

Agenda Item 7
Capacity Building and Technology Transfer
5 September 2018 5:55 pm

High Seas Alliance

Thank you Madam Chair

We will be brief.

It is always a pleasure to see Palau in any capacity, so to see you as chair it is a particularly a great pleasure.

Both EIAs and MPAs, to be effective, will need a strong capacity building programme to assist States to meet their obligations to conduct and monitor assessments, report, play their part in establishment and management of MPAs and in monitoring and control of those MPAs.

Sustainable Development Goal 14 includes as a target to “increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries.”

This makes it clear that capacity building and the transfer of marine technology can help support the environmental objectives of the agreement.

As to paragraph c of 6.1, the manner in which the objectives of capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology would be included in the instrument, they should be mainstreamed into all the elements, to ensure their effectiveness.

To take up your invitation to summarize, Madam Chair, we have had some constructive comments in this session and if there is one take-away, we need not only learn from other agreements, organizations and experiences, as UNEP just suggested, but need to be bold and innovative, using the clearing house mechanism and innovative sources of funding, to ensure we enhance both the capacities of States with respect to the objectives of this agreement and the needs of the agreement to enhance its effectiveness.

Thank you