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## P-SIDS REGIONAL TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

### “MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH”

#### TARAWA, KIRIBATI

12-13 August 2019

#### BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

In February 2019, the Pacific Regional Training and Capacity-Building workshop was held in Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga. Organized by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the International Seabed Authority (ISA) with the support of the Kingdom of Tonga, this workshop had two objectives. First, to enable participants to deliberate and agree on how participation of P-SIDS could be increased in activities undertaken in the Area and accordingly, to identify what would be necessary to ensure that they fully benefit from such activities. Second, to clearly identify the main capacity-building needs of Pacific Sponsoring States (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga) that are necessary if they want to take full benefit of their participation in activities in the Area with a view to achieving their Blue Economy objectives.

The workshop participants adopted an Outcome document and identified specific capacity-building needs to address gaps and challenges in sponsoring States in the field of marine scientific research. This cover areas of data collection and management, and baseline studies covering a range of physical, oceanographic, biological and existing activities aspects to inform environmental risk and impact assessment, and monitoring and conservation planning. This workshop in Kiribati is intended to build on this, and develop more specific plans to enhance capacity in MSR.

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The **Regional Training and Capacity Building Workshop** on “marine scientific research” scheduled to be held in Tarawa, Kiribati, aims at bringing two representatives of each P-SIDS sponsoring State. It is anticipated that this workshop will not only enable participants to gain better understanding of the critical elements relating to the conduct of marine scientific research and how the results of such research can effectively benefit sponsoring States. Additionally, it is expected that the workshop would provide the opportunity to discuss further how Sponsoring States can leverage their relationship with contractors to increase their participation in activities in the area (non-monetary benefits) including to support their national objectives.

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

DAY 1	Monday 12 August 2019
09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-10:00	<p>Opening prayer</p> <p>Opening addresses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Honourable Minister Tetabo Nakara, Minister for Fisheries, Republic of Kiribati</i></li> <li>• <i>Mr Michael Lodge, Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority</i></li> <li>• <i>Mr Sai Navoti, Chief, SIDS Unit, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs</i></li> <li>• <i>Mr Akuila Tawake, Deputy Director, Georesources Sector and Energy, Pacific Community</i></li> </ul> <p>Group photo</p>
10:00- 10:30	<i>Morning tea break</i>
Session I	Legal Regime of Marine Scientific Research
	President: <i>Mrs Margo Deiye, Counsellor, Permanent Representative of Nauru to the UN</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<p>Legal regime governing the conduct of MSR in the Area <i>Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, Senior Policy Officer – Special Assistant to the Secretary-General, ISA</i></p>
11:00 – 11:30	<p>What are the obligations of contractors to Sponsoring States with regard to MSR? <i>Mr Yongsheng Cai, Senior Legal Officer, ISA</i></p>
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Overview of exploration activity undertaken by contractors in the Area <i>Mr Corey McLachlan, Manager Social Performance, DeepGreen</i></p> <p><i>Mrs Celine Taymans, Environmental Engineer, GSR</i></p>
12:30 - 1300	<b>Discussion</b>
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	<p>How can Sponsoring State leverage its relationships with contractor to increase its participation in activities in the Area (non-monetary benefit)? Facilitator: <i>Mr Chilenye Nwapi, Legal Adviser, Commonwealth Secretariat</i></p> <p>How can Sponsoring State leverage its relationships to support its national strategic objectives? Facilitator: <i>Mr Chilenye Nwapi, Legal Adviser, Commonwealth Secretariat</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Afternoon tea break</i>
16:00 – 16:40	<p>Break-out group <i>(continued from above)</i></p>
16:40 – 17:00	<b>Discussion – wrap up</b>

DAY 2	Tuesday 13 August 2019
Session II	Data collection and management
	President : <i>Mr Akuila Tawake, Deputy Director, Georesources Sector and Energy Programme, Pacific Community</i>
09:30 – 11:00	<p>ISA Database – description of data in Sponsoring States contract areas</p> <p><i>Dr Malcom Clark, Legal and Technical Commission, ISA</i></p> <p><i>Mr Sheldon Carter, Data Manager, ISA</i></p> <p>(Concept: session on the ISA database, get the Sponsoring states to find sort export and analyse the data that exists in their contract areas. I am sure that they would have a lot on interest in seeing what data exists and how they can use/access it. I would make this a 10-15 presentation, followed by some guided practical exercises.)</p> <p>Discussion</p>
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Morning break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	<p>Environmental MSR data-what do we need it for?</p> <p><i>Dr Malcom Clark, Legal and Technical Commission, ISA.</i></p>
12:00-13:00	<p>Advancing MSR to support environmental management and conservation objectives – perspectives of a contractor</p> <p><i>Dr Greg Stone, DeepGreen</i></p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>New approaches to Deep-sea Mineral Exploration: Data acquisition, assimilation and interpretation</p> <p><i>Mrs Sarah Howarth, NOC</i></p> <p>Data collection and interpretation</p> <p><i>Mrs Celine Taymans, Environmental Engineer, GSR</i></p>
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Closed Session / P-SIDS Sponsoring States
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Afternoon break</i>
16:00 – 16:45	<p><b>Wrap up</b></p> <p><i>Mrs Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, ISA</i></p> <p><i>Mr Sai Navoti, UNDESA</i></p>
16:50 – 17:00	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p><i>Mr Michael Lodge, ISA</i></p>