

# **PROGRAMMES OF ASSISTANCE TO MEET THE STRATEGIC CAPACITY NEEDS OF DEVELOPING STATES IN THE FIELD OF OCEAN GOVERNANCE AND THE LAW OF THE SEA**

## **STRENGTHENING OCEAN GOVERNANCE THROUGH MEANINGFUL CAPACITY-BUILDING IN OCEAN AFFAIRS**

### **-Draft Course Outline-**

#### **Training Programme to build capacity in ocean affairs and the law of the sea with a focus on ocean governance and the science-policy interface**

Implemented by the  
Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea,  
Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations

and the support and in-kind contribution of the  
United Republic of Tanzania  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)\*\*  
United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)\*\*

The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS) has launched a four-year capacity-building project for developing countries with the aim to build sustainable ocean economies through strengthened ocean governance, including through the full and effective implementation of relevant international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). This project is funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad).

DOALOS also undertakes capacity-building activities under the programme of work of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (Regular Process). One of the main elements of these activities is the delivery of regional workshops on the science-policy interface.

#### **Scope**

This workshop will provide an introduction to UNCLOS, and related Agreements, and an overview of the legal and institutional frameworks for the management of oceans at the global, regional and national levels. It will also include contributions from experts on relevant ocean sectors, including regarding the work of intergovernmental organizations. In addition, it will introduce concepts related to the blue economy and ocean finance, and considerations on how these relate to ocean affairs frameworks. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be introduced in the context of ocean affairs. This workshop will also address the theory and practice of the science-policy interface in the context of integrated and inclusive ocean governance frameworks. It will provide an opportunity for the participants to identify and discuss its effectiveness, lessons learned and best practices.

## **I. COURSE OVERVIEW**

### **DAY 1**

Opening

Module 1: Introduction to the law of the sea

Module 2: UNCLOS in detail

### **DAY 2**

Module 3: Ocean governance framework

Module 4: Valuing Ocean Sectors and the Natural Capital

### **DAY 3**

Module 5: The Sustainable Blue Economy

Module 6: Science-policy interface

### **DAY 4**

Module 6: Science-policy interface (continuation + exercise)

Module 7: Programme review

Closing

## II. ANNOTATED MODULE OUTLINE

### Opening

Remarks by organizers  
Introductions of resource persons and participants  
Overview of programme objectives, content, delivery modalities, and expectations  
Group Photo\*

---

## **MODULE 1 – INTRODUCTION TO THE LAW OF THE SEA**

---

### **Delivery:**

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations

This module provides the foundation knowledge on oceans and the law of the sea, from the international legal and institutional framework. Beginning with the history of law of the sea, participants will be provided with an overview of UNCLOS as the “constitution for the ocean” and its implementing Agreements and related legal and institutional instruments.

### **Overview of the law of the sea**

#### Overview of the law of the sea

Brief history of the law of the sea leading up to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)  
From *res nullius* and *res communis* to the 1958 Geneva Conventions on the Law of the Sea  
From proclamations of the 1940s to Ambassador Pardo’s 1967 address to the United Nations General Assembly  
The Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

#### Overview of UNCLOS

Introduction to UNCLOS as a “Constitution for the Ocean”  
(Balance of interests, Universality and status of the Convention, Comprehensiveness, Inter-relatedness of all aspects covered, Package deal / no reservations)  
Overview of the key provisions of UNCLOS

#### Overview of the bodies established under UNCLOS

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)  
The International Seabed Authority (ISA)  
The Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS)  
The Meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS (MSP)

The Role of the Secretary-General and the Secretariat (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations - DOALOS/OLA)

#### Deposit and due publicity, practice and exercise

The practice of States and of the Secretary-General

#### Overview of UNCLOS implementing agreements

Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI (brief)  
(Overview of provisions, Evolution of/comparison with Part XI)  
United Nations Fish Stock Agreement (UNFSA)  
(Overview of provisions, Regional approaches, Review Conferences)  
In progress: Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument  
under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and  
sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)

Regional frameworks  
RFMO/As  
Regional Seas (agreements and projects)  
Large Marine Ecosystems  
Regional Security Arrangements

## **Overview of other global ocean related legal and institutional frameworks**

Global ocean-related frameworks, for example:  
United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)  
(Annual review of oceans and the law of the sea and fisheries, Global policy  
guidance, Subsidiary bodies and processes (e.g. ICP, RP)  
United Nations Security Council  
International Court of Justice (ICJ)  
International Maritime Organization (IMO)  
The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)  
United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

## **Conclusion and discussion**

## **MODULE 2 – UNCLOS IN DETAIL**

---

### **Delivery:**

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations

Through this module, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the provisions of UNCLOS, including the various elements which will serve as a foundation for the subsequent module on the sustainable ocean economy.

### **Maritime Spaces**

Baselines  
Overview of baselines

Overview of zones

- Internal waters
- The territorial sea and the contiguous zone
- Archipelagic Waters
- The exclusive economic zone
- The continental shelf
- The high seas
- The Area

- Special geographical characteristics
  - Islands
  - Enclosed and semi-enclosed seas
  - Landlocked States
  - The impact of the sea-level rise on the maritime spaces

**Other uses of the sea, including:**

- Navigation and Shipping
- Protection and preservation of the marine environment
- Living and non-living resources
- Marine Scientific Research

## **MODULE 3 – OCEAN GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK**

---

**Delivery:**

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations

This module will provide an overview of global and regional ocean governance frameworks and the global sustainable development agenda as it relates to oceans. It will also provide an overview of blue economy and finance considerations.

**Introduction to ocean governance**

Ocean Governance framework

- The maritime domain
  - Maritime sectors identification
  - Maritime stakeholders identification
- Elements of the ocean governance framework
  - Political and diplomatic
  - Legal and policy
  - Institutional and operational
- Levels of implementation
  - Global
  - Regional
  - National

Local

Discussion: Cross-cutting themes in ocean policy and principles of sustainable management of ocean spaces, activities and resources

### **Overview of oceans and sustainable development**

Rio Summit and Agenda 21

Oceans and the 2030 Agenda's 17 SDGs

### **Blue economy and finance considerations** *(depending on Module 4)*

Blue economy and Ocean Governance

Context

Ocean-based value chains and traceability

Blue finance

Elements of blue finance

Blended finance and development assistance

Benchmarking and accountability

Priority setting for ocean finance (national development plans)

## **MODULE 4 – VALUING OCEAN SECTORS AND THE NATURAL CAPITAL**

---

### **Delivery:**

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). TBC\*

In this module participants will become familiar with the economic potential and valuing of ocean sectors and the ocean natural capital.

### **Valuing the ocean (sectors and ecosystem goods and services)**

Value added of ocean sectors – ocean elements of national accounts

### **Tradeoffs (natural capital)**

### **OECD Global plastics review**

## **MODULE 5 – THE SUSTAINABLE OCEAN ECONOMY**

---

### **Delivery:**

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) TBC, DOALOS\*

In this module the participants will learn about the sustainable blue economy, conceptual scope, diverse ocean sectors, as well as governance and implementation aspects, including finance and legal elements.

### **The Blue Economy**

Elements of the blue economy

Conceptual background/scope  
The Marine Environment  
Fisheries and Mariculture  
Tourism  
Ocean-based renewable sources of energy  
Transportation and Ports  
Marine research

**Blue economy policy implementation**

Finance and legal implementation.  
Identification of capacity gaps.  
Transition framework (this is in UNEP's Transition Framework prototype version)

## **MODULE 6 – SCIENCE POLICY INTERFACE**

---

**Delivery:**

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations. TBC\* - GOE\*

This module will enable the participants to increase awareness of the importance of the science-policy interface for ocean governance; gain greater knowledge of the theory and practice related to the ocean science-policy interface, including in relation to the application of an integrated approach; improved capacity to evaluate the effectiveness of the science-policy interface and to identify gaps and needs; reinforced ability to formulate possible solutions, to integrate scientific, socioeconomic and governance perspectives, as well as various knowledge systems, and to mainstream gender perspectives in the processes.

**The Science-Policy interface**

Theory and practice related to the ocean science-policy interface.  
Interrelation between ocean governance and the ocean science-policy interface.  
Application of an integrated approach in the science-policy interface.  
Links between the science-policy interface and the society including ocean users.  
Role of citizen science and traditional, indigenous and local knowledge.  
Methodologies for evaluating the effectiveness of the science-policy interface and identifying gaps and needs.  
Best practices and lessons learned in strengthening the ocean science-policy interface.

## **MODULE 7 – PROGRAMME REVIEW AND CLOSING**

---

**Delivery:**

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations

The final module will allow for an interactive discussion on the institutional and individual capacity needs for the sustainable management of ocean spaces, resources and activities. Participants will also provide insights into the programme's contribution to their knowledge of ocean affairs and the law of the sea. Discussions will also be held on further potential additional capacity needs.

**Discussion on national/regional ocean affairs**

Seminar format discussion amongst the participants to review the knowledge and skills acquired through the training and validate their application within the national ocean affairs context.

**Discussion on needs**

Institutional and human capacity requirements for ocean affairs

**Closing of Programme**

Closing Ceremony

Award of Certificates of Participation