



AGENDA

| Time (CEST) | Session | Speaker |
|--------------|--|--|
| 14h00 | Setting the scene of the IOG and TWG1 focus | |
| | Welcome and housekeeping/facilitation rules | Sebastian Unger (IASS/TMG), Barbara Neumann (IASS) and Ben Boteler (IASS/TMG) |
| | Opening remarks | Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius , Environment, Oceans and Fisheries (Video message) |
| | International Ocean Governance as key to achieving Sustainable Development Goals | Peter Thomson , UN Special Envoy for the Oceans (Video message) |
| | The EU International Ocean Governance Forum in a nutshell | Veronika Veits (European Commission, DG MARE) |
| | Issues and solutions addressed in TWG1 | Sebastian Unger (IASS/TMG) |
| 14h35 | Addressing TWG1 key topics | |
| | Topic 1 - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDG 14 | |
| | With introductory presentation by | David Obura (CORDIO East Africa) |
| | Discussion with introductory comments by | Karina Barquet (SEI) and Gerald Singh (Memorial University) |
| | Topic 2 - Conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity | |
| | With introductory presentation by | Kristina Gjerde (IUCN) |
| | Discussion with introductory comments by | Daniela Diz (University of Strathclyde) and Ronan Long (WMU) |
| | Topic 3 - Climate and ocean nexus | |
| | With introductory presentation by | Jean-Pierre Gattuso (CNRS-Sorbonne University-Iddri) |
| | Discussion with introductory comments by | Joanna Post (UNFCCC) and David Freestone (Sargasso Sea Commission) |
| 15h50 | Final words and way forward | |
| | Summary of discussions and follow-up steps | Sebastian Unger (IASS/TMG) |
| | Conclusions and words of thanks | Helisene Habart (EEAS) and Marc Richir (European Commission, DG MARE) |
| 16h00 | End of the webinar | |



SPEAKERS

Virginijus Sinkevičius is the present Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, at the European Commission. Mr Sinkevičius was from 2017 to 2019 Minister of Economy, and before he was leading the Committee of Economy at the Parliament of Lithuania. Mr. Sinkevičius was elected to the Parliament in October 2016. Prior, he was a Team Lead for Regulatory Affairs at Invest Lithuania. Mr. Sinkevičius holds BA in International Relations and Affairs from Aberystwyth University and Master's degree in European International Affairs from Maastricht University.

Ambassador **Peter Thomson** is a Fijian diplomat who served as President of the General Assembly of the United Nations from September 2016 until September 2017. He was Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations between 2010 and 2016. For the year 2014, he was elected President of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS). He led the Fiji team of diplomats that in 2013 chaired the Group of 77 and China – the UN's largest negotiating group comprised of 133 developing countries. He was elected as President of the International Seabed Authority's Assembly in 2011 and as President of its Council in 2015. In October 2017, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed Ambassador Thomson as the first UNSG's Special Envoy for the Ocean, in which role he is driving the implementation of SDG14, the UN Sustainable Development Agenda's goal to conserve and sustainably use the resources of the Ocean.

Since 1 September 2019, **Veronika Veits** has been Director for International Ocean Governance and Sustainable Fisheries in this Directorate-General. This includes International Ocean Governance, Law of the Sea and Arctic Policy, Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements, and the Fight against IUU Fishing. In 2017, Veronika Veits was appointed Director for Fisheries Policy, Mediterranean and Black Sea in the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and currently continues as acting director in this position. She studied at the Universities of Salzburg and Vienna and joined the European Commission in 1996.

Dr. David Obura is a Founding Director of CORDIO East Africa, a non-profit research organization from Kenya. David and CORDIO have worked for over 20 years on sustainability issues focused on coral reefs in East Africa and globally, including coral bleaching and climate impacts, artisanal fishing and other growing human pressures. Now David is focusing on how to make sustainability the core of 'blue economy', ocean conservation and this decade of work towards the SDGs.

Karina Barquet, PhD is as a researcher at the Stockholm Environment Institute. Her research focuses on social, technical, and policy innovations to coastal governance. She is project coordinator of RETURN, exploring circular solutions to reduce eutrophication in the Baltic Sea, and project coordinator of HydroHazards investigating multiple hydrometeorological hazards and their impacts on critical infrastructures. She has worked with system approaches to Agenda 2030 for integrated water governance and supported the governments of Mongolia and Colombia in applying the Synergies Approach for policy coherence. Karina is leading SEIs Strategic Policy Engagement on Oceans.

Dr. Singh's (Assistant Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland) research is primarily situated in the science-policy interface, and focused on understanding the dynamics between social, economic, and environmental dimensions in sustainable development. This focus takes form in the following ways: 1) assessing cumulative anthropogenic impacts on the environment and understanding the consequences to people; 2) determine priority policy actions and plans to achieve specific sustainable development objectives (particularly the Sustainable Development Goals); 3) understand risk and uncertainty in sustainability policy and management. Doing work in any one of these areas means navigating data gaps, and he uses a combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches, as well as structured expert elicitation, in his research. Dr. Singh has provided expertise to expert group meetings on the Sustainable Development Goals, the planning meetings for the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, and others.

Kristina M. Gjerde, J.D., is Senior High Seas Advisor to IUCN's Global Marine and Polar Programme and an adjunct professor at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, California, where she teaches international environmental laws of the sea. Kristina has been representing IUCN in meetings dealing with high seas and deep sea biodiversity since 2003. To advance science-based progress, Kristina co-founded and currently serves on the boards of four initiatives: *Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative* (DOSI), a multidisciplinary scientific partnership, the *Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative*, the *Sargasso Sea Project* and the *High Seas Alliance*. Most recently, Kristina became a member of the Executive Planning Group of the *UN Decade of Ocean Science*.

Dr Daniela Diz is a Lecturer of Oceans Governance and International Law at the University of Strathclyde and Deputy Director of the One Ocean Hub research programme, and as of July, Daniela will be joining Heriot-Watt University as an Associate Professor. She has been working in the environmental law and oceans governance field for over 20 years. She regularly contributes as an expert to UN meetings related to the law of the sea, marine biodiversity and fisheries, and conducts policy and legal studies related to marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable use to UN agencies, government institutions and civil society.

Professor Ronán Long is the Director of the WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute at the World Maritime University (WMU) in Malmö, Sweden, and holds the Nippon Foundation Professorial Chair in Ocean Governance and the Law of the Sea. He is the author/co-editor of 14 books and over 100 scholarly articles on oceans law and policy. He read for his PhD at the School of Law Trinity College Dublin, he has been a Senior Visiting Scholar-in-Residence at the University of California, Berkeley, and a Visiting Scholar at the 'Centre for Oceans Law and Policy' at the University of Virginia. Additionally, Professor Long teaches on the Law of the Sea programme at Harvard Law School. At WMU, he leads a world class team of specialists that are undertaking a diverse range of projects on land-to-ocean leadership, climate change and the Law of the Sea, BBNJ, marine debris and Sargassum in the eastern Caribbean, robotics and AI in the maritime domain, as well as women empowerment for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

IMPROVING THE INTERNATIONAL OCEAN GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

Dr. Jean-Pierre Gattuso is CNRS Research Professor at Sorbonne University and the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations. He studies the effects of global change on marine ecosystems and their services. He also investigates ocean-based solutions to mitigate and adapt to climate change. He coedited the first book on ocean acidification and contributed to several IPCC products (AR5, Special Report on 1.5°C of Warming and the Ocean and Cryosphere Special Report). <http://bit.ly/1OQDYeh>

Dr. Joanna Post has been working as programme officer with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat since 2014. She is lead officer for research and systematic observation and secretariat focal point on ocean and climate change. Prior to joining the secretariat, Dr. Post was communication manager for a number of national and international scientific research and educational programmes and projects in both the UK and Germany. She holds a Ph.D. in environmental science from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK.

Professor David Freestone (Sargasso Sea Commission) is a former Deputy General Counsel at the World Bank. He is the Executive Secretary of the Sargasso Sea Commission, established by the Government of Bermuda to protect this unique high seas ecosystem. He is the founding Editor of the International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law (now in its 35th year) and he teaches International Climate Change Law at the George Washington University Law School in Washington D.C.

Hélisène Habart, Policy Officer at the European External Action Service since 2013. Within the EEAS Global and Multilateral issues Directorate, she has been working on EU-UN relations and on International Oceans Governance since 2017, including on the European oceans diplomacy and on the EU contributions to multilateral oceans events such as Our Oceans Conference and the UN Oceans Conference.

Marc Richir has worked for several years on international ocean affairs in the European Commission, firstly in the Directorate-General for Environment then in the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. He is currently involved in the work on various International Ocean Governance related files, such as the BBNJ negotiations, the EU contribution to the CBD COP 15 and the EU participation in the 2020 Our Ocean Conference. He is also in charge of the relations with the FAO for the matters falling within the competences of his Directorate-General.

FACILITATION TEAM

Sebastian Unger is Senior Fellow at TMG Research and Head of Ocean Governance research at the IASS Potsdam. His research focuses on ocean governance in particular with regard to marine biological diversity beyond national jurisdiction, the implementation of SDG 14 and the governance of mineral resources in the deep sea. Sebastian Unger studied Biology with Political Science and has 15 years of experience in international marine policy, including previous assignments to the OSPAR Commission and the German Federal Foreign Office.

Ben Boteler works as a Scientific Project Lead at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) and is a Senior Fellow at TMG Think Tank for Sustainability (TMG). He is conducting research in an effort to advance and strengthen regional ocean governance for the high seas (areas beyond national jurisdiction). In particular, he focuses on participatory processes for knowledge exchange and capacity building as well as on the socioeconomic uses and benefits obtained from the marine environment.

Dr. Barbara Neumann is a senior research associate with the Ocean Governance research group at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in Potsdam, Germany. She holds a doctorate in geography and conducts research on human-environment interactions, sustainable development and governance of coastal and marine areas. Her recent work is centred around supporting implementation of and making progress on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, including on issues such as the role of voluntary commitments and the facilitation of multi-stakeholder dialogues for ocean action.