

Achieving SDG 14 through the Regional Seas programmes

From regional to global: Shared seas and shared actions for the sustainability of our oceans

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

16 February 2017, Conference Room 8, 1:15pm – 2:30pm

Background

The UNEP Regional Seas Programme aims to address the accelerating degradation of oceans and seas through the cooperation of neighbouring countries sharing marine ecosystems. More than 143 countries participate in the 18 Regional Seas programmes across the world.

Over 40 years, the Programme has demonstrated that regionally coordinated actions are effective in managing the marine and coastal ecosystems that are shared by multiple countries. The regional scale is also a suitable level to apply the ecosystem approach. Building on the long-lasting experience with the Regional Seas programmes, Member States are encouraged to consider capitalizing on the existing Regional Seas mechanisms to implement the ocean-related SDGs, particularly Goal 14.

This session will discuss how the Regional Seas programmes can support their participating countries to achieve the ocean-related SDGs.

Programme

13:15 – 13:20 *Opening Remarks*

Mr. Stefan Berggren, Director for Division for Natural Environment, Ministry of the Environment and Energy, Sweden

13:20 – 13:50 *How Regional Seas programmes can support Member States in implementing ocean-related SDGs?*

Moderator: Ms. Lisa Emelia Svensson

Representatives from the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans:

Mr. Darius Campbell, OSPAR

Mr. Gaetano Leon, Barcelona Convention

Ms. Laura Piriz, HELCOM

Mr. Lev Neretin, Northwest Pacific Action Plan

Ms. Lorna Inniss, Cartagena Convention

Mr. Mahir Aylev, Tehran Convention

Mr. Muhammad Khurshid, South Asian Seas Action Plan (TBC)

Mr. Tommy Moore, SPREP

13:50 – 14:10 *Panel Discussion with Member States: Possible roles of Regional Seas programmes to support the implementation and review of the ocean-related SDGs*

Moderator: Ms. Lisa Emelia Svensson

Panel members:

- Mr. Alain Decomarmond, Seychelles
- Mr. Ingo Narberhaus, Germany
- TBC

14:10 – 14:30 *Discussion with audience*

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