

**CPR Briefing on
the First Session of the
Preparatory Commission for the Entry into
Force of the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable
Use of Marine Biological Diversity of
Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement)**

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**Our Blue Horizon: in support of
The race to 60 ratifications by UNOC3, early
action and beyond**



An underwater photograph showing a large school of small fish swimming in clear blue water. In the foreground, a semi-circular arrangement of white plastic cups is visible, likely representing marine litter. The background shows some seaweed and a rocky seabed.

ONGOING SUPPORT FOR RATIFICATION AND EARLY ACTION

- Part of UNEP's MTS/PoW and integrated into the existing ocean governance workstream.
- Collaboration with DOALOS, UNDP, FAO, IUCN, the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs), Grid Arendal and WCMC
- Support includes:
 - Expertise in marine biodiversity conservation and ecosystem-based and area-based management.
 - Linking BBNJ objectives with biodiversity-related MEAs and SDGs
 - Policy and legal guidance via Regional Seas for coherent implementation.
 - Information sharing and capacity building.



SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL BODY AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

- UNEP has established and operationalized subsidiary bodies and is ready to support if requested.

Including

- CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP)



SECRETARIAT OF THE TREATY

- UNEP is providing secretariat functions for over 15 MEAs and Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs), as well as scientific bodies in biodiversity conservation.
- If requested, UNEP is prepared to support the establishment and function of the Secretariat, and enhance
 - Synergies across multilateral biodiversity commitments including helping to gain efficiencies by supporting Parties to align actions on biodiversity commitments (for example, 30x30 and access and benefit sharing).
 - Assist in resource mobilization efforts to ensure adequate financial support for the establishment of the Secretariat.



CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM

- A global mechanism for transparency in exchanging and integrating key environmental information to support evidence-based policy and programme formulation and decision-making processes for BBNJ.
- Member States might consider UNEP to drive the establishment of the BBNJ-CHM and provide the following support:
 - Establish the CHM
 - Technical support for the operationalisation of the CHM
 - Establish a Regional Advisors network of experts
 - Capacity building training, tools and technology
 - Technical advice through the Informal Advisory Committees
 - Facilitate the development of human and technological networks to build capacity of LDCs and SIDS
 - Facilitate resource mobilisation through its convening role and experience.

GEF PROJECTS

- GEF-8 BBNJ Enabling Fund (UNEP, UNDP and FAO)
 - \$175,000 per country
 - 25 countries engaged UNEP to date
- GEF-8 Global/Regional Medium Size Project (MSP)
 - \$5 million (UNEP, UNDP, and FAO) in collaboration with DOALOS
- GEF-7 Common Oceans Global project
 - \$20 million (UNEP, UNDP, FAO, Global Ocean Forum, WCMC, and GRID Arendal)
 - National ABNJ profiles for 14 Pacific Islands and 5 Latin American countries

UNEP will continue to support capacity-building and stakeholder engagement through its convening role





UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nairobi Convention - WIO Region BBNJ workshop: 04 - 06 March, Mombasa
- Africa Ocean Governance workshop: 01- 04 April, Dar Es Salaam
- Law/Ecosystems Division online workshop

UNOC3

- One Ocean Congress Town Hall: How science and knowledge can inform BBNJ ratification and implementation
- Side event: Conserving, sustainably managing, and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems
- Side Event: Advancing the implementation of BBNJ through RSCAPs

THANK YOU