

CB & TMT Working Group 31 March morning

Thursday 31 March 2017 Day 4

Working Group Capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology

Greenpeace, [High Seas Alliance]

Thank you Madam facilitator

This intervention is being given by Greenpeace on behalf of the High Seas Alliance.

We join others in welcoming your excellent facilitation and we also welcome the open spirit of transparency in this as well as in the other working groups.

First of all, we would like to reiterate our support for the need of meaningful capacity building and technology transfer, which needs to be long term and must meet the needs and goals of the recipient countries in order to enable all States to effectively implement various components of the new Instrument. This could include, but not be limited to, participating in the development and management of marine protected areas and marine reserves, conducting an environmental impact assessment or participating in a strategic environmental assessment.

On **interlinkages**, there seems to be a lot of convergence around the idea of a Clearing House, which can have multiple functions. One such function can be to establish or strengthen programmes for scientific and technical education, and training in conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity, in particular in developing countries.

This can help with the design and conduct of scientific research, preferably with developing country partners where possible, in cooperation with institutions of such countries, and developing capacity and innovative financing for such research in fields where they are needed. Sustainable Development Goal 14 includes as a target to “increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology. Clearly capacity building and the transfer of marine technology can help support the environmental objectives of the Instrument.

Other important functions of capacity building include capacity building and information sharing on area based management tools, including both marine protected areas, including marine reserves, and strategic environmental assessments and environmental impact assessments. This would tick a lot of boxes, including upskilling, improving compliance and ensuring best environmental practices and best available science, and as Nauru for the PSIDs pointed out in the context of funding, coherence in ocean management. It is important to remove barriers to the sharing of environmental information, particularly when it is so difficult and expensive to acquire. The Clearing House could also help in acquisition and sharing of environmental information to that end.

Thank you.

