

General Assembly workshop to discuss implementation of paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 181, 203 to 207, 209, 210, 213, 215 to 222 and 257 of resolution 77/118 on sustainable fisheries, addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks (13-14 July 2026)

Discussion Panel on “Impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks”

Segment 1: Impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks (13 July 2026; 10am-1pm)		
Mr. Nicolas Gutierrez	Senior Fishery Officer, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	The perspective of the Food and Agriculture Organization on the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks
Mr. Simon Jennings	Vice-chair of the Advisory Committee of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)	ICES advice on VME, bottom-fishing impacts and deep-sea fish stocks
Ms. Ellen Kenchington	Senior Benthic Ecologist Fisheries and Ocean Canada (DFO)	Evaluating Impacts of Disruption to Connectivity Networks and Potential Impacts of Climate Change in Support of the Protection of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems and Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries (pre-recorded)
Ms. Cymie Payne	Professor, Rutgers University SEBS Chair, Ocean Law Specialist Group International Union for Conservation of Nature	The International Union for the Conservation of Nature Resolutions on Protecting seamounts and vulnerable marine ecosystems from destructive practices
Ms. Katrina Goddard	Marine scientist and senior lecturer at Tai Tokerau Wānanga / NorthTec PolyTechnic	Identification of VMEs in the South Pacific: turning science into policy and implementing UNGA resolutions

**Segment 2: Progress made by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks, in particular through the implementation of relevant paragraphs of resolutions 64/72, 66/68 and 77/118
(13 July 2026; 3pm-6pm)**

Mr. Darius Campbell	Executive Secretary, North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)	Progress in addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks
Ms. Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir	Executive Secretary, Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)	NAFO advances in managing bottom fishing impacts and stock sustainability
Ms. Elisabetta Betulla Morello	Senior Fishery Officer, General Fisheries Commission of the Mediterranean (GFCM)	The experience of GFCM in addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks (pre-recorded)
Mr. Marco Milardi	Science Officer, Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)	Progress by the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) on Bottom Fishing, VME Protection & Deep-Sea Stocks
Ms. Gabrielle Carmine	ECo Academic Postdoctoral Fellow, Georgetown University	Academic perspective on the work of RFMO/As in addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks

Segment 3: Progress made by States in addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks, in particular through the implementation of relevant paragraphs of resolutions 64/72, 66/68 and 77/118 (14 July 2026; 10am to 11:30am)		
Mr. Juan Elices López,	Secretary General for Fisheries at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Spain	Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems and Sustainable Fisheries: Joint management based on the best available Scientific evidence
Ms. Heather Ward	Manager of International Fisheries at the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries	New Zealand contributions to the management of bottom fishing in SPRFMO and CCAMLR (pre-recorded)

Segment 4: Focus on the experience and special requirements of developing States in addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks, in particular through the implementation of relevant paragraphs of resolutions 64/72, 66/68 and 77/118 (14 July 2026; 11:30am-1pm)		
Ms. Eszter Hidas	Coordinator of the GEF Deep Seas Project of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	The perspective of the Food and Agriculture Organization, including in the context of the Deep-sea Fisheries Project (pre-recorded)
Mr. Eduardo Sfoglia	Head Advisor for International Affairs at Brazil's Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture	The perspective of Brazil in relation to the impacts of bottom fisheries on climate change (pre-recorded)
Ms. Bronwen Golder	Campaign Director Deep Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC)	Lines in the Ocean: Deep-sea fisheries management through a cultural lens

Segment 5: Opportunities and challenges in further addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks (3 August 2022; 3pm to 5:30pm)		
Ms. Nadia Bouffard	Chairperson of the Conference of the Parties, Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean (CAOFA)	Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries Agreement - Precautionary Approach to Exploratory Fishing (pre-recorded)
Ms. Charlotte Salpin	Senior Legal Officer, United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea	Complementarity between the BBNJ Agreement and the General Assembly framework for addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks
Ms. Melanie Virtue	Head of CMS Aquatic Species Team Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)	Impacts of deep-sea bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems: Seamounts and their importance to migratory species (pre-recorded)
Mr. Ivan Lopez van der Veen	Chair of International Coalition of Fisheries Associations (ICFA)	The perspective of International Coalition of Fisheries Associations on opportunities and challenges in further addressing the impacts of bottom fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems and long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks
Mr. Matthew Gianni	Co-Founder, DSCC	Looking forward to better managed fisheries to conserve and protect deep sea biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction