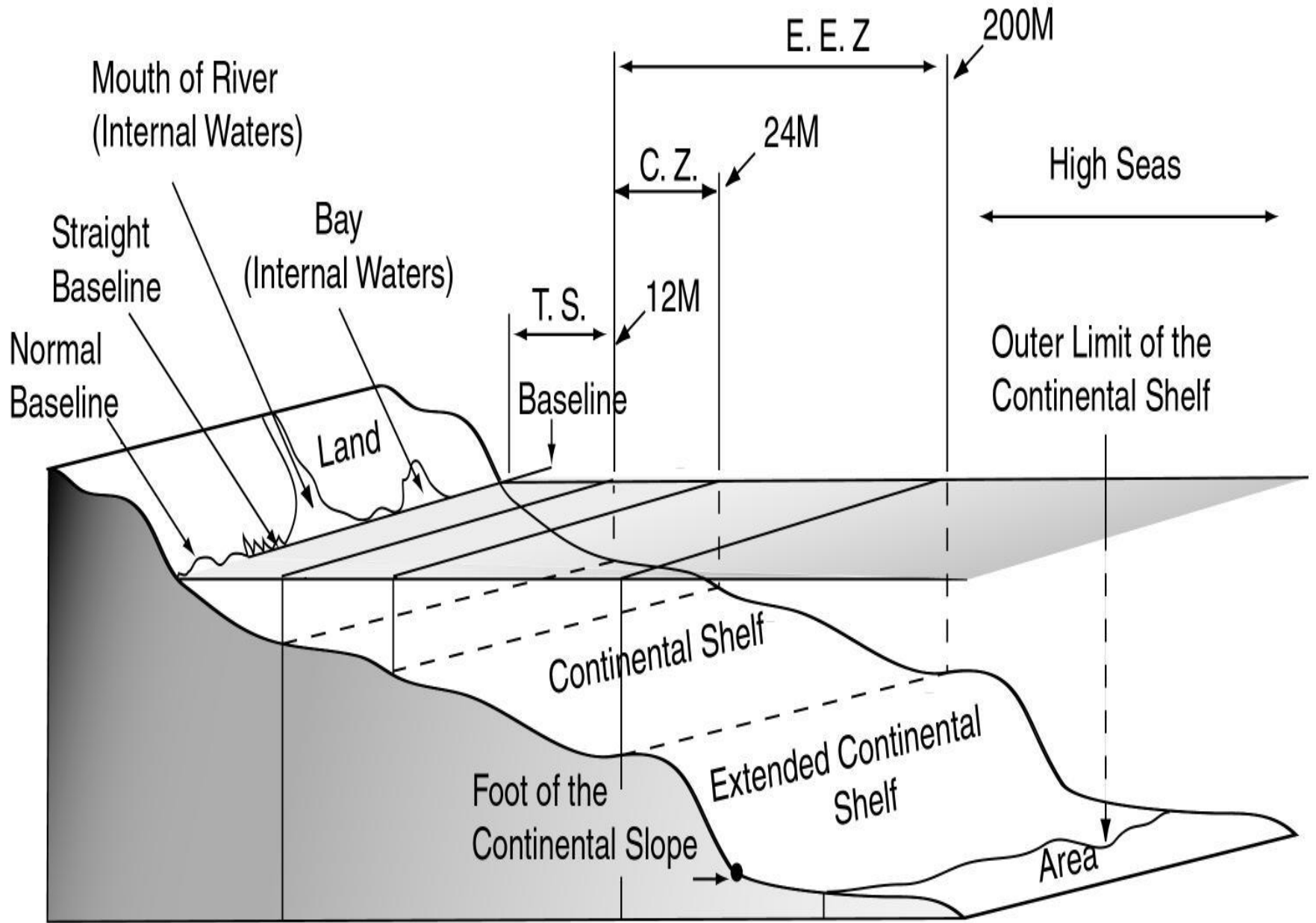




# Update on the “BBNJ” Preparatory Committee (Resolution 69/292)

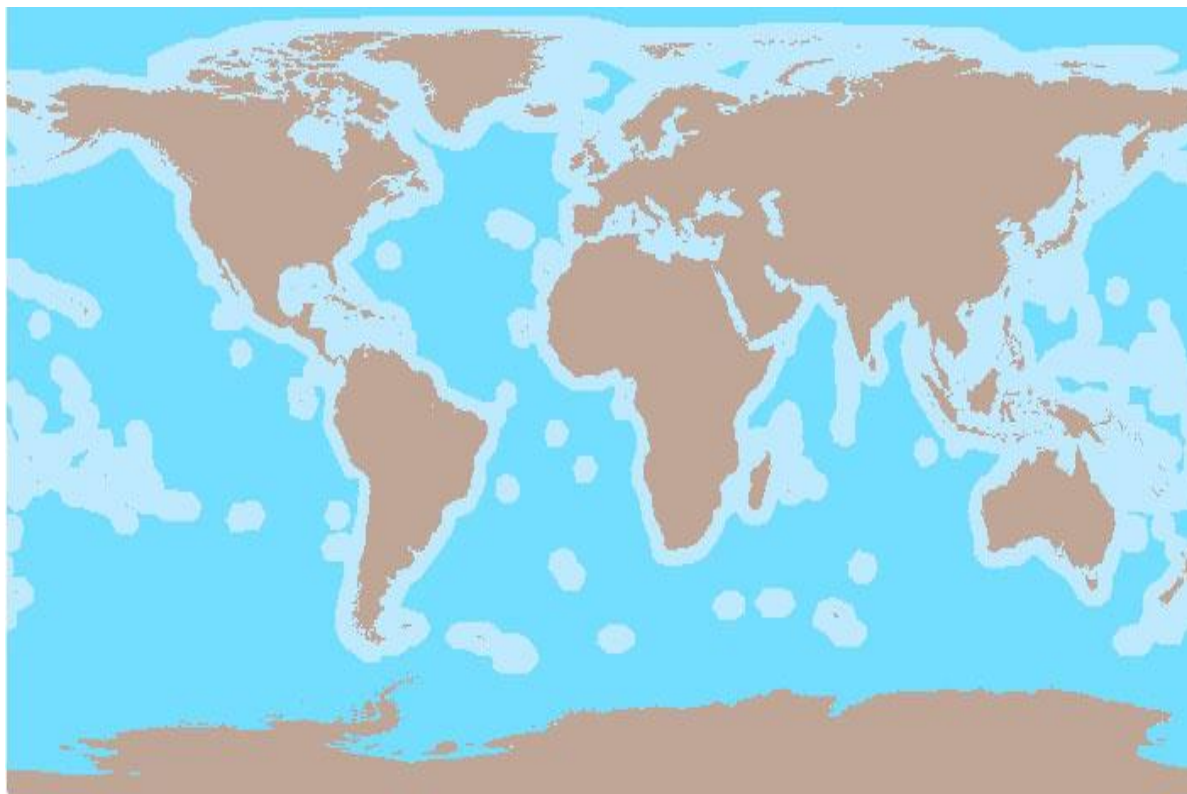
*Charlotte Salpin, Legal Officer*

*September 2016*



## Areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ)

Prep Com discussions



■ EEZ ■ High Seas

*Legend: hypothetical overview of repartition of oceans among high seas areas and EEZ if all EEZ had been declared up to 200M*

Nearly 2/3  
of the  
oceans are  
areas  
beyond  
national  
jurisdiction

...



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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)

## GA resolution 69/292

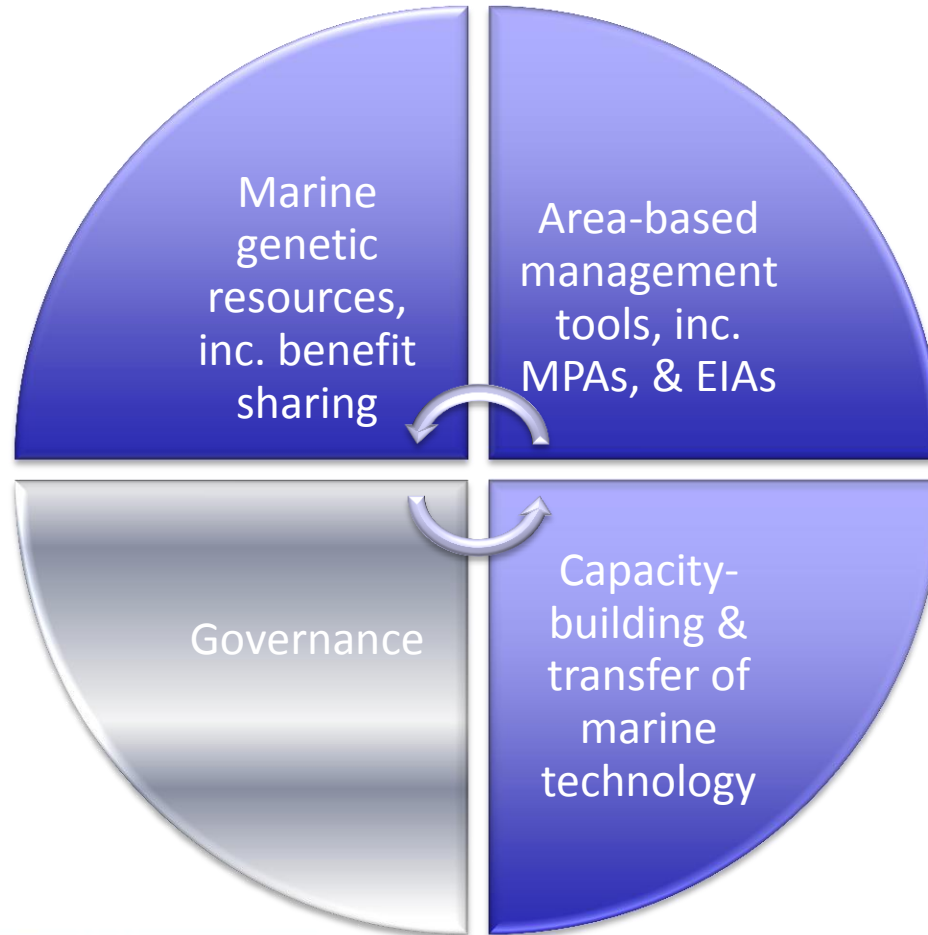
- ❑ Decides to develop an international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on BBNJ
- ❑ Establishes a Preparatory Committee to make substantive recommendations on elements of a draft text
- ❑ GA to decide on intergovernmental conference by end of 72nd session (i.e. by mid-Sept. 2018)

# **GA resolution 69/292**

## ***Preparatory Committee***

- Process should not undermine existing relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional and sectoral bodies
- Legal status of Parties and non-parties to UNCLOS or any other related agreements not affected by participation in the negotiations or their outcome
- Negotiations to address the 2011 package of issues

# The package of issues



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# Prep Com I (March-April 2016)

- Informal working groups on each issue of the package
- Chair's overview (Compilation of issues raised; Chair's reflections)



*Photo by IISD/ENB / Mike Muzurakis*



## **Prep Com II (August-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

## What next?

- Prep Com II follow-up
  - ✓ Chair's reflections
  - ✓ Compilation of proposals on elements
  - ✓ Chair's paper on elements

## What next?

- Submission of views on elements
- 2 Prep Com sessions in 2017
- Prep Com report to the GA end of 2017
- GA to make decision on conference by mid-September 2018

<http://www.un.org/depts/los/biodiversity/prepcom.htm>

