

# High Seas Alliance PrepCom 1 Interventions



Name of meeting: BBNJ PrepCom 1  
Date of delivery: 24 April 2025  
Speaker: High Seas Alliance

## Intervention on Agenda Item 5 on the Clearing-House Mechanism

Thank you co-chairs,

This intervention is by NRDC on behalf of the High Seas Alliance.

We agree with Iceland's characterization of the CLHM as the "beating heart" of the BBNJ agreement that provides the thread that connects all of its different Parts.

We strongly support the suggestion by CLAM and supported by many others to launch an interim phase of the CLHM that addresses its functions across the relevant pillars of the Agreement.

We also support the establishment of a working group or informal open-ended advisory group, that is broad and inclusive, that could address a range of issues and give advice to the Co-Chairs and Secretariat. We support online meetings if physical or hybrid meetings are not feasible.

We welcomed the observation of Mexico that the WG needs to be broad and inclusive in order to ensure that what the technical experts develop will meet the needs of countries that will be using it.

We agree with Japan's thoughtful intervention on the value of taking a breath and proceeding with deliberation. But given the need to have an interim phase of the CLHM ready by the entry into force of the Agreement, we think that some preliminary work could be done during this upcoming intersessional period through some form of working or advisory group.

Specifically, work could be done to elaborate the simpler functional elements of the CHM that apply across the Agreement, such as simple uploading and downloading functions. These can be developed relatively quickly and at limited cost. This could be supplemented by a possible analysis of options for operationalizing other functions of the CLHM, including the batch identifier and the matchmaking functions for CBTMT.

Proceeding this way would set up the discussion at PrepCom 2 of options and would advance us toward progressing past the interim phase of the CLHM.

We also support a flow chart that many delegations requested to assist discussions before PrepCom 2.

We thank the EU and other delegations that have indicated interest to contribute to financing intersessional work.

Thank you co-chairs