

# The International Seabed Authority

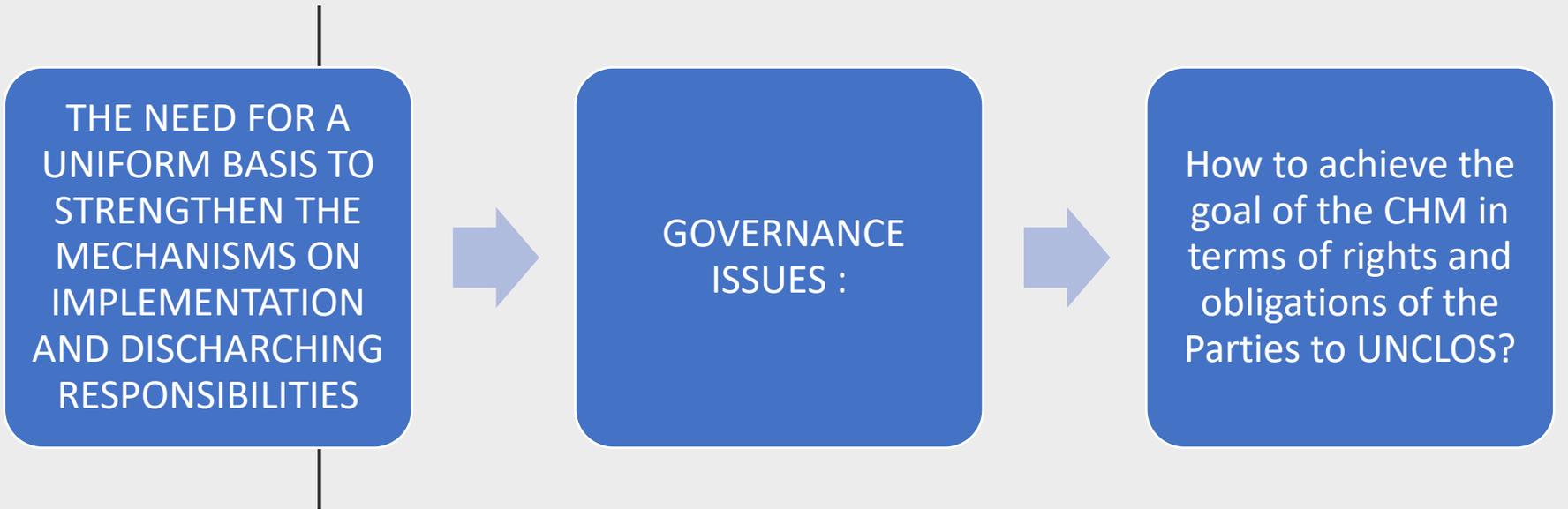
- 25 years of Learning, Building and Anticipating Scenarios
- A starting point: the 1982 Convention, the 1994 Agreement, Principles and Objectives
- M.T.INFANTE

# General Presentation

- Balance and potential tensions between national and extraterritorial resource access rights, marine environmental considerations and global commons interests for seabed resource developments:
- the promise of a contribution to mankind
- an assessment of seabed mineral resource opportunities: regional and global interests

# What to know about the regime:

- The adoption of rules and recommendations that are imperative to define the biological, chemical, geological and physical components to be measured by the contractors in order to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment.
- Setting up a high standard of protection for the environment and
- Adopting regulations applicable to mining development and the need to assess and regulate resources beyond national jurisdictions.



# REWARDS AND THE EQUITABLE SHARING CRITERIA

- **FROM THE COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND  
PRINCIPLE TO EQUITABLE SHARING CRITERIA:**

**POTENTIAL AND CURRENT CHALLENGES**

**THE TIME FOR A MINING CODE IN THE ERA OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND NEW ECONOMIC  
CONSTRAINTS**

# After the adoption of a Code: time to move towards other stages:

- **Participation, openness and transparency in the approaches**
- **Access to data, information and knowledge, capacity building and technology transfer opportunities.**
- **The use of concepts such as: Recognition, Decision-making process**
- **Equitable sharing of benefits; Adaptative/learning process (the most difficult to define in terms of interests and categories of States and stakeholders).**
- **Governance and Transparency: drivers towards transparency**
- **in Seabed mining: not as evident as in other areas ( Fisheries),**
- **Other pillars:**
  - **Access to information**
  - **Public participation in decision-making**
  - **Access to Justice in Environmental Matters**

# SPECIFIC ITEMS AND THE SEARCH OF AN UPDATED NARRATIVE

THE ROLE OF SPONSORING STATES

ORGANIZATION AND CONTROL OF  
SEABED MINING ACTIVITIES:

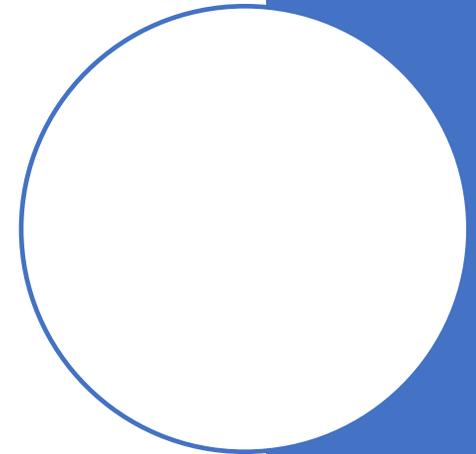
To acknowledge the existence of pluralistic interests in the concept of mankind;

- A functioning of the decision-making process to ensure that mankind is effectively represented;
- The meaning of equitable in the current context:

# POTENTIAL OR CURRENT IMPACTS OF THE CHM: PERSPECTIVES BEYOND THE AREA

- Three areas:
- Extended continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and
- The water column
- The living resources of the deep seabed, including marine genetic resources.

The negotiations of an internationally binding instrument on conservation and sustainable use



**BEHIND THE  
POLITICAL,  
SCIENTIFIC,  
ECONOMIC,  
LEGAL PROCESS:  
STRATEGIC PLANS  
AND REVIEW  
PROCESS**

- **TRANSPARENCY**
- **COMPLETING THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR DEEP SEABED MINING**
- **INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING**
- **REGULATIONS BASED ON SOUND UNDERSTANDING, PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH, EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS AND TRANSPARENCY**

# INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STATES (COASTAL STATES) and other Subjects

