



# **International workshop on capacity development, resources and needs assessment**

Kingston, February 2020



**International workshop on capacity  
development, resources and needs  
assessment**

**Kingston, Jamaica**

**10-12 February 2020**

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International Seabed Authority

14-20 Port Royal Street,

Kingston, Jamaica

Tel: +1 876 922-9105

Website: [www.isa.org.jm](http://www.isa.org.jm)

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## Abbreviations

**ADSR project** Africa Deep Seabed Resources project

**AMDC** African Minerals Development Centre (of AU)

**AU** African Union

**COMRA** China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association

**CTP** Contractor training programme

**DIRCO** Department of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa

**DOALOS** Office of Legal Affairs, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, United Nations Secretariat

**EFMSR** Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research (of ISA)

**GSR** Global Sea Mineral Resources

**GRULAC** Group of Latin America and the Caribbean

**HLAP** High-Level Action Plan (of ISA for 2019-2023)

**IFLOS** International Foundation for the Law of the Sea

**IOC-UNESCO** Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

**IMO** International Maritime Organization

**IP** Internship Programme (of ISA)

**ISA** International Seabed Authority

**ITLOS** International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

**JOGMEC** Japan Oil, Gas, and Metals National Corporation

**JTRC** ISA-China Joint Training and Research Centre

**LDCs** Least developed countries

**LLDCs** Land-locked developing countries

**LTC** Legal and Technical Commission (of ISA)

**NOC** National Oceanography Centre

**NORAD** Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

**NORI** Nauru Ocean Resources Inc.

**SD** Strategic Direction

**SG** Secretary-General

**SIDS** Small island developing States

**SP** Strategic Plan (of ISA for 2019-2023)

**SPC** Pacific Community

**TOML** Tonga Offshore Minerals Limited

**UN** United Nations

**UNCLOS** United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

**UN-DESA** UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

**UN-OHRLLS** UN-Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Countries and Small Island Developing States

**UN-TB** UN Technology Bank for least developed countries

**WEOG** Western Europe and Others Group

**WMU** World Maritime University

**1994 Agreement** Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of UNCLOS

## Foreword

Increasing the participation of developing States in activities carried out in the international seabed area (Area), including through the promotion of international cooperation in marine science and technology, especially science aimed at the protection of the marine environment will be key to advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) gives the International Seabed Authority (ISA) a unique responsibility to promote and encourage the conduct of marine scientific research in the Area and to disseminate research results and analysis when available. These are critical components of the legal regime set out in Part XI of UNCLOS under which all activities undertaken in the Area must be carried out for the benefit of all humanity. However, unless the specific capacity needs of developing States are addressed, this objective cannot be met.

While there is no doubt that the spirit of the provisions contained in UNCLOS remains just as valid today as they were when ISA was established 25 years ago, it is clear that we need to reconsider the ways in which we can respond to the capacity needs of our members.

The first ever international workshop on “Capacity development, resources and needs assessment” organized by ISA in Kingston, was an important step towards improving the delivery and implementation of ISA’s capacity development programmes and initiatives to meet the evolving needs and priorities of our members, particularly Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Land Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs).

The workshop focused on the key findings of the assessment undertaken by the Secretariat on the capacity-building programmes and initiatives

implemented by ISA since 1994. Bringing together representatives of our members, contractors, observers and former trainees, this workshop created a unique platform for participants to exchange on matters of critical importance. Many of the ideas and suggestions made by participants will provide an essential foundation for the capacity development strategy ISA will develop to address the priority needs identified by developing States and help them make the best possible use of the opportunities available to them through the legal regime set out in Part XI of UNCLOS.

I wish here to reiterate my gratitude to Her Excellency Fekitamoeloa Tupoupai ‘Utoikamanu, High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS (UN-OHRLLS) and Her Excellency Mathu Joyini, Deputy Director, Diplomatic Training and Support Unit of DIRCO in South Africa for their valuable contributions to the workshop.

This is the start of an important journey. We will continue working closely with developing States to ensure that our capacity development programmes and initiatives will contribute to the national development objectives set out by our members, especially in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, to ensure that no one is left behind.



**Mr Michael W. Lodge**

Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority

## Acknowledgments

This report was prepared by the Secretariat of ISA. The content was compiled from the notes taken during the course of the workshop, as well as the presentations and abstracts provided to the Secretariat by the presenters and the summaries submitted by the Chairs and Rapporteurs. The report commissioned by the Secretariat to assess the effectiveness and relevance of capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA<sup>1</sup> since its establishment, was also used to inform the discussions summarized in this report.

The Secretariat wishes to thank the workshop facilitator, Ambassador Mathu Joyini, for leading and guiding the workshop discussions, which resulted in important recommendations and outcomes agreed by all the workshop's participants. Special appreciation is also extended to the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs, Ms Fekitamoela Katoa 'Utoikamanu (UN-OHRLLS), for accepting the invitation to attend the workshop and delivering remarks at the opening session.

The Secretariat also wishes to convey its deepest appreciation to the Chairs, Rapporteurs, presenters and participants whose contribution provided significant insights to the discussions and outcomes of the workshop.

Thanks are also due to Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, consultant, as well as to staff of the Secretariat who assisted in the necessary preparatory arrangements for the workshop and specifically: Mrs Christine Griffiths, Mr Enoch Allen, Mrs Trudi-Ann Herdsman, Mrs Liliana Valles, Mr Aristakes Zurabian, Mr Joseph Khoreich, Mrs Zorana Maltar, Mrs Fitzroy Ferguson, Mrs Ksenija Thompson, Mr Chapi Mwangi, Mrs Charlotte Salpin, Mrs Kayon Wray, Mr Errol Evans and Mr Oswald Love. The contribution of Mr Rahul Sharma, consultant, was also essential.

The Communications Unit of ISA should also be thanked for the outstanding work undertaken in preparation of the workshop and this report and in particular, Mrs Katie Elles, Ms Shanique Gregory and Mr Ryan Barbar.

**Contact information:**

Mrs. Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, *Senior Policy Officer - Special Assistant to the Secretary-General*

**Email:** mbourrel@isa.org.jm **Website:** www.isa.org.jm

<sup>1</sup> ISA, *Review of capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by the International Seabed Authority*, Version 1.2, 5 February 2020, 80 p.

## Executive summary

The Strategic Plan for the International Seabed Authority (ISA) for 2019-2023<sup>2</sup> explicitly recognizes the duty of ISA to ensure that a variety of capacity-building mechanisms are developed for developing States. Such mechanisms should not only aim at facilitating the transfer of technology to developing States<sup>3</sup> but also, ensuring the expansion of opportunities for participation in activities in the Area<sup>4</sup>. In light of this, Members of ISA have identified that the challenge for the Organization is to identify mechanisms, including capacity-building programmes, to ensure fully integrated participation by developing States in activities in the Area at all levels. Strategic Direction 5 (“Build capacity for developing States”) and Strategic Direction 6 (“Ensure integrated participation by developing States”) aim at concretizing this objective.

As indicated in the High-Level Action Plan relating to the implementation of the ISA Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 adopted by the Assembly in August 2019<sup>5</sup>, specific actions need to be undertaken by the ISA Secretariat by 2020. One of particular importance is to “assist developing States, in particular geographically disadvantaged States, small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, in identifying their needs” (high-level action 5.1.1).

It is to deliver against this important item that the ISA Secretariat organized the workshop on **“Capacity development, resources and needs assessment”** that was held in Kingston, Jamaica, from 10 to 12 February 2020.

The workshop has been designed to provide an opportunity for participants to exchange and discuss on a series of issues associated with the implementation by ISA, of different capacity-building programmes and initiatives, in particular to:

- (i) assist in clarifying the nature and objectives of capacity-building and technical assistance provided by ISA in the context of Part XI of UNCLOS;
- (ii) discuss the key findings of the draft assessment undertaken by the Secretariat on:
  - (a) the current capacity-building initiatives & programmes implemented by ISA in order to understand how to improve their effectiveness and impact; and
  - (b) the resources available to ISA to address such needs, and
- (iii) begin identifying the core elements for the design and development of a dedicated strategy for capacity-building and capacity development activities that will measurably contribute to increase capacities of ISA member States in specific area(s) identified.

The workshop was facilitated by H.E Mathu Joyini of the Republic of South Africa and

<sup>2</sup> See ISBA/24/A/10.

<sup>3</sup> See UNCLOS, art.144, 273 and 274

<sup>4</sup> See UNCLOS, art.148.

<sup>5</sup> See ISBA/25/A/15.

was attended by official representatives of Members of ISA (Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, European Union, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Korea, Mexico, Myanmar, Nauru, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago and Uganda) and experts from international and regional organizations (African Union, Commonwealth Secretariat, IOC-UNESCO, National Deep Sea Centre (JTSC), National Oceanography Centre UK, UNDESA, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UN-OHRLS, Technology Bank for LDCs, World Maritime University) as well as observers of ISA (Ethiopia, Durham University's Centre for Borders Research, Interridge, the Pew Charitable Trust), contractors (COMRA, DORD, BGR, GSR, JOGMEC, NORI, TOML, UKSRL) and national experts (Ghana, India, Kiribati and Togo)<sup>6</sup>.

As part of the preparatory work to assist in the organization of the workshop, an assessment of the effectiveness and relevance of

capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA since its establishment in 1994 has been carried out by the ISA Secretariat. The key findings of the assessment have been collated into a report (draft assessment report) which was shared with all participants in preparation of the workshop.

The workshop included a total of eight plenary sessions structured around presentations delivered by ISA staff, experts from intergovernmental organizations, contractors, former ISA trainees and academia. Some plenary sessions were complemented by break-out group sessions to allow participants to engage further on critical elements relating to specific components/issues associated to ISA's capacity-building programmes and initiatives and key findings outlined in the draft assessment report. A full list of the plenary and break-out group sessions, as well as the list of presentations, are included in the agenda which is attached in **Annex 1**.



<sup>6</sup> A full list of participants is provided as Annex 2.



# Opening Session

## Welcome Remarks

**Mr Michael W. Lodge**, Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority (ISA)

**USG Fekitamoeloa Troupai Utoikamanu**

High Representative for small island States, least developed countries and land-locked developing countries, UN-OHRLS

## Opening remarks by Mr Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority

It is a great pleasure and a privilege to welcome you all to Kingston for our first ever international workshop on capacity development, resources and needs assessment.

This workshop, which I must say is long overdue, is one of our flagship initiatives for 2020 in the context of the Strategic Plan and High-Level Action Plan for the Authority.

Regrettably, a few colleagues have been delayed or are unable to participate as a result of the current global challenges that exist for travel at this time, but I am very pleased therefore that so many of you have been able to attend.

I particularly wish to welcome the UN High Representative for small island States, least developed countries and land-locked development countries, Fekita 'Utoikamanu, who is making her first visit to Jamaica.

I also wish to extend a special welcome to Her Excellency Mathu Joyini, currently head of the Diplomatic Training and Support unit of DIRCO, South Africa, but in a former posting the High

Commissioner of South Africa to Jamaica as well as the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the Authority. Ambassador Joyini was also instrumental in making the hosting arrangements for the ISA workshops in Pretoria last year and it is a great pleasure to welcome her back to these shores as an old friend of Jamaica and the Authority.

The context for this workshop is based firmly around the mandate of the Authority as set out in the Law of the Sea Convention and the 1994 Implementation Agreement, and the need to implement that mandate through the Strategic Plan for the period 2019-2023.

The fundamental principle at the heart of the legal regime for the Area under the Convention is that all activities in the Area must be carried out for the benefit of all humanity.

Right from the outset, it was recognized that this objective cannot be met unless developing States have the capacity to realize those benefits. That is why the Convention recognizes, for example, the need for States Parties to promote international cooperation in marine scientific research in the Area and to develop programmes through the Authority for the benefit of developing States and technologically less developed States.

That is also why the Convention requires the Authority to take measures to acquire

technology and scientific knowledge relating to activities in the Area and promote and encourage the transfer to developing States of such technology and scientific knowledge so that all States Parties benefit therefrom. Under the 1994 Agreement, this is to be achieved particularly by developing training, technical assistance and scientific cooperation programmes in marine science and technology and the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

Historically, the main vehicle for delivery of these objectives has been the contractor training programme, which was originally introduced as a mandatory component of the plans of work for exploration for registered pioneer investors under the resolution II regime. This programme, as it has evolved, has been tremendously successful, and I would like to pause to congratulate and recognize the commitment of all our contractors to invest in training and maximize the benefits of this programme. We will hear more about this in Session II, when we will review the outcomes of an in-depth assessment of this programme.

At this point, let me also thank all of those, member States, contractors and current and former trainees, who responded to the surveys to help us carry out an evaluation of the contractor training programme, and also recognize the role played by our consultant, Dr Rahul Sharma, who compiled this part of the report.

But this is not enough by itself. The ISA Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 explicitly recognizes the duty of the Authority to ensure that a variety of capacity-building mechanisms are needed. Such mechanisms should not only aim at facilitating the transfer of technology to developing States but also, ensuring the expansion of opportunities for participation in activities in the Area.

To implement these aspirations, the High-Level Action Plan adopted by the Assembly in August 2019 requires several specific actions to be

undertaken by the Secretariat by 2020. One specific action is to “assist developing States, in particular geographically disadvantaged States, small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, in identifying their needs”.

And it is primarily to deliver against this item that we are convening this workshop.

The expected outputs of the workshop, as set out in the background document, include to:

- Map the critical capacity development needs of developing States members of the Authority.
- Identify the resources available to address those needs and potential options for increased extra-budgetary support.
- Develop recommendations for the consideration of the Assembly.
- Develop a list of priority capacity-development activities for the Authority.

In order to get to that point, the background documentation and the sessions of the workshop have been carefully organized to enable the workshop as a group to:

- Clarify the nature and objectives of capacity-building and technical assistance provided by the Authority in the context of Part XI of UNCLOS.
- Undertake an assessment of capacity-building needs compared to the current capacity-building initiatives and programmes implemented by the Authority in order to understand how to improve their effectiveness and impact.
- Identify the core elements for the design and development of a dedicated strategy for capacity-building activities that will measurably contribute to increase capacities of member States.

I am sure that you will find that the resources we have provided for you in terms of background documentation will enable us to achieve these objectives. This has been the product of many months of hard work and planning, and again I want to thank all those who responded to

surveys, as well as the team of staff and consultants in the secretariat that have done all the preparations for this workshop. I particularly wish to acknowledge the efforts of Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, Tearinaki Tanielu, Ryan Barbar, Chapi Mwangi and Kayon Wray.

To conclude, let me just make a few general remarks about the place of capacity development within the context of the Authority as we go forward.

We are all aware that the Authority is entering a new phase of its existence. After 25 years we are coming close to the adoption of a Mining Code that will allow commercial exploitation of seabed minerals to begin in the way envisaged by the Convention. We are also making important advances in protecting the marine environment through the development of regional scale environmental management plans.

To a great extent the progress that has been made in terms of deep-sea research and technology development are the product of parallel advances in marine science technology that have taken place over the past decades, as well as in related fields, such as data management. We see this in other sectors too, such as the ongoing discussions at the United Nations in relation to marine genetic resources, as well as the preparations for the UN Decade of Ocean Science.

Tomorrow's deep-sea operations will rely just as much on artificial intelligence, big data, DNA, nanoscience and innovative sampling techniques as they do on tried and tested traditional offshore technology.

So, while there is no doubt that the spirit of the provisions contained in the Convention remain just as valid today as they were 25 years ago, it is equally clear that we need to reconsider the ways in which we can deliver capacity development to ensure that they meet the real needs not just of today but also of tomorrow's scientists.

I wish you well in your deliberations, and I look forward to the outcomes of the workshop.

## **Remarks by USG Fekitamoeloa Troupai Utoikamanu, High Representative for small island States, least developed countries and land-locked developing countries, UN- OHRLLS**

Excellencies,

Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, Mr Michael Lodge

Ladies and gentlemen,

I appreciate being able to join you at this very important workshop on capacity building, resources and needs assessment. The Seabeds are our common resource frontier.

I thank the International Seabed Authority for its close collaboration with OHRLLS. Yes, it is quite the mouthful to say OHRLLS, which stands for the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing countries.

In practice, OHRLLS advocates for 91 of the 193 UN member states. These 91 countries are among the most vulnerable countries around the world, totalling about 1.1 billion people.

Our mandate is to advocate to mobilise support for, and carry out advocacy and to facilitate the coordination of the UN system support for these countries and their peoples.

We are also tasked and monitor implementation of their respective programmes of Action – namely the Istanbul Programme of Action for

the LDCs and the Vienna Programme of Action for the LLDCs, and jointly with DESA, the SAMOA Pathway for the SIDS.

In all these programmes, we can note progress in implementation, but the bottom line is that too many are still left behind.

Indeed the LDCs are the countries that are the furthest behind. They were among a number of countries that did not meet the MDGS.

Similarly, the midterm reviews of the SAMOA Pathway for the SIDS and the Vienna Programme of Action for the LLDCs last year, highlighted the immense challenges faced by these two groups.

Therefore, the abilities to meet the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals presents a considerable challenge, but one that we together must meet.

We have ten years to meet these goals, which is not a lot of time, and 2020 is a critical year.

Addressing the SDG Summit last year, the Secretary General of the UN issued a global call for the Decade of Action to deliver the SDGs by 2030. In the political declaration from this summit, there was a clear commitment to take tangible action to support the most vulnerable people and countries and reach out to those who are the furthest behind first.

The focus of this workshop is right in line with this call for action, and I congratulate you on addressing the capacity needs of the most vulnerable countries, including the SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The SDGs are drivers for inclusive and sustainable transformation of economies,



USG Fekitamoeloa Troupai Utoikamanu



societies, and human behaviour. They are not some abstract, or theoretical construct. They are a roadmap to leave no one behind but not in just any kind of way – they are equally about sustainability in how and what we do.

I think that everyone here has long known that oceans and seas are of paramount importance to the wellbeing, to the survival and the development of human society. After all, already some almost four decades ago, here in Jamaica you had the first meetings on the International Law of the Sea.

Today, we count over 3 billion people spread across our globe depending on coastal and marine resources. These resources are at the core of their livelihoods, they generate jobs in various industries ranging from fisheries, to shipping and to tourism.

For the SIDS and coastal LDCs, the oceans and their marine resources are the heart and lungs of their lives. They are the foundation of their economies, culture and livelihoods.

The landlocked countries of course do not have direct access to the sea. Yet their access to and use of ocean space is integral to achieving SDG14 and meeting the obligations under the Conventions of the Law of the Sea.

Currently LDCs, LLDCs & SIDS too often lack the expertise, institutional capacities and financial support to derive full benefit from the ocean and its resources in sustainable ways. These challenges are even greater when we consider the new and emerging industries linked to marine scientific research and prospects for deep sea mining and now cost effectiveness enters the equation.

Several of the Pacific SIDS, including my own country Tonga, have embarked on mineral exploration in their waters.

For those SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs with narrow potential to expand limited land based economic

structures, seabed mining has the potential to be an integral part of the blue economy, while ensuring the effective protection of the marine environment from harmful effects.

We must ensure that seabed exploration and exploitation deliver sustainable benefits to humankind and that those benefits are shared equitably.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The provisions in the Convention on the Law of the Sea are clear. The Area and its resources are a shared heritage of mankind.

Part XI, article 148 of the UNCLOS states that the effective participation of developing countries, in activities of the Area should be promoted, having due regard to their special interest and needs, including the special needs of land-locked countries to overcome obstacles arising from their disadvantaged geographical location, including remoteness and access to and from the sea.

But how to go about this in practical terms?

Fostering partnerships for sustainable capacity building and technical assistance to these countries will be key.

So I must congratulate the International Seabed Authority for your past, current and I anticipate strong future efforts to raise awareness and enhance participation of vulnerable countries in the activities and programmes conducted by the Authority.

The ISA voluntary commitments announced at the Ocean Conference in June 2017, also demonstrates your strong commitment to strengthen cooperation through the Abyssal Initiative for the Pacific SIDS and the cooperation announced with the African Mineral Development Centre to support Africa's Blue Economy.

The draft needs assessment for this workshop is also very helpful to understand the barriers and challenges for developing countries as well as the participation rates of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS in current initiatives and programmes conducted by the ISA.

OHRLLS will support you in these activities. We offer the support of my office, to raise awareness and strengthening engagement with under-represented countries on how best to support their needs.

We can and we must foster greater cooperation with the framework of the UNCLOS and through the International Seabed Authority to enhance opportunities for the most vulnerable countries.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Just a mere decade separates us from 2030. In the Decade for Action mentioned earlier, the Secretary-General of the UN will continue to amplify the call for climate action and gender equality.

Today women account for only 38% of the world's researchers in ocean science. The rate is even lower for women from developing countries and yet more women have not been inspired by the work of great women like Sylvia Earle – we need many more like her.

UN-OHRLLS partnered with ISA to officially launch its voluntary commitment initiative to increase women's active participation in marine scientific research through targeted capacity building during the 2018 Commission on the Status of Women.

My office stands ready to continue our collaboration to address the structural challenges faced by women and support their capacity building to enhance the role of women in deep-sea scientific research to support the SDGs.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to briefly mention the establishment of the Technology Bank for LDCs.

The Bank was operationalized under the auspices of OHRLLS to contribute to the development of science, technology and innovation in the world's poorest countries. The establishment of this Bank is a milestone achievement, and it is also the first SDG target to be achieved: target 17.8. The Bank bears the potential to tackle one of the great new divides of our times: access to science, technology and capacity to innovate.

It aims inter alia to bring on board the collective expertise of the entire UN system to support the implementation of the SDGs at the country level.

Today we have here with us the Managing Director of the Technology Bank, Mr Setipa. I hope that together, you will discuss the potential cooperation with the Bank to support members of the Seabed Authority that are LDCs.

Ladies and gentlemen,

2020 is an important year for our oceans. The second UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, the Our Ocean Conference in Palau in August, the BBNJ negotiations, and the UN Biodiversity Conference.

All these fora must lead to deeper engagement for capacity-building, technology transfer, and sharing of experiences to enhance opportunities for the participation of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS in the blue economy and support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

To close, I once again thank the International Seabed Authority for convening this important workshop.

I wish you all a successful and productive meeting.

Thank you.

## SESSION 1

# Presentation of key findings of the assessment of the capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA

## Presentations

**H.E Ambassador Mathu Joyini**, Deputy Director, Diplomatic Training and Support Unit of DIRCO

*"Objectives of the workshop and expected outcomes"*

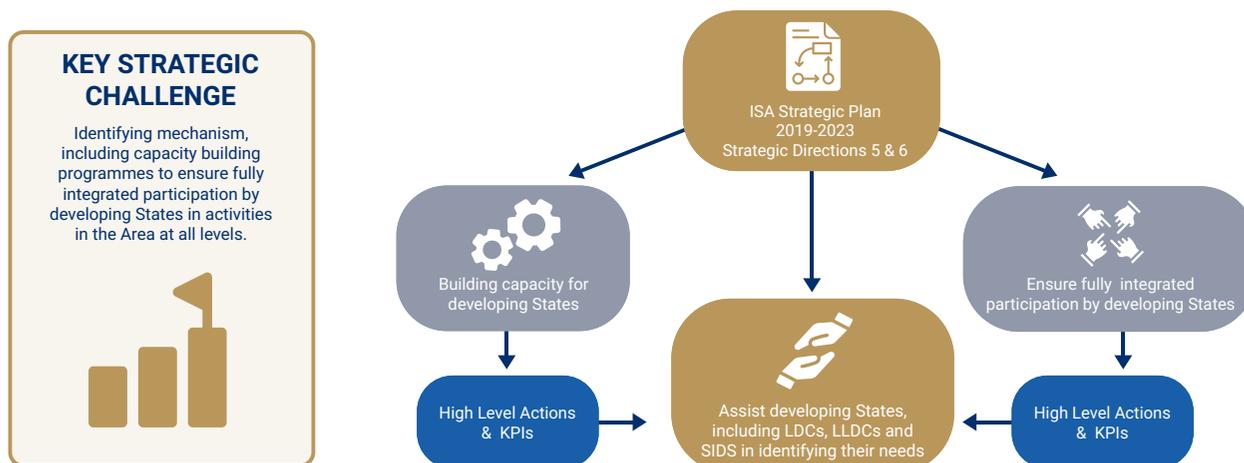
**Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon**, Senior Policy Officer – Special Assistant to the Secretary General, ISA

*"Key findings of the assessment of the capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA"*

The first presentation was delivered by **H.E Ambassador Mathu Joyini**, the workshop facilitator, outlining the objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop (see **figure 1**). Ambassador Joyini highlighted that the key

strategic challenge was to identify mechanisms that will ensure integrated participation by developing States in activities undertaken in the Area on the basis of the capacity priority needs as identified by developing States.

**Figure 1: Objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020



Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, ISA Secretariat

**Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon** provided an overview of the international framework within which capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA have evolved. This was the opportunity to provide some important clarification on the role and mandate of ISA in relation to capacity-building particularly in the field of marine scientific

research, technology transfer, protection of the marine environment as well as to increase the participation of developing States in the activities carried out in the Area. After presenting the different initiatives currently implemented by ISA to fulfil its capacity-building mandate (see **figure 2**), the presenter recalled the specific strategic directions set out in the ISA's Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 and their associated actions and outputs as detailed in the High-Level Action Plan for 2019-2023 (see **figure 3**). The presentation ended with a brief summary of the overall numbers of individuals who had benefitted from the different initiatives (see **figure 4**) and the key findings of the draft assessment report. As such, it was indicated that overall:

- (i) recent years have seen an increase of women participation in capacity-building and training programmes provided by ISA;
- (ii) priority should be given to address the specific needs identified by developing States themselves;
- (iii) building and training programmes provided be given to develop a more programmatic capacity development;
- (iv) it would be essential to develop clear indicators.

**Figure 2: Current ISA's capacity building programmes & initiatives**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

**Figure 3: High-level actions & outputs for SD 5 and SD 6  
(ISA High-Level Action Plan 2019-2023)**

**ISBA/25/A/15 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC  
PLAN FOR THE AUTHORITY FOR THE PERIOD 2019–2023 H LAP 2019-2023**

**Strategic Direction 5 - Build capacity  
for developing States**



**5.1 CB programmes & measures and their delivery targeted at the needs of developing States, as identified by developing States**

**5.1.1**

**High-level action:** Assist developing States, in particular geographically disadvantaged States, small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, in identifying their needs

**Outputs:**

- (i) Report on initiatives developed to facilitate the identification of
- (ii) Collect input on the identification of the emerging needs of developing States, in particular geographically disadvantaged States, small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries
- (iii) Develop a capacity-building strategy for the Authority that addresses the needs identified by developing States

**Time frame for completion:** 2020

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly (iii)

**5.1.2**

**High-level action:** Adjust capacity-building programmes as necessary to meet the needs of developing States

**Outputs:**

- (i) Make adjustments to address the needs identified by developing States
- (ii) Recommend specific measures to address the needs identified by developing States

**Time frame for completion:** 2020

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**5.1.3**

**High-level action:** Undertake regular assessments of the effectiveness and relevance of capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by the Authority

**Outputs:**

- (i) Report on key findings of the assessments undertaken
- (ii) Recommend specific measures to improve the delivery of capacity-building programmes and measures implemented by the Authority

**Time frame for completion:** 2020

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly



**5.2 Seek and maximize funding opportunities for the Endowment Fund for MSR**

**5.2.1**

**High-level action:** Promote and strengthen partnerships with Governments, international organizations and the private sector to maximize funding opportunities and in-kind contributions for the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area and its beneficiaries

**Outputs:** Report on partnerships established to maximize funding opportunities for the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area and its beneficiaries

**Time frame for completion:** Annual

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly

**5.2.2**

**High-level action:** Participate in global financing mechanisms to foster funding opportunities for the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area and its beneficiaries

**Outputs:** No output against this action

**Time frame for completion:** Continuous

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat



**5.3 CB measures to be mainstreamed into relevant initiatives**

**5.3.1**

**High-level action:** Promote, prioritize and implement capacity-building measures in all projects and activities, as far as practicable, implemented by the Authority, alone and in partnership, with an emphasis on the needs identified by developing States

**Outputs:**

- (i) Ensure the dissemination of and access to all information on capacity-building opportunities on the Authority's website
- (ii) Ensure that all the Authority's projects and activities, as far as practicable, contain a dedicated capacity-building component
- (iii) Develop and implement measures and process that ensure the selection of the best qualified candidates
- (iv) Promote and develop excellence in deep sea research among young scientists and researchers from developing States through the Secretary-General's awards

**Time frame for completion:** Continuous

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Coordinating organ:** Legal and Technical Commission (iii)



**5.4 Build on the achievements of contractor training programmes and assess their long-term impact on capacity-building**

**5.4.1**

**High-level action:** Undertake regular assessments of contractors' training programmes and their long-term impact on capacity-building

**Outputs:**

- (i) Analyse the long-term impact of the contractors' training programmes
- (ii) Recommend measures to improve the impact of the contractors' training programmes

**Time frame for completion:** 2020

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly

**Coordinating organ:** Legal and Technical Commission

**5.4.2**

**High-level action:** Facilitate the adjustment of contractor training programmes to meet the needs of developing States

**Outputs:**

- (i) Identify, in partnership with contractors, options for the adjustment of their contractors' training programmes
- (ii) Develop cost-effective measures to improve the delivery of the contractors' training programmes

**Time frame for completion:** 2021 (i) 2020 (ii)

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly (i) Council (ii)

**Coordinating organ:** Legal and Technical Commission

## Strategic Direction 6 - Ensure fully integrated participation by developing States



**6.1 Continue to promote and seek opportunities for fully integrated participation by developing States in the implementation of the regime for the Area, paying special attention to the needs of landlocked and geographically disadvantaged States, small island developing States and the least developed countries**

### 6.1.1

**High-level action:** Develop measures to increase participation by developing States in the implementation of the regime for the Area

**Outputs:**

- (i) Identify measures to increase the participation of developing States in the work of the Authority
- (ii) Identify measures to increase the participation of developing States in marine scientific programmes carried out in the Area

**Time frame for completion:** 2020

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly

### 6.1.2

**High-level action:** Identify and address the needs of developing States in the implementation of the regime for the Area

**Outputs:**

- (i) Identify the needs of developing States for ensuring an effective and efficient implementation of the regime for the Area
- (ii) Identify measures to improve the implementation of the regime for the Area by developing States

**Time frame for completion:** 2023

**Organ responsible:** Assembly



**6.2 Undertake a review of the extent of the participation by developing States in the Area, identify and understand any specific barriers to such participation and address them accordingly, including through targeted outreach and partnerships**

### 6.2.1

**High-level action:** Consult developing States members of the Authority to identify potential barriers to participation and devise mechanisms to address them

**Outputs:**

- (i) Organize consultations with developing States members of the Authority with a view to identifying potential barriers to their participation in activities in the Area
- (ii) Report on potential mechanisms identified to remove the barriers that stop developing States members of the Authority from participating fully in activities in the Area

**Time frame for completion:** Continuous (i) 2020 (ii)

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly



**6.3 In cooperation with States parties, initiate and promote measures providing opportunities to personnel from developing States for training in marine science and technology and for their full participation in activities in the Area**

### 6.3.1

**High-level action:** Identify training opportunities for personnel from developing States in marine science and technology

**Outputs:**

- (i) Develop a network of entities providing training opportunities for personnel from developing States
- (ii) Promote and facilitate the establishment of regional centres of excellence for strengthening capacities in developing States
- (iii) Establish and maintain a database of trainees from developing States who have benefited from training opportunities

**Time frame for completion:** 2020 (i) Continuous (ii)

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat (i and iii) Assembly (ii)

**Associated organ:** Secretariat (ii)

**Coordinating organ:** Legal and Technical Commission (iii)

### 6.3.2

**High-level action:** Identify training opportunities for personnel from developing States in marine science and technology

**Outputs:**

- (i) Facilitate the selection of qualified candidates for training programmes under plans of work
- (ii) Report on the implementation of training programmes

**Time frame for completion:** Continuous

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Legal and Technical Commission

**Coordinating organ:** Council (i)

### 6.3.3

**High-level action:** Identify and develop measures to strengthen the role of women in deep seabed-related activities and, in particular, deep seabed research

**Outputs:**

Report on the measures identified or developed that could be implemented by the Authority to strengthen the role of women in deep sea research

**Time frame for completion:** 2020

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly



**6.4 Carry out a detailed resource assessment of the reserved areas that are available to the Enterprise and developing States**

### 6.4.1

**High-level action:** Update the resource assessment of the reserved areas as new data and information become available

**Outputs:**

Report on detailed resource assessments of the reserved areas that are available to the Enterprise and developing States

**Time frame for completion:** 2020

**Organ responsible:** Secretariat



**6.5 Identify possible approaches to the independent operation of the Enterprise in a way that meets the objectives of the Convention and the 1994 Agreement while taking into account that the Enterprise lacks capital and is limited to operating through joint ventures**

### 6.5.1

**High-level action:** Identify possible approaches to the independent operation of the Enterprise, including procedures and criteria for joint venture operations

**Outputs:**

- (i) Commission a study on the operationalization of the Enterprise
- (ii) Commission a report from the designated Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Enterprise on the proposal by the Government of Poland for a joint venture with the Enterprise
- (iii) Facilitate the development of a business proposal to facilitate the operation of a joint venture
- (iv) Establish a voluntary trust fund for the purpose of providing the funds necessary for the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Enterprise

**Time frame for completion:** 2019

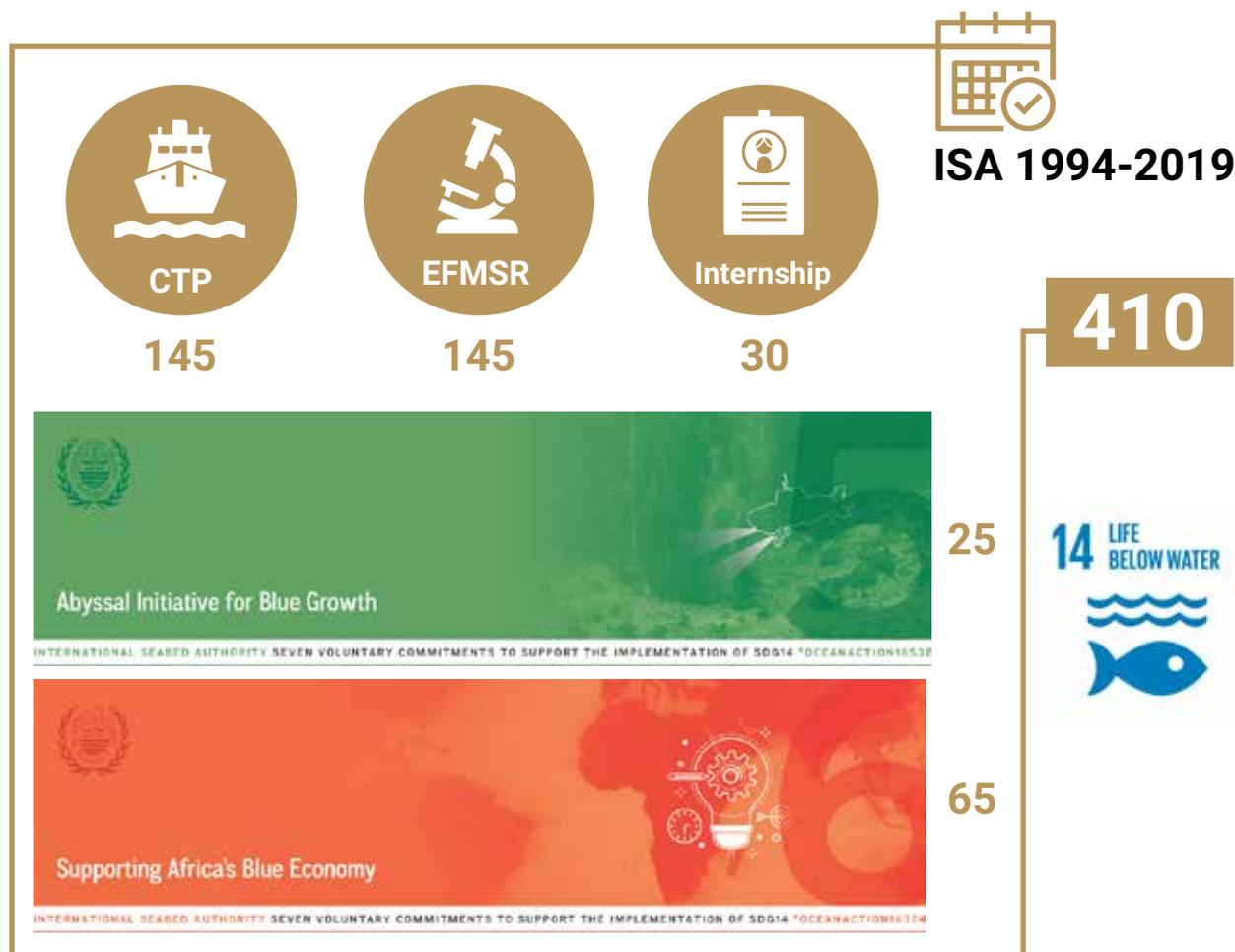
**Organ responsible:** Secretariat

**Associated organ:** Assembly and Council (i) Assembly

**Coordinating organ:** Legal and Technical Commission (i)



**Figure 4: Overview of number of individuals trained under ISA's capacity-building programmes & initiatives (1994-2019)**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

### **Discussion:**

Several comments were made by participants. **Argentina** highlighted the need to consider that Members of ISA have various levels of engagement and levels of capacity, and that some Members would need to build theoretical and background knowledge on deep sea minerals prior to engaging in more advanced stages of exploration. The need for contractors to consider this issue when designing training programmes was also stressed, in particular as it relates to adding diversity for levels of training. A point was also made regarding the importance of having regional workshops

to complement ongoing training activities provided by contractors under the purview of ISA. **Indonesia** underscored the difference in capacity-building needs while emphasizing the importance of raising awareness of the role and functions of ISA, about the status of activities undertaken in the Area and the means through which developing States could effectively engage. It was also suggested that ISA should coordinate such events with regional organizations. **Ghana** outlined that all training programmes should be designed to meet the needs of developing States, as identified by them. **Tonga** noted the positive

impact of the ongoing training provided by ISA for Tongan nationals, especially in relation to increased participation of women. **Myanmar** commented on the need to raise awareness among Members, at regional level, and suggested that ISA could increase direct communications with relevant regional organizations such as ASEAN. The **workshop facilitator** then referred participants to the approach recently followed by ISA when organizing information seminars, the latest edition having been organized in Myanmar in September 2019. **Brazil** raised a question relating to the possibility for contractors making contributions to the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area (EFMSR), in lieu of providing training activities, and whether this would be conceived as part of the legal/contractual requirement. **Uganda** observed that ISA's finance processes and pool

of funds, including those relating to capacity-building programmes, and others such as the voluntary trust fund, seem to be operating in silos, and that there is no mechanism or process for 'cross-interaction'. The **National Oceanography Centre (NOC)** commented on the importance to find measures to allow for meaningful usage of the funding whilst also protecting the EFMSR's capital. On that particular point, the **Secretary-General of ISA** informed participants that one of the core issues faced relates to the lack of interest for potential donors to contribute as under the current terms of reference, guidelines and procedures of the EFMSR, only the interest accrued can be utilized<sup>7</sup>. A representative of **UN-DESA** suggested that addressing the decline in contributions faced by the EFMSR could lead in exploring other sources of funding and partnerships.



Workshop participants

<sup>7</sup> See ISBA/13/A/6, annex, para.3.



## SESSION 2

# Key findings of the assessment of the Contractor Training Programme

**Chair:** Mr Corey McLachlan, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, NORI  
**Rapporteur:** Mr Chapi Mwango, Chief, Contract Management Unit, ISA

### Presenters

**Mr Chapi Mwango**, Chief, Contract Management Unit, ISA  
*“Key findings of the assessment of the Contractor Training Programme”*

**Mr John Parianos**, Manager Exploration and Polymetallic Nodules, Tonga Offshore Mining Limited  
*“Perspectives on capacity building”*

**Mr François Charlet**, Exploration Manager - Marine Geologist, GSR  
*“Assessment of the GSR training programme”*

**Mr Jun Jiang**, Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA – COMRA  
*“Assessment of COMRA’s contractor training programme”*

**Ms Judith A. Owusu**, Ghana  
*Former trainee of JOGMEC*

**Mr Hank Hedge**, Jamaica  
*Former trainee of JOGMEC*

**Mr Chapi Mwango**, Chief of the Contract Management Unit at ISA, provided an overview of the key findings of the draft assessment report commissioned by the ISA Secretariat on the Contractor Training Programme (CTP). The presenter recalled that the CTP is rooted in the provisions of resolution II of UNCLOS “Governing preparatory investment in pioneer activities relating to polymetallic nodules”. Pursuant to resolution II, paragraph 12 (a) (ii), the Preparatory Commission envisaged that “every registered pioneer investor” would have to provide training programme to the



L – R): Mr Corey McLachlan, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, NORI and Mr Chapi Mwango, ISA Secretariat

individuals selected by the Legal and Technical Commission (LTC). Mr Mwango informed participants that such requirements were complemented by specific legal obligations set out for contractors in article 15 of Annex III of UNCLOS (see **box 1**) and further elaborated in the exploration regulations adopted by ISA (see **boxes 2** and **3**).

In presenting the key findings of the assessment carried out by the ISA Secretariat on the CTP, Mr Mwango provided comments under each

### Box 1: Article 15, Annex III of UNCLOS

#### Training programmes

*The contractor shall draw up practical programmes for the training of personnel of the authority and developing States, including the participation of such personnel in all activities in the Area which are covered by the contract, in accordance with article 144, paragraph 2.*

### Box 2: Standard clauses for exploration contracts

*Regulation 27 of the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules (ISBA/19/C/17), (Regulation 29 for Polymetallic Sulphides (ISAB/16/A/12) and regulation 29 for Cobalt-rich Ferromanganese Crusts (ISBA18/A/11)*

*“Pursuant to article 15 of Annex III to the Convention, each contract shall include as a schedule a practical programme for the training of personnel of the Authority and developing States and drawn up by the contractor in cooperation with the Authority and the sponsoring State or States. Training programmes shall focus on training in the conduct of exploration, and shall provide for full participation by such personnel in all activities covered by the contract. Such training programmes may be revised and developed from time to time as necessary agreement.”*

distinct period of the CTP respectively: (i) under the Pioneer Investors’ regime (1988-2001); (ii) after the first set of exploration regulations were adopted and the first contracts signed (2001-2013); and (iii) after the first assessment undertaken on the CTP in 2013 (2013-present). Participants were then informed that during the Pioneer Investors’ regime, 27 nationals from 19 countries received training. The training content included lectures, practical assignments and importantly, on-board training on research vessels for a duration that ranged from 9 to 12 months. Only two trainees were women. The second period (2001-2013) recorded ten individuals receiving training under the CTP. Mr Mwango noted for workshop’s participants that as part of the external study commissioned by ISA in 2013 on the training

### Box 3: Exploration Regulations

*Section 8 of the standard clauses for exploration contracts of the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules (ISBA/19/C/17), Polymetallic Sulphides (ISBC/16/A/12) and Cobalt-rich Ferromanganese Crusts (ISBA18/A/11)*

*“8.1 In accordance with the Regulations, the Contractor shall, prior to the commencement of exploration under this contract, submit to the Authority for approval proposed training programmes for the training of personnel of the Authority and developing States, including the participation of such personnel in all of the Contractors’ activities under this contract.*

*8.2 The scope and financing of the training programme shall be subject to negotiation between the Contractor, the Authority and the sponsoring State or States.*

*8.3 The Contractor shall conduct training programmes in accordance with the specific programme for the training of personnel referred to in section 8.1 hereof approved by the Authority in accordance with the Regulations, which programme, as revised and developed from time to time, shall become a part of this contract as schedule 3.”*

and capacity-building obligations of exploration contractors, a key recommendation was the fact that “regardless of the criteria applied in any historical review of training programmes conducted by Contractors, and before them by Pioneer Investors, the end result is that the number of trainees and their equitable geographical distribution are inadequate. The higher-level goals of promoting greater involvement by State Parties in the work of the Authority and greater capacity development within developing countries have fallen short of any reasonable expectation”. One of the important outcomes of the aforementioned report led to the development and adoption by the LTC in 2013 of Recommendations for the guidance of contractors and sponsoring States relating to training programmes under plans of work for exploration<sup>8</sup>. Among its important recommendations were procedures for reporting on training activities, and the requirement that each contractor offer the training equivalent of at least 10 trainees for every 5-year period of their contract.

Some information on the financial aspect of the CTP was also shared with the presenter providing an overview of the monetary resources expended by contractors to date to fulfil their obligations for training (see **table 1**). Participants were also informed that of the 108 trainees, 35% were from Africa or Asia-Pacific and 28% from Latin America and the Caribbean. Of the total trainees, 15.74% (17) were from SIDS and 9.26% (10) from LDCs and/or LLDCs (see **table 2**). In concluding, Mr Mwangi highlighted that in terms of gender distribution, of the 108 candidates who have benefited from the CTP between 2013 and 2019, 49 were women. He noted that female candidates represented 25% of the trainees in 2014, 42% in 2017 and 50% in 2019 (see **figure 5**), a gradual trend toward gender parity. The gender equality in the latter years was achieved through a deliberate strategy implemented by the secretariat with the support and participation of the LTC.

**Table 1: Funds expended on CTP (to date) and percentage of expended funds against total costs of exploration operations**

Contractor	Total on CTP (USD)	Average per trainee (USD)	% of total costs of Ops
IOM	40,000	10,000	0.5-1.5%
BGR (PMN)	220,000	27,500	0.5 %
BGR (PMS)	475,000	47,500	1.2%
COMRA (PMN, PMS & CFC)	820,000	20,000	1%
CMC	120,000	30,000	Not available
DORD	156,000	31,200	4%
GSR	94,500	9,450	0.6 %
Govt of India (PMS)	100,000	20,000	1 %
JOGMEC	217,238	18,110	7%
Rep of Korea (PMN, PMS & CFC)	490,000	17,500	2%
TOML	134,500		2.5 %
UKSRL 1	260,300	130,150	1.3%

Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

NB: The data used to develop this table was voluntarily provided by contractors in response to a survey circulated in November 2019 and has not been verified by ISAs Secretariat.

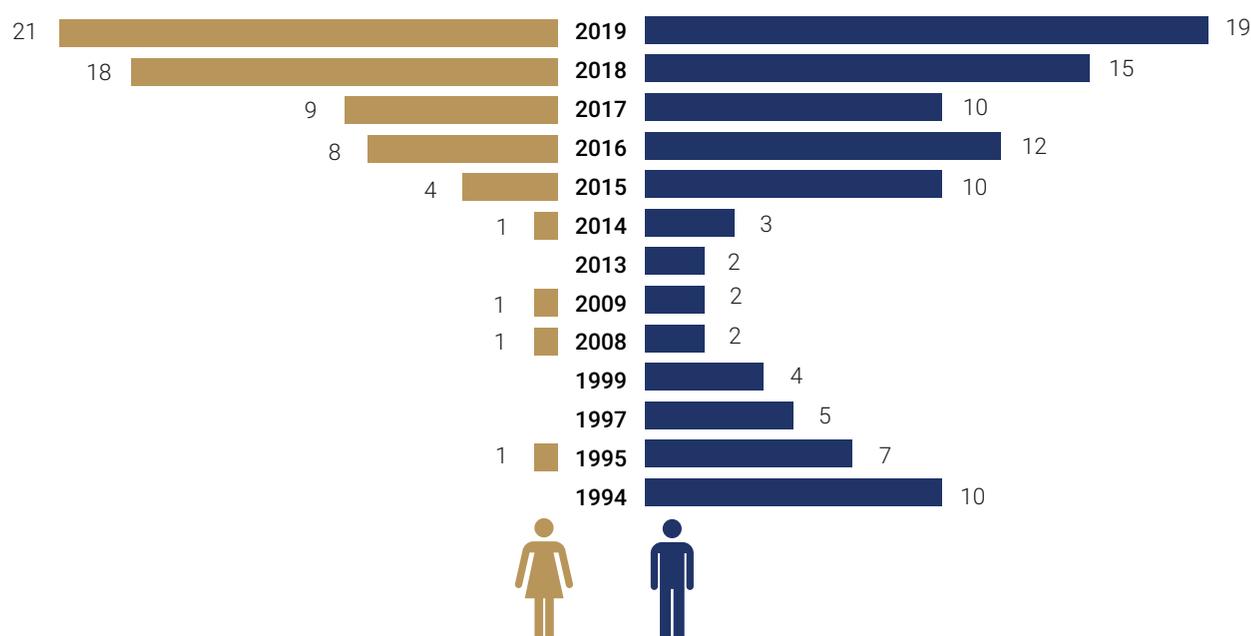
<sup>8</sup> See ISBA/19/LTC/14, *Recommendations for the guidance of contractors and sponsoring States relating to training programmes under plans of work for exploration*, 12 July 2013.

**Table 2: Geographical representation of all CTP trainees (2013-2019)**

Regional Groups	Number of trainees	Countries represented
Africa	38	Burkina Faso, Cameroon, D.R. Congo, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Somalia and South Africa
Asia and Pacific	37	Bangladesh, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand
East European	3	Georgia, Armenia and Belarus
Latin America and Caribbean	30	Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>37</b>

Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

**Figure 5: CTP trainees from 1994-2019 by gender**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

Presentations were then made by several contractors attending the workshop. In his presentation, **Mr John Parianos**, Manager Exploration and Polymetallic Nodules at Tonga Offshore Mining Limited (TOML), highlighted the key aspects of the training programmes implemented. The presentation covered the

experiences of two trainees who are now senior scientists with TOML and are themselves training others. Specific consideration was given to inform participants that such trainings are also designed to engage nationals of the sponsoring State (Tonga) in the activities (see **table 3**).

**Table 3: TOML training and capacity-building initiatives (2009-2019)**

ACTUAL SPENT ON NMT & TOML CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES, TOP\$												Total
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
TMPI, Ministry of Education & Training	5,863	23,258	4,050	4,242	6,685	78,872	-	5,900	3,000	-		131,870
EcoCARES: School Science Competition		10,000	2,100	11,950	8,500	10,000	5,027	6,506	2,100	-		56,183
Secondary School Science Textbook Prizes							5,160	4,884	4,871	5,270	5,047	25,232
Ministry of Health: Dental Section	20,000	20,000	19,954	20,000	19,730	14,679	18,558	10,035	-	-		142,955
Ministry of Health: Casualty and A&E		-	16,533	18,466	7,971	8,000	9,612	13,500	4,134	4,886		83,101
Ministry of Health: Ambulance Service			-	8,000	7,681	9,000	10,125	4,714	-	-		39,520
YiB & Eqpmt for Educational Institutions				8,998	8,907	10,000	9,890	-	-	-		37,795
*Atenisi Foundation for Performing Arts	10,000											10,000
*Ministry of Health, Niu'ui Hospital		10,000										10,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>35,863</b>	<b>63,258</b>	<b>42,637</b>	<b>71,656</b>	<b>59,474</b>	<b>130,551</b>	<b>58,372</b>	<b>45,539</b>	<b>14,105</b>	<b>10,156</b>	<b>5,047</b>	<b>536,658</b>

Source: TOML, 2020

NB:

- \* The Atenisi and Niu'ui projects were one-off projects
- The funding is evaluated during the annual budget process, therefore Nautilus cannot guarantee programmes will be funded every year.

**Mr François Charlet**, presented GSR's training programme and discussed several components including shipboard training, master's degree training, and professional training on oceans policy and law of the sea, which was jointly delivered with the support of the Rhodes Academy. Mr Charlet highlighted that during the first 5-year phase

of its exploration contract, GSR has financially supported 10 trainees, who successfully obtained completion certificates (see **table 4**). Four main types of training were provided to candidates, namely: (i) a training with the Rhodes Academy, at the Centre for Oceans Law and Policy, which usually lasts for 3 weeks; (ii) a training with the Antwerp/

Table 4: ISA-GSR trainees

TYPE OF TRAINING	FELLOWSHIP EDUCATION		PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION	PROFESSIONAL TRAINING	
	Belgian Universities [VUB - UAntw - Ugent]	Liege University [Belgium]	TBC	Contractor & partner companies [Belgium & offshore]	Antwerp Port Training Centre Seminar on Dredging Technologies
NUMBER OF TRAINEES	2 x Nationals from developing countries selected by ISA	2 x Nationals from developing countries selected by ISA	2 x Nationals from developing countries selected from an ISA list	2 x Nationals from developing countries selected from an ISA list	2 x Nationals from developing countries selected from an ISA list
DURATION	Two year-fellowship	Two year-fellowship	2-3 weeks	4 to 6 weeks	2 weeks
DATE	As from September	As from September	Spring / Summer	October / November	June
SoW	Master Degree: "Ocean and Lakes"	Master Degree: "EMerald"	Oceans Law and Policy	Technical and/or environmental participation during the 2019 GSR offshore campaign.	High-Level technical seminar on Dredging Technologies
DOMAINS	Marine Geology/ Marine environmental/ Geophysics/Hydraulic Engineering	Master's Programme in Resources Engineering	Law of the Sea	ROV-type and/or environmental mooring operations (technical more than scientific)	All essential theoretical and practical aspects with regard to the dredging industry
ADMISSION CRITERIA	Bachelor's degree in : biology, biochemistry and biotechnology, chemistry, geology, geography, geomatics, bio-engineer science, environmental sciences	Bachelor's degree in Engineering with basic knowledge in Geology (minimum 3 years of study or 180 ECTS credits) or a Bachelor's Degree in Minerals Engineering, Mining Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Geological Engineering, Metallurgical Engineering or a Master's degree in Geology.	Legal background	Technical or environmental Master degree	Technical degree
FINANCING	Contractor covers travel cost & provides accommodation and tuition fees.	Contractor covers travel cost & provides accommodation and tuition fees.	Contractor covers travel cost & provides accommodation and tuition fees.	Contractor covers travel cost, medical, safety training & provides accommodation and tuition fees.	Contractor covers travel cost & provides accommodation and tuition fees.
WEBSITE	<a href="http://oceansandlakes.be/">http://oceansandlakes.be/</a>	<a href="https://www.emerald.uliege.be/">https://www.emerald.uliege.be/</a>		<a href="https://www.deme-gsr.com/">https://www.deme-gsr.com/</a>	<a href="https://apeporttraining.com/course/dredging-technologies/">https://apeporttraining.com/course/dredging-technologies/</a>
YEARS	Year 7 & Year 9	Year 7 & Year 9	Year 7 & Year 9	Year 8	Year 7 & Year 9

Source: GSR, 2020

Flanders Port Training Centre (APEC) which comprises of a 2-week-long series of seminars on dredging technologies and other offshore engineering activities; (iii) shipboard training onboard GSR exploration vessels, which often lasts up to 6 weeks; and (iv) 2-year master's degree courses focused on Marine and Lacustrine Biology and Geology.

**Mr Jun Jiang**, Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA, presented COMRA's training programme for the three contracts it holds in the Area namely for polymetallic nodules, polymetallic sulphides and cobalt rich crust. The aim of COMRA with these CTPs is to increase participation from developing member States, to transfer to or improve the skills of participants and to improve the management skills of the participants, amongst others. In total, 33 individuals have benefited from the trainings provided under these contracts (see **table 5**).

Overall, the funding expended on training by COMRA for the three contracts until February 2020 was approximately \$820,000. Highlighting some challenges faced by COMRA in the implementation of its legal obligations on training, Mr Jiang indicated that in three cases selected candidates withdrew from the training so late that there was insufficient time to bring in the reserve candidates leading to a loss of these opportunities.

Two additional presentations were also delivered by former trainees of the CTP implemented by JOGMEC. The first presentation was by **Ms Judith Owusu**, Geochemist at the Ghana National Petroleum Corporation. Ms Owusu elaborated that the CTP had provided valuable experience to compare her petroleum geology experience with seabed minerals geology – the former being concerned with minerals beneath the sea floor and the latter with those on the seafloor. It also provided

**Table 5: COMRA's training programmes**

Contract	Number of training provided	Topics covered	Types of training provided
polymetallic nodules (2001-2016, extended)	9 (four were trained under the programme established by the Preparatory Commission in 1995)	On-board abilities, marine science	At sea training (2), Master's programme (2), PhD programme (1)
polymetallic sulphides (2011-2026)	14	Geological sampling and analysis, geophysical data collection/analysis, environmental studies, marine survey techniques, marine engineering and techniques indoor, mining, metallurgical processing technology, marine microbiology	At sea training (10), engineering and technical training (2), fellowship training (2)
cobalt rich crust (2014-2029)	10	Geological sampling and analysis, geophysical data collection/analysis, environmental studies, marine survey techniques, introduction to submersibles, marine engineering and techniques indoor, mining, metallurgical processing technology, marine microbiology	At sea training (5), engineering and technical training (2), fellowship training (3)

Source: -COMRA, 2020



Ms Judith Owusu, Geochemist (Ghana) – ADSR Expert

excellent experience to compare and contrast land-based mining with marine mining. Ms Owusu appreciated the experience that included: introductory university lectures and at sea training including sample collection and preparation. As an outcome of the training, she has recommended her employers to look

at seabed minerals as they explore off-shore petroleum in the future. She concluded her presentation by making a recommendation for CTP: a longer period should provide for such CTP; in her case, she missed out on the extended analysis of samples she helped to prepare.

The second was delivered by **Mr Hank Hedge**, Geologist at the Ministry of Transport and Mining of Jamaica, who provided some insights gained during his seven week at-sea training between May and June 2017. Mr Hedge also underscored the benefits accrued from this experience including improved investigative and analytical skills, professional development, exposure and recognition, networking and cultural exchange. As a result of the practical knowledge on marine mineral exploration he gained from the training, he has made several presentations on the subject in Jamaica. Further, JOGMEC has contributed seabed mineral samples to his organisation's mineral repository.

## Break-out Group Session I: CTP

Participants initiated discussion on the draft recommendations contained in the draft assessment report prepared by the ISA Secretariat. **Brazil** highlighted that consideration should be given to establish a network of former CTP's trainees. **Myanmar** noted that the development of institutional capacity was also an important element for developing States and as such should be considered in the trainings provided by contractors. Former CTP trainee, **Mr Hank Hedge**, underscored that ISA should monitor the impact of the training provided on trainees as well as building on these trainings to develop the skills of the trainees. The representative of **UNDESA** highlighted the need to establish strategic and innovative partnerships. It was also indicated that further efforts should be

made by ISA in drawing awareness of the public and specialized institutions on CTPs. **UKSRL** outlined the need for CTPs to developing a talent pool of the "workforce for the future" and that in so doing enabling contractors to develop specific activities to either "build" capacities or "develop" capacities. A representative of **IOC** commended ISA in progressing with the implementation of the high-level actions and associated outputs listed in the High-Level Action Plan of ISA for 2019-2023 and emphasized the importance of strengthening institutional capacities. **Tonga** insisted on the need to take into consideration feedback reports from trainees as part of the indicators that could be developed to assess the quality of the capacity development activities implemented under the CTP. **TOML** however commented that each trainee would have a different experience and as such it would be essential to ensure that objective indicators are used.

## SESSION 3

# Key findings of the assessment of the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area

**Chair:** Mr Alans Evans, Head, International & Strategic Partnership Office, NOC  
**Rapporteur:** Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro, Foreign Service Officer, Directorate for Legal Affairs and Territorial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### Presenters

**Mr Tearinaki Tanielu**, Consultant

*“Key findings of the assessment of the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area”*

**Dr Jérôme Dymont**, Senior Researcher, Geosciences Marines, Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris & CNRS / past InterRidge chair

*“Capacity-building/development and academic research: an experience through InterRidge and beyond”*

**Mr Tearinaki Tanielu** recalled that the EFMSR in the Area was established at the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Assembly, in July 2006, with the adoption of the resolution ISBA/12/A/11<sup>9</sup>. It became operational the subsequent year, after the adoption of the terms of reference, guidelines and procedures of the EFMSR<sup>10</sup>. Pursuant to article 143 (2) and (3) of UNCLOS, the main objective is to enable ISA to promote and encourage the conduct of marine scientific research in the Area including through the development of programmes designed to benefit developing States and technically less developed States. Accordingly, the EFMSR has been established with the specific mandate to *“promote and encourage the conduct of marine*



Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, Consultant, ISA

<sup>9</sup> See ISBA/12/A/11, *Resolution establishing an endowment fund for marine scientific research in the Area*, 16 August 2006.

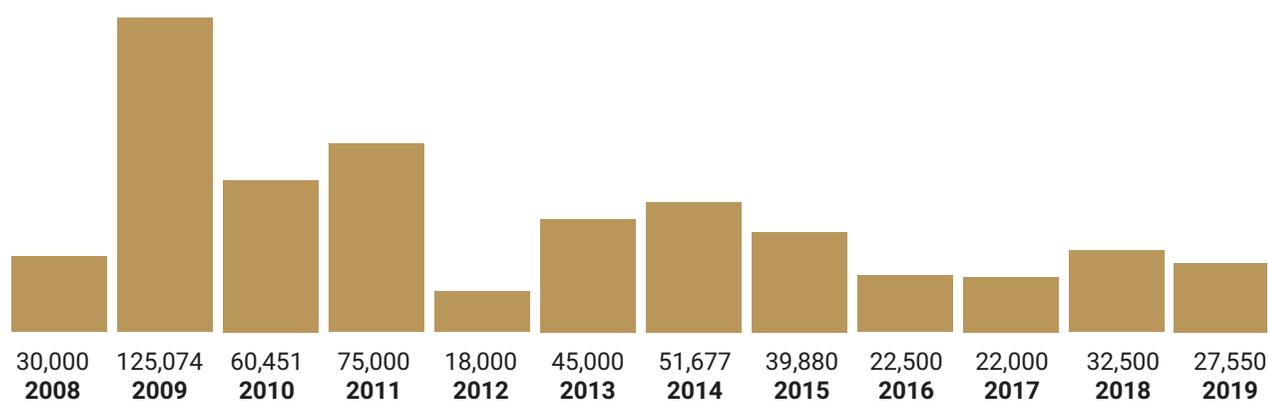
<sup>10</sup> See ISBA/13/A/6, *Decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority relating to the terms of reference, guidelines and procedures for the International Seabed Authority Endowment Fund*, 19 July 2007.

scientific research in the Area for the benefit of mankind as a whole, in particular by supporting the participation of qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries in marine scientific research programmes and offering them opportunities to participate in training, technical assistance and scientific cooperation programmes". Participants were informed that under the terms and reference, guidelines and procedures of the EFMSR, only interest accrued from the EFMSR can be utilized. Information was also given on

the total amount disbursed from the interest accrued on the capital in the form of awards for projects. As of January 2020, this amount was US \$ 582,617 (see **figure 6**).

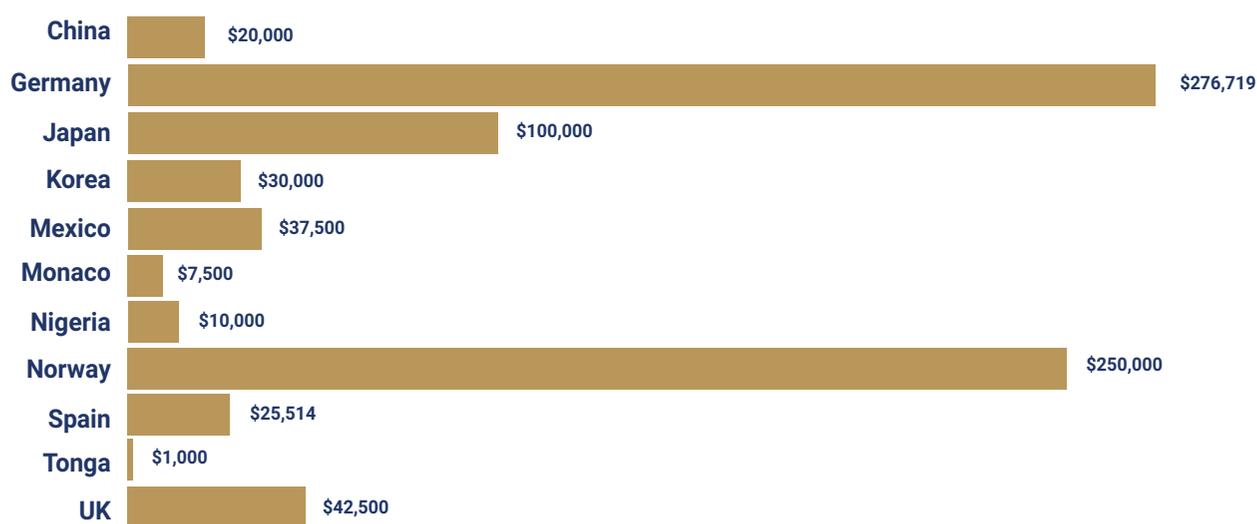
In volume, the main contributors are: Germany (\$ 276,719), Norway (\$ 250,000), Japan (\$ 100,000), the United Kingdom (\$ 85,053) and Mexico (\$ 37,500). Other donors include Korea (\$ 30,000), Spain (\$ 25,514), China (\$ 20,000), Nigeria (\$ 10,000), Monaco (\$ 5,251) and Tonga (\$ 1,000) (see **figure 7**).

**Figure 6: Amount of EFMSR’s funding disbursed per year (US\$) (2008-2019)**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

**Figure 7: Total contribution by donor to the EFMSR**



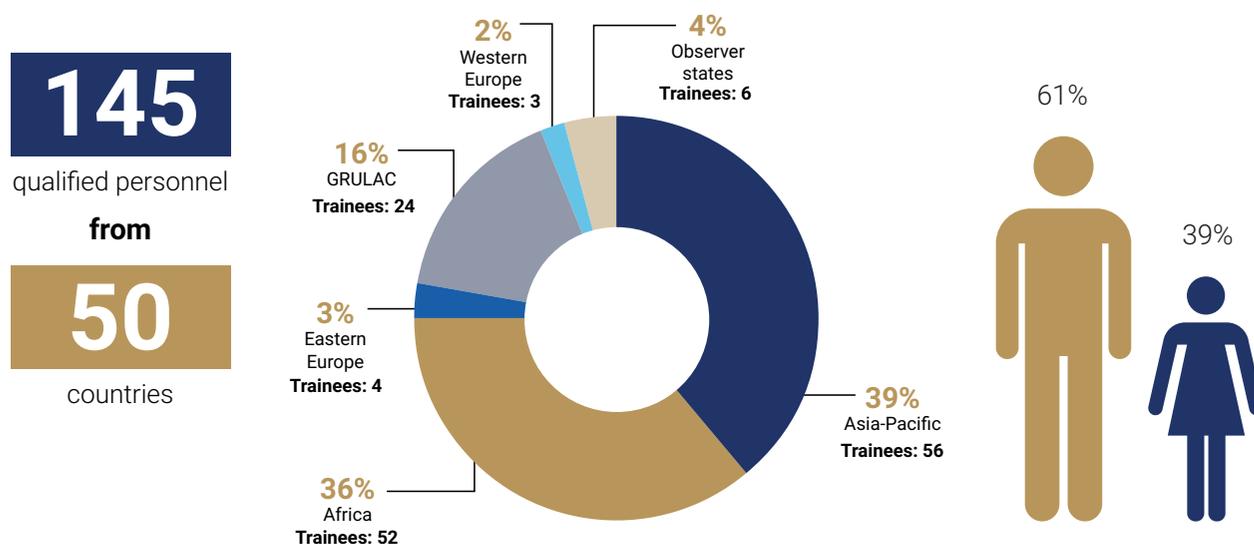
Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

Mr Tainelu also outlined that as of December 2019, 145 qualified personnel from 50 countries have benefited from the EFMSR. The majority were from the Asia-Pacific region (39%) and Africa (36%) whereas 16% were from the Latin and Caribbean region. Participants were also informed that 69% were from SIDS<sup>11</sup> and 31% were from LDCs<sup>12</sup>. No individuals from LLDCs have benefitted yet from the EFMSR. Approximately 39% of trainees were women (see **figure 8**).

**Dr Jérôme Dymont**, Senior Researcher at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris and CNRS, delivered a presentation focusing on the capacity-building approach followed by InterRidge, including through the activities undertaken with funds granted by the EFMSR. Having appraised participants of the membership and main objectives of InterRidge, Dr Dymont described the InterRidge student

and Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme designed to promote the involvement of young scientists in international, collaborative, and interdisciplinary studies of oceanic spreading centres. Through this programme, selected participant can benefit by up to US \$ 5,000 of support for activities in the field of ridge-crest research. Since 2017, three fellows benefitted from a granted funded in partnership with the EFMSR of ISA to individuals from Iran, India and Nigeria, under the ISA-Interridge Fellowship which focuses on young researchers from developing countries. The InterRidge Cruise Bursaries is another tool offered by InterRidge to support early-career scientists. These bursaries are given to support travel and subsistence costs to encourage new collaborations across the InterRidge members through enabling early-career scientists to participate in mid-ocean ridge research cruises. In addition to this, InterRidge provide

**Figure 8: Number and percentage of individuals who have benefitted from the EFMSR by regions and gender (2006-2019)**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

11 Cook Islands, Fiji, Guyana, Jamaica, Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Suriname, Tonga and Trinidad and Tobago.

12 Angola, Bangladesh, Madagascar, Mauritania, Sierra Leone.

help for early-career scientists to participate ridge-related meetings and workshops. In conclusion, the presenter highlighted the importance to ensuring that: (i) fundamental knowledge of deep sea biodiversity is taken into consideration in capacity development initiatives; and (ii) funding is spent on the basis of clear assessment of individuals' capacity-building/development needs.

### **Discussion:**

Particular emphasis was made on the need to develop a list of needs and priorities of developing States, Members of ISA, as well as to consider possible solutions on the limitations of the EFMSR as it relates to resource disbursement and resource mobilization.

This led to detailed discussions on: (i) the crucial importance for the EFMSR to take into consideration the needs of developing States that are members of ISA; (ii) attracting potential donors including by exploring the possibility for contractors who have not been able to select any trainee to be allowed to reallocate

the unused fund for training to the EFMSR; (iii) the difficulty in attracting donors due to the limitations imposed on the use of the EFMSR and ; (iv) the issue of reallocation of the unspent interest of the EFMSR to support activities or requests independent from the objectives assigned to the EFMSR.

Participants expressed some concerns that the current restrictions imposed for the disbursement of EFMSR (i.e. only interest on the capital can be used) prevented ISA to fulfil its obligations under UNCLOS while, at the same time, could significantly discourage potential donors from contributing to the EFMSR. In line with this, participants agreed that the development of a more programmatic approach by ISA could effectively increase the impact of the EFMSR by ensuring that the use of the available funding could meet the priority needs identified by developing States. Participants also considered the recommendations listed in the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat during the break-out group session.

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## **Break-out Group Session II: EFMSR**

This break-out session started with a list of points highlighted by the Chair. These points related to the:

1. Identification of needs of developing States, collated and made available by ISA which could then be used to guide applications and the selection process followed by the Advisory Panel;
2. Limitations associated with the use of funds from the EFMSR; and
3. Key elements to be taken into consideration to address issues related to attracting donors and using the EFMSR for non-MSR purposes.

### **Discussion:**

**Mexico** commented on the limitations attached to the use of funds from the EFMSR i.e. use of interest only and the subsequent difficulty to attract donors. The workshop facilitator indicated that based on the discussion held in plenary, it seemed that there was a clear support to review the terms of references of the EFMSR, however there was no consensus for using the EFMSR for anything other than its current intended purposes. Adding on this, the **Chair** drew the attention of participants on the issue of the list of needs of developing States that could assist in establishing a list of priorities, to be considered by institutions, when submitting application for funding under the EFMSR. **Indonesia** also outlined that language barrier was an impediment in certain

cases and suggested that one solution to overcome this challenge could be to develop 'training of trainers' programme. On the issue of the limitation of the financial structure of the EFMSR, **China** suggested that a cap or a maximum of capital would allow for the utility of resources above and beyond that limit. **InterRidge** pointed out that a useful initiative would be to develop a specific fellowship in

partnership to focus on undertaking studies on existing data held by ISA. Building on this suggestion, the **ISA Secretary-General** highlighted that a good way of making the EFMSR more project oriented could be to organize two fellowships per year which would focus on specific technical priorities of the Secretariat.



(L – R): Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro, Foreign Service Officer, Directorate for Legal Affairs and Territorial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia, Mr Alan Evans, Head, International & Strategic Partnership Office, and H.E Mathu Joyini, Deputy Director, Diplomatic Training and Support Unit of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO)

## SESSION 4

# Key findings of the assessment of the Internship Programme

**Chair:** Ms Alex Herman, Seabed Minerals Commissioner, Cook Islands  
**Rapporteur:** Mr Antonio Cruz-Diaz, Minister, Deputy Head of Mission, Permanent Mission of Mexico to ISA

### Presenters

**Ms Kayon Wray**, Senior Training Assistant, ISA  
*"Assessment of ISA Internship Programme: impact, challenges and potential solutions"*

**Dr Ximena Hinrichs**, Registrar, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (remote presentation)  
*"Capacity-building at ITLOS"*

**Ms Jessica Howley**, Associate Legal Officer, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS) (remote presentation)  
*"Capacity-building and Fellowship Programmes implemented by DOALOS"*

**Mr David Fernando Garzón Pico**, Former ISA Intern  
*"Overview of experience as an ISA Intern"*



Ms Kayon Wray, ISA Secretariat

In her opening remarks, the Chair, **Ms Alex Herman**, insisted on the importance of capacity-building programmes for developing States, particularly as they can contribute significantly to the development of individual's capacities who support national governments in achieving their own development objectives.

The first presentation was delivered by **Ms Kayon Wray**, Interim Senior Training Assistant at ISA. It was intended to provide an overview of the objectives of the Internship Programme (IP) as well as the nature and administration processes in implementing it. This was the opportunity to recall that the ISA's IP had been established in 2014 with two main objectives.

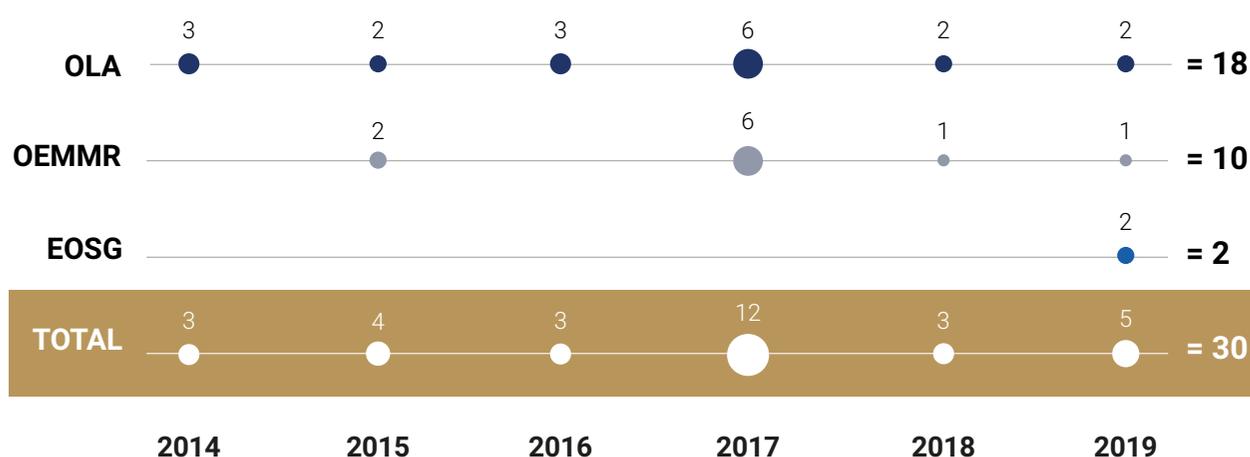


First, to provide a framework through which students and young government officials from diverse academic backgrounds gain exposure to the work and functions of ISA. Second, to enable ISA to benefit from the assistance of qualified students and young government officials specialized in various skills within the scope of activities of ISA. All applicants to ISA's IP should normally not be more than 35 years of age. As of December 2019, a total of 30 university graduates and government officials had participated in the IP. The vast majority of these interns were women (78%) and most of

them had undertaken their internships within OLA or OEMMR (See **figure 9**).

In terms of regional distribution, Ms Wray indicated that for the period 2014-2019, 32% of the interns were from SIDS<sup>13</sup> when 33% of interns were from western Europe and 23% from the Latin American and the Caribbean region. Three interns were from observer States. However, no interns came from Africa or from Eastern Europe nor from LDCs or LLDCs (see **figure 10** and **figure 11**).

**Figure 9: Overview of the internships by office and per year within ISA Secretariat (2014-2019)**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

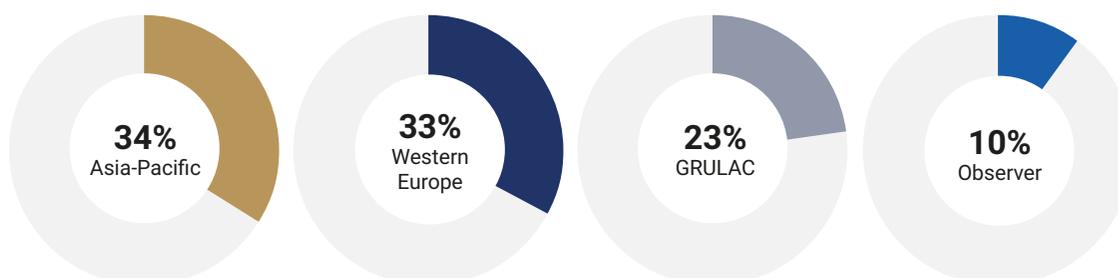
**Figure 10: Number of interns with the ISA Secretariat by regional groups (2014-2019)**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

13 Cook Islands, Jamaica, Papua New Guinea and Tonga.

**Figure 11: Geographic representation of interns with the ISA Secretariat by regional groups (2014-2019)**



Source: ISA Secretariat, 2020

**Dr Ximena Hinrichs**, Registrar at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), delivered a presentation via video, on the capacity-building programmes implemented by the Tribunal. She informed the workshop's participants that the ITLOS' IP was established in 1997 with the objective of giving interns the opportunity to gain an understanding of the work and functions of ITLOS. Funding has been available for applicants from developing countries in order to assist them in covering the costs incurred by the internship (travel costs and accommodation). The Trust Fund for the Law of the Sea is currently used to provide financial assistance to interns. As of the end of 2019, a total of 375 interns from 95 different member States had participated in the programme. Of those, 163 interns have benefited from funding. Dr Hinrichs indicated that ITLOS also has a capacity-building and training programme on dispute settlement under UNCLOS which is conducted with the support of the Nippon Foundation. In 2019, the thirteenth edition was launched. Nationals of Bahrain, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Guyana and Lithuania are currently participating (July 2019 – March 2020). Fellows are sponsored and receive a grant (The Nippon Foundation Grant) that aims at covering the costs incurred by their participation. The programme consists of lectures on topical issues related to the law of the sea and maritime law and training courses on negotiation and delimitation. Some visits of key institutions in the field of law of the sea,

maritime law or international dispute settlement are also organized. Dr Hinrichs also informed the workshop's participants that ITLOS also runs regional workshops and that so far, 14 of them have been organized in: Dakar, Kingston, Libreville, Singapore, Bahrain, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Fiji, Mexico City, Nairobi, Bali, San José, Mindelo and Montevideo. The purpose of these workshops is to provide government experts working on maritime and law of the sea matters with insights into the procedures for disputes settlement contained in Part XV of UNCLOS. Particular emphasis is placed on the jurisdiction of ITLOS and the procedural rules applicable to cases before it. The workshops are designed for officials and government experts specializing in the field of the law of the sea from Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, Fisheries, Transport and the Marine Environment. Dr Hinrichs also outlined the "Summer Academy" organized by the International Foundation of the Law of the Sea (IFLOS), with the support of ITLOS. The "Summer Academy" focuses on the settlement of disputes under UNCLOS as well as other critical issues in the field of the law of the sea and maritime law. Lectures are provided by judges of ITLOS and other international experts. The "Summer Academy" is open to highly qualified professionals and experts from all over the world. The IFLOS Summer Academy is supported by a range of donors including Germany and the Nippon Foundation. When concluding, Dr Hinrichs



(L-R) Mr Antonio Cruz-Diaz, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy and Alternate Permanent Representative of Mexico to the ISA and Mrs Alex Hermann, Cook Islands Seabed Minerals Commissioner

indicated that based on previous assessment of the Nippon foundation's ITLOS Programme, an alumni network has been established to allow exchange and sharing of experiences and knowledge between former and current fellows and interns. Through the Network, contact was maintained with ITLOS and ongoing engagement with current fellows and interns is made possible, including presentation opportunities in various fora.

**Ms Jessica Howley**, Associate Legal Officer at DOALOS, delivered a presentation which provided an overview of the capacity-building programmes implemented by DOALOS. Ms Howley outlined that DOALOS delivers demand-driven assistance at the global, regional and national levels to assist in the reinforcement of the capacity of States and relevant entities in the implementation of UNCLOS and the wider ocean affairs framework. It does so through the provision of technical assistance and training programmes, including those aimed at assisting States in the implementation of UNCLOS and related legal frameworks, ocean

policies, the development of blue economies and building more sustainable ocean-based value chains, and through the implementation of several annual Fellowship programmes. It also administers various trust funds aimed at assisting developing States, including in relation to participation in ocean-related intergovernmental processes. With respect to the Fellowship programmes, in partnership with the Nippon Foundation, DOALOS implements three Fellowship programmes: (i) the UN-Nippon Foundation Fellowship; (ii) the UN-Nippon Foundation Thematic Fellowship; and (iii) the UN-Nippon Foundation Critical Needs Fellowship. These Fellowships are longer-term, cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary training programmes which aim to provide the necessary foundation for States to develop comprehensive ocean policies and to assist a new generation of ocean practitioners to meet current challenges through implementing sustainable ocean-based development in line with relevant international legal frameworks. So far, 200 Fellows from over 80 States have benefited from the training opportunities

offered by these Fellowship programmes. DOALOS also implements the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe (HSA) Memorial Fellowship Programme, which was established by General Assembly Resolution in 1981 and is funded through voluntary contributions. Ms Howley provided an overview of the different formats and focuses of each of the Fellowship programmes. The Critical Needs and Thematic Fellowships consist of New York-based training programmes, while the HSA and UN-Nippon Foundation Fellowships take place in two phases: the first consists of a training programme held at DOALOS, in New York, whilst in the second phase, Fellows spend six months at a Host Institution, where they research and elaborate a written thesis. DOALOS maintains a network of partner institutions including ISA. Ms Howley concluded her presentation with an overview of the UN-Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme Alumni Network which aims to serve the evolving capacity and networking needs of the Fellowship Alumni as they progress through their careers, in recognition of the continuing and rapid developments in ocean affairs and the law of the sea. The Network fosters greater understanding between individuals and reinforces a broader and more consistent application of ocean governance frameworks.

Invited to share his experience as former ISA Intern (2017), **Mr David Garzón Pico** highlighted that amongst the benefits accrued was the ability to share the knowledge gained with other colleagues in Ecuador and as such, reinforcing the expertise of the national delegation at international meetings such as the meetings of UNCLOS' States parties and ISA's annual sessions. Mr Garzon Pico also underscored the importance of relationships established with fellow interns or experts during the internship. Participants were informed that in terms of content, this internship had been the opportunity to work in OEMMR and to undertake data procession, create maps and do some research.

### **Discussion:**

A representative of **NOC** enquired if the ISA was considering some options to mobilize contributions to support the IP. ISA clarified that some options were indeed under consideration. A representative of **NORI** asked what a minimum cost would need to be made available to financially support interns from developing countries. ISA indicated that a minimum of US \$ 5,000 would be necessary for one month for each intern in order to ensure that costs related to accommodation, living and travelling expenses be covered. Participants also raised the need for ISA to increase visibility and awareness on the IP and to provide the potential support. **Ghana** highlighted that the ITLOS Alumni network was a good example and that ISA could consider it in establishing such alumni mechanism. Several participants also noted that the alumni network established by DOALOS presented some interest in professionals and experts from developing countries to exchange and engage.



Mr Solomon Korbieh, Legal Advisor, Permanent Mission of Ghana to the UN



## SESSION 5

# Towards a more programmatic approach to deliver ISA's capacity development activities

**Chair:** H.E Carlos Den Hartog, Permanent Representative of Brazil to ISA

**Rapporteur:** Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, Consultant, ISA

### Presenters

**Mr Michael W. Lodge**, Secretary-General, ISA

*"ISA's programmatic approach: context and suggested way forward"*

**Mr Sai Navoti**, Chief, SIDS Unit, UNDESA

*"Case study 1: Abyssal Initiative for Blue Growth"*

**Mr Paul Msoma**, int. Director ADMC, Africa Union - Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, ISA -

*"Case study 2: the African Deep Seabed Resources project"*

Session V started with a presentation by **ISA's Secretary-General** on the evolution towards a more programmatic approach to be followed by ISA in relation to capacity-building. **Mr Lodge** highlighted that this new approach was embedded in the Strategic Plan of ISA for 2019-2023 and more specifically reflected in Strategic Directions 5 (*"Building capacity for developing States"*) and 6 (*"Ensure integrated participation by developing States"*). As part of the benefits observed and expected, it was indicated that such change in operation would translate into a more proactive approach enabling shared consensus as well as a better identification and monitoring of the objectives to be met to address the needs identified by ISA Members. On this point, the Secretary-General informed the participants of the workshop that as a way forward the Secretariat will undertake a consultation with developing States, Members of ISA to assess their priority needs. On the basis of the information

collected, the ISA Secretariat will develop a matrix and identify how to adjust or organize its capacity-building/development activities to respond to the needs identified. This would then be used to mobilize funding and establish strategic partnerships.

**Mr Sai Navoti**, Chief of the SIDS Unit at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UN-DESA) presented the Abyssal Initiative project. Tailored to address the needs identified by the participating countries, this project concretizes the joint Voluntary Commitment registered by ISA and UNDESA at the 2017 UN Ocean Conference (#OceanAction16538). Designed to assist build the capacity of small island developing States (SIDS), in particular, the four Pacific sponsoring States, namely, Nauru, Tonga, Cook Islands and Kiribati, this project aimed at supporting them in meeting their obligations under international law. Mr Navoti

informed the workshop's participants that the project had completed in 2019 three regional workshops in Tonga, Nauru and Kiribati and that two additional workshops will be held in 2020. One was scheduled to take place in the Cook Islands with the view of addressing the needs identified to develop capacities of P-SIDS' experts in the field of environmental management and monitoring. Another one would be held in Tonga to build the capacities of P-SIDS' experts on all the issues associated with benefit sharing.

**Mr Paul Msoma**, interim Director of the African Minerals Development Centre (ADMC) of the Africa Union (AU) and **Dr Marie Bourrel-Mckinnon** from ISA delivered a joint presentation on the African Deep Seabed Resources (ADSR) project which is a partnership between ISA, AU and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). The policy context within which this project (#OceanAction16374) was taking place was recalled and in particular that it was a response to the needs expressed by the African Union and African States to engage further with the

sustainable development of oceanic resources in support to their Blue Economy. As such, the project had two complementary objectives. First, ensure that decision-making processes of African States are better informed. Second, enhance the technical capacity and expertise of African professionals. Presenters also informed that, as of January 2020, already 65 experts from African countries had benefitted from the activities implemented in the context of the ADSR project whilst it was expected that at the end of it, more than 100 of individuals would have benefitted.

### **Discussion:**

Several participants commended the results achieved through these two projects. **NOC** highlighted the strategic element of building capacity to meet the priority needs identified by countries. **UNDESA, Tonga, Nauru** and the **Cook Islands** commented further on how interest and needs of P-SIDS sponsoring States had been taken into account to design the Abyssal Initiative project and how such an approach has proven to generate immediate positive results.

## **Break-out Group Session III**

The break-out session held in the context of Session V addressed several issues, including: development of resource mobilization strategy; establishment of partnerships and alliances to leverage resources; ensuring national ownership in the process; considering options to improve the capacity of ISA to deliver programmatic approach; and dissemination and sharing of information between countries and between organizations to identify synergies.

On the issue of the identification of needs of developing States, the workshop's participants recognized the importance for ISA to develop a dedicated mechanism. **Argentina** underlined that the identification of priority needs should be country-driven with a view to encourage

country-ownership. Discussing how a "programmatic approach" could be further progressed, participants outlined that SD 5 and SD 6 embedded the shift of approach in order to improve the impact of ISA's capacity-building / development activities and programmes. Participants also agreed that ISA should develop a resource mobilization strategy whilst envisaging potential options to strengthen the capacity of the ISA Secretariat to drive this process. Participants recommended as well that ISA continue building alliances and partnerships to leverage resources. **Costa Rica** highlighted that some consideration should be given to expand activities currently undertaken under the Abyssal Initiative project and the ADSR project to other geographical regions.

## SESSION 6

# The potential contribution of regional centres to the achievement of SDG14

**Chair:** Mr Nyan Lin Aung, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Myanmar to the United Nations

**Rapporteur:** Dr Ulrich Schwarz-Schampera, Head of Section “Ore Deposit Geology and Analytical Fingerprint”, BRG

## Presenters

**Mrs Jihyun Lee**, Director of the Office of Environmental Management and Mineral Resources, ISA – Dr Shi Xianpeng, National Deep Sea Centre

*“Case study: ISA-China Joint Training Centre- update, objectives, activities, program of work, way forward”*

**Mr Jun Jiang**, Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA  
**“Video presentation of the ISA-China JTRC”**

Session VI was chaired by **Mr Nyan Lin Aung**, from the Permanent Mission of Myanmar to the United Nations who briefly provided an overview of the scope of articles 275 and 276 of UNCLOS which highlight the important of the establishment of marine scientific centres and transfer of technology, particularly for developing countries. **Dr Ulrich Schwarz-Schampera**, Head of Section “Ore Deposit Geology and Analytical Fingerprint” at BRG acted as rapporteur. The Chair who recalled that articles 275 and 276 of UNCLOS outlined the potential contribution of national and regional centres for the promotion and encouragement of marine scientific centres and transfer of technology, particularly for developing countries.

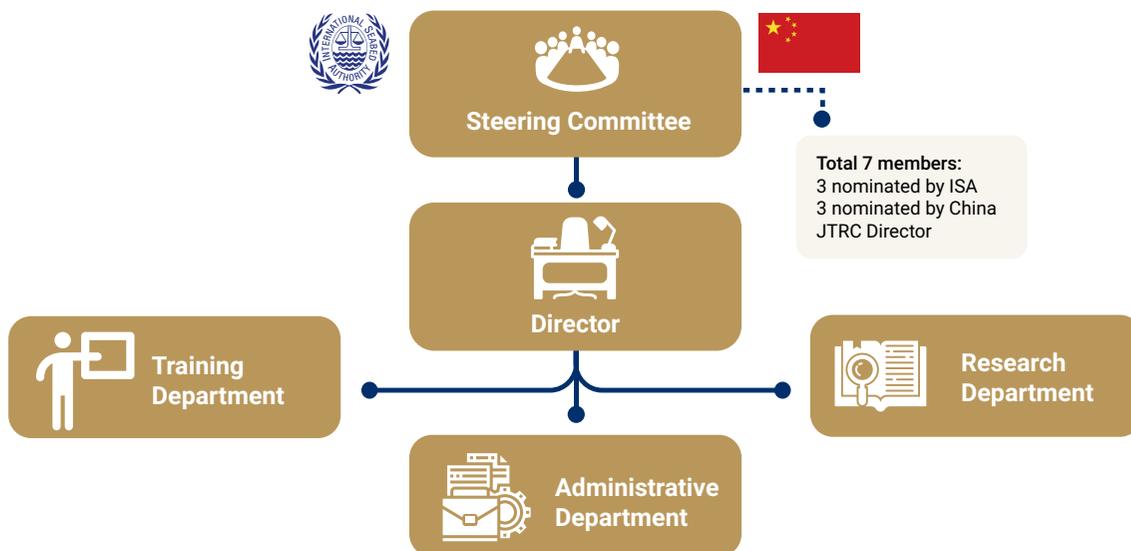
The first presentation was delivered by **Mrs Jihyun Lee**, Director of OEMMR at ISA, on the objectives, future activities and programme of work of the newly established ISA-China

Joint Training Centres (JTRC). After recalling the operational framework within which the JTRC has been established (UNCLOS, ISA Strategic Plan for 2019-2023, Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2019 between ISA and the Ministry of Natural Resources of China), Mrs Lee provided further details on the operational framework of the JTRC. The workshop’s participants were informed that the ISA-China JTRC is composed of three departments under the supervision of a Director guided by a Steering Committee comprising Chinese and international experts (see **figure 12** and **figure 13**). Mrs Lee also indicated that the JTRC will focus on two types of activities: (i) research (policies, technologies and best practice related to the protection of the marine environment, including the prevention, reduction and control of marine pollution; and monitoring trends and development in deep sea mining technology) and, (ii) organization of conferences/seminars and workshops

to promote scientific and technological exchanges. Additional information was also given in relation to the sources of funding to be mobilized.

A video presentation of the JTRC was then introduced by Mr Jun Jiang, Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA.

**Figure 12: JTRC operating framework**



Source: JTRC, 2020

**Figure 13: Members of the JTRC’s Steering Committee**



Source: JTRC, 2020



## **Break-out Group Session IV: Regional Centres**

This session was followed by an interactive break-out group discussion in which participants stressed the importance of establishing strategic partnerships with existing regional institutions with a view of creating a platform to strengthen international cooperation for capacity building/development and transfer of marine science technology instead of establishing new regional centres in each region. An appropriate example was the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, annually organized by the Codification Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs. The participants considered that the regional courses, in partnership with respective regional institution and host country, can be used as a regular platform to provide capacity building/development and transfer of marine science technology for regional countries.

Another point of discussion related to the possible challenges to maintain sustainable funding for such initiative. Participants agreed to recommend to ISA to consider approaching regional institutions to co-share cost of initiatives carried out at the regional level. One participant suggested that emphasis also needed to be placed on establishment of online platform to share information and the outcome of marine scientific research. In this regard, participant expressed their support to the idea of establishing an “audiovisual library” suggested by the facilitator. An example was the Audiovisual Library created by the Office of the Legal Affairs of the United Nations. The participants also recommended that ISA identifies the possible regional institutions and then engage with them to identify the capacity needs of countries in the regions. Participants also suggested the ISA to design the structure of the arrangement based on needs assessment of the developing states, especially SIDS and LDCs through their respective regional institutions.

## SESSION 7

# Assessment of capacity needs and priorities

**Chair:** H.E Duncan Laki, Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations  
**Rapporteur:** Mr Sai Navoti, Chief, SIDS Unit, UNDESA

### Presenters

**USG Fekitamoeloa Troupai Utoikamanu**, High Representative for small island States, least developed countries and land-locked developing countries, UN-OHRLLS  
*"Importance of capacity-building for SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the other high-level frameworks"*

**Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon**, Senior Policy Officer – Special Assistant to the Secretary – General, ISA  
*"The identification of capacity development needs and priorities by developing States – What methodology?"*

**Mr Joshua Setipa**, Director, Technology Bank for the LDCs  
*"Overview of the Technology Bank for the LDCs"*

**Dr Luciana Genio**, Environment Analyst, ISA  
*"Overview of potential future capacity needs in deep sea research relating to the protection of the marine environment"*

**Professor Ronán Long**, Director, World Maritime University- Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute  
*"Enhancing the Role of Women in Marine Scientific Research"*

**Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon**, Senior Policy Officer – Special Assistant to the Secretary-General, ISA  
*"Enhancing the role of women in MSR through capacity-building"*

Session VII took place in two times. The first part was held on Tuesday 11 February 2020 and the second part on Wednesday 12 February 2020. This session was chaired by **Ambassador Duncan Laki**, Legal Counsel, at the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the UN. **Mr Sai S. Navoti**, Chief of the SIDS Unit at UN-DESA acted as Rapporteur.

The **Under Secretary-General, H.E. Ms Fekitamoeloa 'Utoikamanu**, High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS delivered a presentation outlining the *"Importance of capacity- building for LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS in the context of the 2030 Agenda and other high-level frameworks"*. Highlighting that these group of countries were

the most vulnerable, the Under Secretary-General underscored that capacity-building was a critical element of the international frameworks setting out the sustainable development priorities of these countries for the ten years to come, namely: the Istanbul Programme of Action for the LDCs, the Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs and the SAMOA Pathway for SIDS. Accordingly, it was possible to identify the following key action areas for strengthening these countries' capacities: (i) increase and foster foreign direct investment, (ii) strengthen international cooperation, (iii) promote investment in research and development, and (iv) strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships.

A second presentation was delivered by **Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon**, Senior Policy Officer and Special Assistant to the Secretary-General at ISA, and focused on the approach and methodology that will be followed by ISA to undertake the identification of capacity development needs and priorities of developing States, Members of ISA. In so doing she indicated that the Secretariat will consult Members on what would be their priority needs with a view of compiling the responses received in a matrix of the needs. It is expected that such matrix could be used to enable, as requested by the ISA Strategic Plan and High-Level Action Plan for 2019-2023, to adjust – when needed – ISA's capacity development programmes and initiatives.

**Mr Joshua Setipa**, Director of the United Nations Technology Bank (UN-TB) provided an overview of the UN-TB which was the opportunity to recall participants that this entity has been established in 2018 with the objective to enhancing the contribution of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development for LDCs. Mr Setipa underscored the importance of enabling access to new technologies for LDCs particularly in relation to the 2030 Agenda. Emphasis was then placed on the three capacity development activities currently undertaken by UN-TB, namely: (i) the UN Technology Innovation Labs, (ii) the

Technology Transfer programme and, (iii) the Capacity development – Geospatial Information Technologies. Mr Setipa also indicated that as of February 2020, 2600 experts from 15 different countries have been trained (since June 2018). In terms of financing, the presenter indicated that the UN-TB was entirely funded by extra budgetary sources and operates in close cooperation with governments, other UN agencies, civil society, the private sector and academia. In concluding his presentation Mr Setipa highlighted potential areas for cooperation with ISA such as partnership in delivery of technical assistance, technology needs assessment; training focusing on research activities; and development of joint initiatives in LDCs' conferences.

The fourth presentation of Session VII was delivered by **Dr Luciana Genio**, Environmental Analyst at ISA. This presentation aimed at providing an overview of the potential future capacity needs in deep sea research related to the protection of the marine environment. Highlighting the importance of marine



Ms Luciana Genio, ISA Secretariat

scientific research for the development of robust environmental management systems, Dr Genio underscored that the future needs of deep-sea environmental research would essentially target: (i) an increase of basic knowledge, (ii) cost-effective and standardized methodologies, and (iii) improved synergies and resource mobilization. Then the presenter detailed the “Sustainable Seabed Knowledge Initiative (SSKI)”, currently under development by ISA in partnership with research institutions, which will create an innovative knowledge framework to advance global understanding of deep-sea biodiversity and resilience of deep-sea life to anthropogenic change. In conclusion, Dr Genio offered some prospective remarks on what could be the future needs in capacity development in relation to deep sea research, including seagoing and land-based training for collection and analysis of scientific data.

The second part of Session VII held on Wednesday 12 February 2020 started with a presentation delivered by **Professor Ronán Long**, Director at the World Maritime University (WMU) - Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute. Dr Long’s presentation was entitled “Enhancing the role of women in marine scientific research” and aimed at highlighting the capacity-building impacts of the work undertaken by WMU in general and more particularly, in relation to women empowerment. The workshop’s participants were reminded of the specific role of WMU in relation to capacity-building and its status of post graduate University established by the International Maritime Organization in 1993. Since its establishment, the WMU has graduated 5167 candidates from 170 nationalities, 90% of whom are from developing countries. Of these, 1110 are females. Emphasis was also placed on the efforts of WMU to contribute to this important goal in the context of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. Professor Long recalled that this initiative was rooted in the support expressed in May 2018

by Ambassador Heather Grant representing the Government of Canada at the Inauguration of the Global Ocean Institute to conduct gender equality research with WMU. In April 2019, the President of WMY, Dr Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry and Dr Genevieve Béchard, Hydrographer General of Canada, signed the Grant Agreement between WMU and the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Ocean. Few months later, in January 2020, this led to the organization of the first gender workshop conducted with an international expert working with WMU, Professor Susan Buckingham. The presenter then outlined the project architecture and project team as well as the work plan and priority research themes.

The last presentation was delivered by **Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon** who gave a briefing on the specific initiative undertaken by ISA since 2017 to enhance the role of women in deep sea research. The presenter recalled that this initiative originated in ones of the Voluntary Commitments formally registered by ISA at the 2017 UN Ocean Conference (#OceanAction15467). This Voluntary Commitment was specifically designed to contribute to the implementation of SDG 14 “Life below water” and SDG 5 “Gender equality”. Dr Bourrel-McKinnon highlighted that this initiative was officially launched in March 2018 when ISA, in partnership with UN-OHRLLS, held a joint side-event on the margins of 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW62) that was organized at the UN Headquarters, in New York (“Enhancing the role of Women in marine deep sea scientific research to achieve the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the vulnerable countries”). Dr Bourrel-McKinnon then indicated that further elements were currently under development with ISA to progress the implementation of this commitment for which the current partnerships with UN-OHRLLS and WMU will be instrumental.

## **Break-out Group Session VIII: Special needs of SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs under Session VII essentially focused Secretariat**

The break-out session that was held under Session VII essentially focused on the recommendations listed in the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat. Participants acknowledged the existence of internationally agreed sustainable development priorities for each group of countries concerned, noting in particular that the Istanbul Programme of Action elaborates the capacity needs of LDCs, the Vienna Programme of Action addresses the needs of the LLDCs and the Samoa pathway sets out the priorities on capacity needs of SIDS. Participants to this break-out session also acknowledged that these groups of countries were special cases for sustainable development, and each had peculiar needs in that respect. The group then considered the recommendations that make specific references to LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS contained in the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat in preparation of the workshop. It was noted that of the 44 recommendations contained therein, six directly related to LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS. These included recommendations 1, 8, 21, 22, 33 and 44.

It was also noted that these recommendations were left sporadically throughout the draft assessment report, under their respective specific themes. Accordingly, while participants generally supported all recommendations, they also suggested that the ISA Secretariat considers the order of these recommendations, with the view to grouping them together.

Participants also took the opportunity to discuss matters relating to capacity development and capacity-building in general and highlighted the importance for the Secretary-General of ISA to consider creating a matrix or a data bank containing;

1. Information supplied by Members and other stakeholders stipulating or listing the capacity priorities and needs; and
2. Information regarding existing institutions, frameworks, and all mechanisms currently available to be accessed by developing countries.



Dr Suzan El-Gharabawy, National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Alexandria

## SESSION 8

# Building strategic partnerships in support of ISA's capacity development programmes and initiatives

**Chair:** H.E Gina Guillen-Grillo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to ISA  
**Rapporteur:** Mr Paul Msoma, Interim Director, Africa Minerals Development Centre, African Union

### Presenters

**Dr Cesar Toro**, Head of IOCARIBE Secretariat

*"Building synergies and opportunities through the UN Decade of Ocean Science to enhance the capacity development programmes and initiatives of ISA"*

**Mr Michael W. Lodge**, Secretary-General, ISA

*"The Future of capacity development and technology transfer to meet the needs of developing States members of ISA"*

Session VIII was chaired by H.E Gina Guillen-Grillo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to ISA. **Mr Paul Msoma**, Interim Director of the AMDC-AU acted as rapporteur.

**Dr Cesar Toro**, representative of IOC-UNESCO, provided participants with an overview of the work currently undertaken by his organization in preparation of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and how important this would be in order to *"Building synergies and opportunities through the UN Decade of Ocean Science to enhance the capacity development programmes and initiatives of ISA"*. Dr Toro outlined that ocean science currently accounts for only between 0,04% and 4% of total research and development expenditures worldwide. In this context, the UN Decade of Ocean Science could and should be understood as a global collective and investment framework to close the knowledge gaps for ocean



Dr Cesar Toro, Head of IOCARIBE Secretariat

science. As such, seven priority research and development areas were identified as follows: (i) comprehensive mapping (digital atlas) of the ocean; (ii) comprehensive ocean observing system; (iii) advance understanding of ocean



ecosystems as the basis for their integrated ocean management; (iv) data and information system; (v) ocean dimension in an integrated multi-hazard warning system; (vi) ocean compartment of the Earth system; and (vii) capacity development, education and training. Dr Toro then emphasized that IOC-UNESCO and ISA have a unique opportunity of partnering with the industry which are one of the major players in ocean sciences particularly in relation to research and development.

The Secretary-General of ISA, **Mr Michael W. Lodge**, concluded Session VIII with a presentation on the *"Future of capacity development and technology transfer to meet the needs of developing States"*. Outlining the fact that technology and know-how for marine scientific research was developing rapidly, especially in relation to the deep sea where knowledge is growing very quickly, Mr Lodge highlighted that deep-sea exploration techniques will significantly change in the ten or twenty years to come. The immediate issue identified was to address the necessary capacity needs in order to carry out this research. Mr Lodge referred to the current ocean-going research fleet around the world as an indicator on how little of that capacity is in the hands of developing countries. Mr Lodge also pointed out that despite ongoing efforts to raise awareness on the importance of avoiding duplication and mainstreaming funding available, too many fragmented initiatives were taken, sometimes even by individuals or philanthropic organizations which carry out activities without making any meaningful contribution to the overall question of capacity development. Mr Lodge also emphasized that pursuant to UNCLOS, marine scientific research in the Area was supposed to be shared with developing States through ISA. However, Mr Lodge indicated that much more could be done to progress the sharing of research results. Then, Mr Lodge echoed the presentation delivered by Dr Toro and concurred with the fact that as of today, science is voluntary, whereas the governance framework is weak and capacity poorly distributed. As a result, it

is even more important than ever that capacity development and transfer of marine technology are aligned with progress at the cutting edge of research and technological development. For Mr Lodge, *"everyone should be able to benefit from the new ocean science paradigm, including SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs"*. Mr Lodge underscored that a lot of initiatives already exist that could be built on. This is notably the case of the CTP, the EFMSR and the lessons learned from that experience and shared ideas as to how the mechanisms associated with the EFMSR could be adjusted in future in order to mobilize more resources and turn it into a global partnership fund. Immediate benefits of a more programmatic approach were also noted, for example in the context of the ADSR Project, supported by NORAD, where a key element of the project is to bring national experts from Africa on secondment to the ISA Secretariat. Mr Lodge also insisted on the progress made towards advancing the role of women scientists from developing States in deep sea research. In concluding, Mr Lodge emphasized that despite all this work and tangible progress, much more needed to be done. Workshop participants were then reminded that ISA's mandate under UNCLOS for marine scientific research in the Area was not only unique but also exclusive. ISA is the only organization specifically empowered and mandated to act as a delivery mechanism for capacity development programmes in this respect. However, Mr Lodge noted that this mandate has not yet been fully realized and implemented. Mr Lodge emphasized that it was essential for States to take more seriously their responsibilities under articles 143 and 144 of UNCLOS.

Mr Lodge listed a series of initiatives that could be envisaged, based on the discussions that have taken place in the workshop. Such initiatives could include: (i) international training centres, providing multiple training opportunities every year, with curriculums based on applied research priorities ; (ii) regional training centres, associated with regional and/or national institutions, such as the Pacific Community or BIMSTEC ; (iii) long-term

attachments for research purposes with globally recognized research institutions ; (iv) exchange of technology through initiatives such as the UN-TB for LDCs ; and (v) reinforced contractor training programmes, which will certainly be required to accelerate during the exploitation phase, including providing potential employment possibilities. These type of initiatives could also contribute to some of the underlying objectives of capacity development as specified in UNCLOS, which include: (a) developing the capacity to operationalize the Enterprise ; (b) meeting the capacity requirements for the

implementation by ISA of monitoring and inspection regime for activities in the Area ; (c) increasing the participation of developing States in activities in the Area, as well as in the deep ocean in general (including activities within national jurisdiction). In concluding, Mr Lodge outlined the potential contribution of ISA to the UN Decade for Ocean Science, noting that many of the priorities (ocean mapping, deep ocean observation, ecosystem functioning, data and information systems, capacity development) for the Decade were already being carried by ISA, based on a legal framework that already exists.

## Break-out Group Session IX: Strategic partnerships

Session VIII was followed by an interactive break-out group discussion that was facilitated by the Chair, H.E. Gina Guillen-Grillo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to ISA. Participants made the following recommendations:

- Consideration should be given by each Member of ISA to identify a national focal point for dissemination at the national level, of information on the capacity development opportunities to be implemented by ISA. Information

on such national focal points should be updated regularly. The ISA Secretariat is invited to develop Terms of Reference on the role and responsibilities of national focal points that will be submitted for consideration by the Assembly.

- Consideration should be given by each Member of ISA to identify potential partners at national level, with which ISA could develop, in close cooperation, specific training and capacity development initiatives.
- Consideration should be given to ensure that, through a programmatic approach, sensitization seminars are undertaken by ISA in all regions to raise awareness of national and regional representatives on the role and responsibilities of ISA and how to increase engagement in the activities undertaken in the Area.
- Consideration should be given by ISA to strengthen the network for the dissemination of information on training opportunities.
- Consideration should be given to develop and share a framework for partnership with ISA.
- Consideration should be given to take into account existing initiatives and networks of other UN agencies, including the UN Technology Bank, to disseminate information on capacity development programmes and initiatives to be implemented by ISA.



(L-R) Dr Cesar Toro, IOCARIBE Secretariat, Mr Paul Msoma, Interim Director, Africa Minerals Development Centre, African Union, H.E. Georgina Guillen Grillo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the ISA, H.E Mathu Joyini ,DIRCO, South Africa and Mr Michael Lodge, Secretary-General, ISA

# Presentations of outcomes and way forward

**H.E Ambassador Mathu Joyini**, Deputy Director, Diplomatic Training and Support Unit of DIRCO, South Africa

**Mr Michael W. Lodge**, Secretary-General, ISA  
*"Closing remarks: Where to from here?"*

Prior to the convening of the final session, the **workshop facilitator** convened a meeting with the Chairs and Rapporteurs to deliberate on the draft of the outcomes document for the workshop, which would later be presented to the workshop participants. Elements of convergence were highlighted and included in the draft document. A number of textual proposals were made by Chairs and Rapporteurs to align the outcomes document with the group discussions. The draft outcomes document, as agreed by the Chairs and Rapporteurs, was then presented to all workshop participants. The final text is attached in annex 3.

## Concluding remarks of Mr Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General of ISA

As we come to the end of our first-ever dedicated workshop on "Capacity development, resources and needs assessment", I want to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge all those who have participated in the workshop and made important contributions to the discussions. I particularly wish to thank all the chairs, rapporteurs, presenters and participants for their insights.

I want to thank our partners and collaborators in international and regional organizations, including the African Union, Commonwealth Secretariat, IOC-UNESCO, National Deep Sea Centre (JTRC), National Oceanography Centre UK, UNDESA, UNEP, UN-OHRLS, Technology Bank for LDCs, and the World Maritime University. To deliver effectively and coherently, it is essential that organizations and institutions collaborate effectively within their respective mandates. The active participation of such a wide range of organizations not only is testament to the depth of the partnerships that the Authority has already developed, but also is a harbinger of even more collaboration to come. I want to thank all the contractors who were represented at this workshop – COMRA, DORD, BGR, GSR, JOGMEC, NORI, TOML, UKSRL – for their efforts and commitment with respect to the contractor training programme, but also to acknowledge those contractors who could not be here but contributed to pre-workshop surveys. And of course, I express my appreciation to the member States who attended the workshop - Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, European Union, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Korea, Mexico, Myanmar, Nauru, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago and Uganda – and the observers.

At the beginning of the workshop, I indicated that the main objective of the workshop was to help the Authority to deliver against the requirement of the High-Level Action Plan relating to the implementation of the ISA Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 to “assist developing States, in particular geographically disadvantaged States, small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, in identifying their needs”. In particular, we wanted to solicit your assistance in clarifying the nature and objectives of capacity-building and technical assistance provided by ISA in the context of Part XI of UNCLOS, reviewing the key findings of a draft assessment undertaken by the Secretariat on the current capacity-building initiatives and programmes implemented by ISA, and to begin identifying the core elements for the design and development of a dedicated strategy for capacity-building and capacity development activities that will measurably contribute to increase capacities of ISA member States.

I believe we have not only succeeded in this but exceeded expectations with many new and interesting ideas having been contributed and much food for thought, which has served to enrich the preliminary analysis carried out by the secretariat. Since not all member States could be represented here this week, as a next step, it will be our intention to circulate a survey to members and observers to solicit their views on the various issues associated with capacity development. The results of that survey, combined with the outcomes of this workshop and the revised analysis will in turn contribute towards the development of a coherent strategy for capacity development that will be placed before the Assembly at

its next session. These will also provide the basis for the development of a more coherent and programmatic approach to capacity development over the next financial period, with tangible and measurable outcomes and indicators of success.

I thank you all for your contributions to this important work.

I would like to add a special note of appreciation to the UN High Representative for Small Island States, Least Developed Countries and Land-Locked Developing Countries, Ms Fekitamoela 'Utoikamanu, for accepting the invitation to attend the workshop and delivering remarks at the opening session. Over the past three years, the Authority has developed a very constructive and fruitful working relationship with UN-OHRLLS and we look forward to continuing to develop that partnership in future.

Finally, and on behalf of all of us, let me thank our dear friend and workshop facilitator, Ambassador Mathu Joyini, for graciously accepting our invitation to come back to Jamaica to preside over this workshop and lead our discussions. Of course, we knew her well as a highly effective Permanent Representative to the Authority when she was posted here in Kingston, and we also witnessed what a formidable chair she could be when we visited Pretoria in May 2019, but I think I speak for us all when I say that she has exceeded expectations once again this week and has steered us to a very constructive outcome, keeping us focused on the work, but in a congenial and relaxed manner.

Thank you all, and safe travels.



# List of boxes, figures and tables

## Boxes

1	Article 15, Annex III of UNCLOS
2	Standard clauses for exploration contracts
3	Exploration Regulations

## Figures

1	Objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop
2	Current ISA's capacity building programmes & initiatives
3	High-level actions & outputs for SD 5 and SD 6 (ISA High-Level Action Plan 2019-2023)
4	Overview of number of individuals trained under ISA's capacity-building programmes & initiatives (1994-2019)
5	CTP trainees from 1994-2019 by gender
6	Amount of EFMSR's funding disbursed per year (US\$) (2008-2019)
7	Total contribution by donor to the EFMSR
8	Number and percentage of individuals who have benefitted from the EFMSR by regions and gender" (2006-2019)
9	Overview of the internships by office and per year within ISA Secretariat (2014-2019)
10	Number of interns with the ISA Secretariat by regional groups (2014-2019)
11	Geographic representation of interns with the ISA Secretariat by regional groups (2014-2019)
12	JTRC operating framework
13	Members of the JTRC's Steering Committee

## Tables

1	Funds expended on CTP (to date) and percentage of expended funds against total costs of exploration operations
2	Geographical representation of all CTP trainees (2013-2019)
3	TOML training and capacity-building initiatives (2009-2019)
4	ISA-GSR trainees
5	COMRA's Training Programme

# Annex 1: Workshop agenda

## Monday, 10 February 2020

08:00 – 9:00	Registration Welcome Remarks Mr Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority
9:30– 10:00	USG Fekitamoeloa Troupai 'Utoikamanu, High Representative for small island States, least developed countries and land-locked developing countries, UN-OHRLLS Video: Champions of the Ocean
10:20 – 10:40	Morning tea / Group Photo
<b>Session I: Presentation of key findings of the assessment of the capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA</b>	
10:40 – 11:20	1.1 Objectives of the workshop and expected outcomes H.E Mathu Joyini, Director, Diplomatic Training and Support (DIRCO), South Africa 1.2 Key findings of the assessment of the capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA Dr Marie Bourrel-Mckinnon, Senior Policy Officer-Special Assistant to the Secretary-General, ISA Discussion
<b>Session II: Key findings of the assessment of the Contractor Training Programme</b>	
11:20 –13:00	Chair: Mr Corey McLachlan, NORI Rapporteur: Mr Chapi Mwango, Chief, Contract Management Unit, ISA Objectives: - Key findings of the assessment: what impact? - Discuss issues and challenges - Explore potential solutions 2.1 Key findings of the assessment of the Contractor Training Programme Mr Chapi Mwango, Chief, Contract Management Unit, ISA 2.2 Presentation from contractors Mr John Parianos – Manager Exploration and Polymetallic Nodules, Tonga Offshore Mining Limited Mr Francois Charlet, Exploration Manager - Marine Geologist, GSR Mr Jun Jiang-Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA - COMRA 2.3 Case study: former trainees Former trainee of Marawa: Ms Judith A. Owusu, Ghana Former trainee of JOGMEC: Mr Hank Hedge, Jamaica Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch



Session III: Key findings of the assessment of the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area			
14:00 – 15:15	<p>Chair: Mr Alans Evans, Head, International &amp; Strategic Partnership Office, National Oceanography Centre</p> <p>Rapporteur: Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro, Foreign Service Officer, Directorate for Legal Affairs and Territorial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key findings of the assessment: what impact?</li> <li>- Discuss issues and challenges</li> <li>- Explore potential solutions</li> </ul> <p>3.1 Key findings of the assessment of the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area</p> <p>Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, Consultant</p> <p>3.2 Presentation from research institution</p> <p>Jérôme Dymont, Senior Researcher, Geosciences Marines, Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris &amp; CNRS</p> <p>Discussion</p>		
15:15 – 15:45	Afternoon tea		
15:00 – 17:00	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">           Break-out Group Session I: CTP            Facilitator: Mr Corey McLachlan            Rapporteur: Mr Chapi Mwangi            Where to from here?         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">           Break-out Group Session II: EFMSR            Facilitator: Mr Alans Evans            Rapporteur: Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro            Where to from here?         </td> </tr> </table>	Break-out Group Session I: CTP Facilitator: Mr Corey McLachlan Rapporteur: Mr Chapi Mwangi Where to from here?	Break-out Group Session II: EFMSR Facilitator: Mr Alans Evans Rapporteur: Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro Where to from here?
Break-out Group Session I: CTP Facilitator: Mr Corey McLachlan Rapporteur: Mr Chapi Mwangi Where to from here?	Break-out Group Session II: EFMSR Facilitator: Mr Alans Evans Rapporteur: Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro Where to from here?		
Session IV: Key findings of the assessment of the Internship Programme			

## Tuesday, 11 February 2020

9:00 – 10:30	<p>Chair: Ms Alex Herman, Seabed Minerals Commissioner, Cook Islands</p> <p>Rapporteur: Mr Antonio Cruz-Diaz, Alternate Representative of Mexico to ISA</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key findings of the assessment: what impact?</li> <li>- Discuss issues and challenges</li> <li>- Explore potential solutions</li> </ul> <p>4.1 Assessment of the Internship Programme</p> <p>Ms Kayon Wray, Senior Training Assistant, ISA</p> <p>4.2 Case study: overview of the Fellowship initiatives implemented in other UN institutions</p> <p>Mrs Ximena Hinrichs, Registrar, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (remote presentation)</p> <p>Ms Jessica Howley, Legal Officer, DOALOS (remote presentation)</p> <p>4.3 Case study: former interns</p> <p>Mr David Garzon Pico, Ecuador.</p> <p>Discussion</p>
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10:30 – 11:00	Morning tea	
<b>Session V: Towards a more programmatic approach to deliver ISA's capacity development activities</b>		
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Chair: H.E Carlos Den Hartog, Permanent Representative of Brazil to ISA                      Rapporteur: Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, Consultant, ISA</p> <p>5.1 ISA's programmatic approach : context and suggested way forward                      Mr Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General, ISA</p> <p>5.2 Case study 1: Abyssal Initiative project                      Mr Sai Navoti, Chief, SIDS Unit, UNDESA</p> <p>5.3 Case study 2 : ADSR project                      Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, ISA - Mr Paul Msoma , int. Director ADMC, Africa Union</p> <p>Discussion</p>	
<b>Session VI: The potential contribution of regional centres to the achievement of SDG14</b>		
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Chair: Mr Nyan Lin Aung, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Myanmar to the United Nations                      Rapporteur: Dr Ulrich Schwarz-Schampera, BRG</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of specific provisions of UNCLOS relating to regional centres (art.275/276)</li> <li>- How could regional centres contribute to the achievement SDG14 in the context of ISA's mandate?</li> </ul> <p>6.1: Case study: ISA-China Joint Training Centre - update, objectives, activities, programme of work, way forward</p> <p>Dr Shi Xianpeng, National Deep-Sea Centre – Mrs Jihyun Lee, Director of the Office of Environmental Management and Mineral Resources, ISA</p> <p>Video: NDSC video</p> <p>Mr Jun Jiang-Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA - COMRA</p> <p>Discussion</p>	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:40	<p>Break-out Group Session V: ISA's programmatic approach</p> <p>Facilitator: H.E Carlos Den Hartog, Permanent Representative of Brazil to ISA</p> <p>Rapporteur: Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, Consultant, ISA</p> <p>Where to from here?</p>	<p>Break-out Group Session VI: Regional Centres</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr Nyan Lin Aung, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Myanmar to the United Nations</p> <p>Rapporteur: Dr Ulrich Schwarz-Schampera, BRG</p> <p>Where to from here?</p>



15:40 – 16:00	Afternoon tea
<b>Session VII: Assessment of capacity needs and priorities</b>	
	<p>Chair: H.E Duncan Laki, Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations</p> <p>Rapporteur: Mr Sai Navoti, Chief, SIDS Unit, UNDESA</p> <p>8.1 Importance of capacity-building for SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the other high-level frameworks</p> <p>USG Fekitamoeloa Tpoupai Utoikamanu, High Representative for small island States, least developed countries and land-locked developing countries, UN-OHRLLS</p>
16:00 – 17:00	<p>8.2 The identification of capacity development needs and priorities by developing States – What methodology?</p> <p>Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, ISA</p> <p>8.3 Case study: overview of the Technology Bank for the LDCs</p> <p>Mr Joshua Setipa, Director, Technology Bank for the LDCs</p> <p>8.4 Case study: overview of potential future capacity needs in deep sea research</p> <p>Dr Luciana Genio, Environment Analyst, ISA</p>

## Wednesday, 12 February 2020

<b>Session VIII: Assessment of capacity needs and priorities (continued)</b>	
9:00 – 09:45	<p>8.5 Empowering women in the maritime community</p> <p>Professor Ronán Long, Director at WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute of the World Maritime University</p> <p>8.6 Enhancing the role of women in marine scientific research</p> <p>Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, ISA</p> <p>Discussion</p>
<b>Session IX: Building strategic partnerships in support of ISA's capacity development programmes and initiatives</b>	
09:45 – 11:00	<p>Chair: H.E Gina Guillen-Grillo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to ISA</p> <p>Rapporteur: Mr Paul Msoma, Interim Director, Africa Minerals Development Centre, Africa Union</p> <p>9.1 Building synergies and opportunities through the UN Decade of Ocean Science to enhance the capacity development programmes and initiatives of ISA</p> <p>Dr Cesar Toro, Head of IOCARIBE Secretariat</p> <p>9.2 The Future of capacity development and technology transfer to meet the needs of developing States, members of ISA</p> <p>Mr Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General, ISA</p> <p>Discussion</p>
11:00 – 11:15	Morning tea

11:15 – 13:00	<p>Break-out Group Session VIII: Special needs of SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs</p> <p>Facilitator: <i>H.E Duncan Laki</i></p> <p>Rapporteur: <i>Mr Sai Navoti</i></p> <p>Where to from here?</p>	<p>Break-out Group Session IX: Strategic partnerships</p> <p>Facilitator: <i>H.E Gina Guillen-Grillo</i></p> <p>Rapporteur: <i>Mr Paul Msoma</i></p> <p>Where to from here?</p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:40	Finalization of reports and draft outcomes by Chairs & Rapporteurs	
15:40 – 16:00	Afternoon tea	
<b>Session X: Presentations of outcomes and way forward</b>		
16:00 – 17:00	<p>Presentation of the outcomes</p> <p><i>H.E Mathu Joyini, Director, Diplomatic Training and Support (DIRCO), South-Africa</i></p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Closing remarks: <i>Where to from here?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General, ISA</i></p>	
17:30-19:30	Cocktail reception – Sunken garden, Jamaican Conference Centre	

## Annex 2: List of participants

	State Representatives	Name	Position title
1	<b>Algeria</b>	Mr Zino Adberahmane Izourar	First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Algeria to the UN
2	<b>Argentina</b>	Mr Patricio Uruña Palacio	Deputy Permanent Representative of Argentina to ISA
3		Mrs Lucia Scheinkman	Directorate General for Legal Counselling, Division for the Law of the Sea and Ocean Affairs, Argentina
4	<b>Brazil</b>	H.E Carlos den Hartog	Permanent Representative of Brazil to ISA
5		Mr Renato de Alencar Lima	Counsellor, Embassy of Brazil to ISA
6	<b>Chile</b>	H.E Francisco J. Bernales	Permanent Representative of Chile to ISA
7		Mr Roberto Alvarez	Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Chile to ISA
8	<b>China</b>	H.E Tian Qi	Permanent Representative of China to ISA
9		Mr Jun Jiang	Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA
10		Mr Xiang Gao	Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of China to ISA
11	<b>Cook Islands</b>	Mrs Alex Herman	Cook Islands Seabed Minerals Commissioner
12		Mr Chris Brown	Deep Sea Minerals Advisor
13	<b>Costa Rica</b>	H.E Georgina Guillen Grillo	Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to ISA
14	<b>Ecuador</b>	Mr David Garzon Pico	Oceanographic Institute of the Ecuadorian Navy - INOCAR
15	<b>Egypt</b>	Dr Suzan M. El-Gharabawy	National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Alexandria
16	<b>Ethiopia</b>	Mrs Lila Desta	Counsellor II/ Legal Advisor, Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the UN
17	<b>Ghana</b>	Mr Solomon Korbieh	Legal Advisory, Permanent Mission of Ghana to the UN
18	<b>Indonesia</b>	Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro	Foreign Service Officer, Directorate for Legal Affairs and Territorial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

19	<b>Jamaica</b>	H.E Kathy Ann Brown	Permanent Representative of Jamaica to ISA
20		Mr Hank Hedge	Geologist, Ministry of Transport and Mining
21		Ms Deniese Sealey	Assistant Director, Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
22		Ms Aliecia Taylor	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
23		Ms Michelle Walker	Chair - LTC
24	<b>Korea</b>	Dr Sunyoung Kim	Diplomatic Attaché (Political and Economic) - Permanent Mission of Korea to ISA
25	<b>Mexico</b>	Mr Antonio Cruz-Diaz	Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy and Alternative Representative of Mexico to the ISA
26	<b>Myanmar</b>	Mr Nyan Lin Aung	Permanent Mission of Myanmar to ISA
27	<b>Nauru</b>	H.E Margo Deiye	Permanent Representative of Nauru to ISA
28		Ms Francilia Julius	Legal Advisor, Nauru
29	<b>Nigeria</b>	Mr Emmanuel Oguntuyi	Minister Plenipotentiary, Adviser, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to ISA
30	<b>Sierra Leone</b>	Mrs Hawanatu Kebe	Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Nations
31	<b>South Africa</b>	H.E Mathu Joyini	Diplomatic Training and Support Unit of DIRCO
32	<b>Tonga</b>	Mr Taaniela Kula	Deputy Secretary for Natural Resources, Ministry of Lands, Environment, Climate Change & Natural Resources
33	<b>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</b>	Mrs Amanda Fraser	Permanent Mission of Trinidad & Tobago to ISA
34	<b>Uganda</b>	H.E Duncan Laki	Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of Uganda to the UN
35	<b>African Union</b>	Mr Paul Msoma	Interim Director, Africa Minerals Development Centre
36	<b>Commonwealth Secretariat</b>	Dr Daniel Wilde	Economic Adviser, Oceans and Natural Resources Division
37	<b>DOALOS</b>	Ms Jessica Howley	Legal Officer (remote participation)
38	<b>European Union</b>	Ms Marie Houdart	International Relations Officer
39	<b>International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea</b>	Mrs Ximena Hinrichs	Registrar (remote participation)
40	<b>IOCARIBE</b>	Dr Cesar Toro	Head of IOCARIBE Secretariat
41	<b>National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, UK</b>	Mr Alan Evans	Head International & Strategic Partnership Office

42	<b>UN DESA</b>	Mr Sai Navoti	Chief, SIDS Unit
43	<b>UNEP</b>	Dr Lorna Inniss	Head, Caribbean Environment Programme
44		Mr Vincent Sweeney	Head, Caribbean Sub-Regional Office
45	<b>UNESCO</b>	Mr Massimiliano Lombardo	Programme Specialist in Natural Sciences
46	<b>UNICEF</b>	Mrs Mariko Kagashima	Resident Coordinator
47	<b>UN-OHRLLS</b>	H.E Mrs Fekitamoeloa 'Utoikamanu	Under Secretary General and High Representative, OHRLLS
48		Mrs Shifaana Thowfeequ	Programme Management Officer, SIDS Unit
49	<b>Technology Bank-LDCs</b>	Mr Joshua Setipa	Director
50	<b>World Maritime University</b>	Ronan Long	Director, WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute and Nippon Foundation Professorial Chair
<b>Contractors</b>			
51	<b>Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. (DORD)</b>	Dr Keisuke Nishi	
52	<b>Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of the Federal Republic of Germany (BGR)</b>	Dr Ulrich Schwarz-Schampera	Head of Section "Ore Deposit Geology and Analytical Fingerprint" - BGR
53	<b>Global Sea Mineral Resources (GSR)</b>	Mr François Charlet	Exploration Manager - Marine Geologist, GSR
54	<b>Japan Oil, Gas, and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC)</b>	Dr Nobuyaki Okamoto	Deputy Director General, Metals Technology Department
55	<b>NORI</b>	Mr Corey McLachlan	Head of Stakeholder Engagement
56	<b>Tonga Offshore Mining Limited (TOML)</b>	Mr John Parianos	Manager Exploration and Polymetallic Nodules
57	<b>UK Seabed Resources Limited</b>	Mr Christopher Williams	Managing Director
58		Mrs Jennifer Warren	Director, Regulatory Affairs
<b>Observers to ISA</b>			
59	<b>Durham University's Centre for Borders Research</b>	Mr Bruno Gabriel Costelini	Researcher
60	<b>INTERRIDGE</b>	Mr Jérôme Dymont	Senior Researcher, Geosciences Marines
61	<b>Pew</b>	Dr Peter Edwards	Office, Program-Research & Science

62	Mr Michael W. Lodge	Secretary-General
63	Mr Alfonso Ascencio-Herrera	Legal Counsel / Deputy to the Secretary-General
64	Mrs Jihyun Lee	Director, Office of the Environmental Management and Mineral Resources
65	Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon	Senior Policy Officer – SA to SG
66	Mr Chapi Mwangi	Chief, Contract Management Unit
67	Ms Charlotte Salpin	Senior Legal Officer – Regulatory Affairs
68	Ms Pratima Jahuri	Senior Scientist
69	Ms Gwenaelle Le Gurun	Legal Officer
70	Mrs Katie Elles	Communications Specialist
71	Mrs Michelle Bond	Librarian
72	Mrs Luciana Genio	Environment Analyst
73	Mrs Talatu Akindolire	Associate Legal Officer
74	Ms Kayon Wray	Senior Assistant - Training
75	Ms Shanique Gregory	Senior Communications Assistant
76	Mrs Keisha Dunn	Administrative Assistant
77	Mr Ryan Barbar	Staff Assistant
78	Mrs Tini Guitoba	Legal Adviser (Togo) – ADSR Expert
79	Mrs Judith Owusu	Geochemist (Ghana) – ADSR Expert
80	Mr Tearinaki Tanielu	Consultant
81	Mr Rahul Sharma	Consultant

# Annex 3: Summary of workshop outcomes

12 February 2020

## 1. Background and rationale

1. The entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) twenty-five years ago, has created the enabling conditions for the operationalization of the regime of the international seabed area (the Area). Through it, the international community decided that at least one part of the global commons, the mineral resources of the deep-seabed and subsoil thereof, should be managed for the benefit of all humanity. It is to achieve this objective that the International Seabed Authority (ISA) has been established and entrusted with specific responsibilities. Its core mandate is to regulate and manage access and use of deep-seabed mineral resources whilst ensuring the protection of the marine environment. It is also mandated to ensure the equitable sharing of benefits derived from the conduct of activities in the Area, to all humanity including through the development of specific programmes aimed at strengthening the capacities of developing States and technology less developed States.

2. The ISA Strategic Plan for 2019-2023<sup>1</sup> explicitly recognizes the duty of ISA to ensure that a variety of capacity-building mechanisms are implemented for developing States. Such mechanisms should not only aim at facilitating the transfer of technology to developing States<sup>2</sup> but also ensuring the expansion of opportunities for participation in activities

in the Area<sup>3</sup>. In light of this, member States of ISA have identified that the challenge for the organization is to identify mechanisms, including capacity-building programmes, to ensure fully integrated participation by developing States in activities in the Area at all levels. Strategic Direction 5 (*Build capacity for developing States*) and Strategic Direction 6 (*Ensure integrated participation by developing States*) aim at concretizing this objective.

3. As indicated in the High-Level Action Plan relating to the implementation of the ISA Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 adopted by the Assembly in August 2019<sup>4</sup>, specific actions need to be undertaken by the ISA Secretariat by 2020. One of particular importance is to “assist developing States, in particular geographically disadvantaged States, small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, in identifying their needs” (high-level action 5.1.1).

4. It is to deliver against this important item that the ISA Secretariat organized the workshop on “**Capacity development, resources and needs assessment**” that was held in Kingston, Jamaica, from 10 to 12 February 2020.

5. The workshop was facilitated by H.E Mathu Joyini, Deputy Director, Diplomatic Training and Support Unit of DIRCO of the Republic of South Africa and was attended by official representatives from Members of ISA (Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, European Union,

<sup>1</sup> See ISBA/24/A/10.

<sup>2</sup> See UNCLOS, art.144., 273 and 274

<sup>3</sup> See UNCLOS, art.148.

<sup>4</sup> See ISBA/25/A/15.

Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Korea, Mexico, Myanmar, Nauru, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago and Uganda) and experts from international and regional organizations (African Union, Commonwealth Secretariat, IOC-UNESCO, National Deep Sea Centre (JTRC), National Oceanography Centre UK, UNDESA, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UN-OHRLLS, Technology Bank for LDCs, World Maritime University) as well as observers of ISA (Ethiopia, Durham University's Centre for Borders Research, InterRidge, the Pew Charitable Trust), contractors (COMRA, DORD, BGR, GSR, JOGMEC, NORI, TOML, UKSRL) and national experts (Ghana, India, Kiribati and Togo).

6. The workshop on **“Capacity development, resources and needs assessment”** provided an opportunity for participants to exchange and discuss on a series of issues associated with the implementation by ISA, of different capacity-building programmes and initiatives. The workshop also contributed to:

1. Clarifying the nature and objectives of capacity-building and technical assistance provided by ISA in the context of Part XI of UNCLOS;
2. Discussing the key findings of the draft assessment undertaken by the Secretariat on:
  - (a) the current capacity-building initiatives & programmes implemented by ISA in order to understand how to improve their effectiveness and impact;
  - (b) the resources available to ISA to address such needs.
3. Identifying the core elements for the design and development of a dedicated strategy for capacity-building and capacity development activities that will measurably contribute to increase capacities of ISA member States in specific area(s) identified.

## 2. Summary of the discussions

7. Each session of the workshop aimed at examining the key findings of the draft assessment report prepared by ISA Secretariat with a view of assessing the impact and effectiveness of the capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA. In each session, particular attention was also given to discuss the challenges identified as well as exploring potential solutions.

### **Session I: Key findings of the assessment of the capacity-building programmes and initiatives implemented by ISA**

8. This first session was intended to provide participants with a common understanding of the objectives of the workshop as well as providing an overview of the key findings of the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat.

9. H.E Mathu Joyini, Deputy Director, Diplomatic Training and Support Unit of DIRCO of the Republic of South Africa and also workshop facilitator, highlighted the objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop. This presentation was then followed by a presentation delivered by Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon who provided an overview of the legal and strategic framework within which ISA operates when developing and implementing capacity-building programmes and initiatives.

10. Participants agreed on the importance for ISA to maintain its efforts in organizing sensitization seminars and disseminating information on the results of capacity development activities implemented by ISA.



## Session II: Key findings of the assessment of the Contractor Training Programme

11. This second session was chaired by Mr Corey McLachlan, Head of Stakeholder Engagement at NORI. Mr Chapi Mwango, Chief of the Contract Management Unit at ISA, acted as rapporteur. The theme of this session was *“Key findings of the assessment of the contractor training programme”*.

12. The session started with a presentation delivered by Mr Chapi Mwango focusing on the *“key findings of the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat on the Contractor Training Programme”* which was followed by a presentation from Mr John Parianos, Manager Exploration and Polymetallic Nodules at TOML providing some *“Perspectives on capacity-building”*. Mr François Charlet, Exploration Manager and Marine Geologist at GSR delivered a third presentation on the *“Assessment of the GSR training programme”* which was followed by a presentation delivered by Mr Jun Jiang, Deputy-Permanent Representative of China to ISA on behalf of COMRA, on the *“Assessment of the COMRA training programmes”*. Two additional presentations were also delivered by two former trainees of the training programme of JOGMEC. The first one was delivered by Ms Judith Owusu, Geochemist at the Ghana National Petroleum Corporation and the second one was delivered by Mr Hank Hedge, Geologist at the Ministry of Transport and Mining of Jamaica.

13. Participants considered the recommendations listed in the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat with the following suggestions:

- In recommendation 4, a suggestion was made that the LTC “should” (and not only “could”) “take into account the list of priority needs identified by developing States and

regularly updated by ISA, when making its recommendations”.

- That consideration be given to expanding the Contractor Training Programme in the exploitation phase.

## Session III: Key findings of the assessment Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research

14. Session III was chaired by Mr Alan Evans, Head of the International and Strategic Partnerships Office of the National Oceanography Centre with the support of Mr Gulardi Nurbintoro, Foreign Service Officer from the Directorate for Legal Affairs and Territorial Treaties at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia. The theme considered under this session was *“Key findings of the assessment of the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area”*.

15. Two presentations were delivered. One by Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, consultant with ISA on the *“Key findings of the draft assessment report”* and another one, by Mr Jérôme Dymont, Senior Researcher at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris and CNRS on *“Capacity building/development and academic research: an experience through InterRidge and beyond”*.

16. This session led to detailed discussion on (i) the need for the EFMSR to take into consideration the needs of developing States members of ISA; (ii) attracting potential donors including by exploring the possibility for contractors who have not been able to select a trainee to be allowed to reallocate the unused fund for training to the EFMSR; (iii) the difficulty in attracting interest from potential donors due to the limitations imposed on the use of the EFMSR and ; (iv) the issue of reallocation of the unspent interest of the EFMSR to support activities or requests independent from the objectives assigned to the EFMSR.

17. Participants expressed some concerns that the current restrictions imposed for the disbursement of EFMSR (i.e. only interest on the capital can be used), prevented ISA to fulfil its obligations under UNCLOS while, at the same time, discouraged potential donors from contributing to the EFMSR. In line with this, participants agreed that the development of a more programmatic approach by ISA could effectively increase the impact of the EFMSR by ensuring that the use of the available funding could meet the priority needs identified by developing States members of ISA.

18. Participants considered the recommendations listed in the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat.

#### **Session IV: Key findings of the assessment of the Internship Programme**

19. This session was chaired by Ms Alex Herman, Seabed Minerals Commissioner of the Cook Islands. Mr Antonio Cruz-Diaz, Alternate Representative of Mexico to ISA acted as rapporteur. The theme of this session was *“Key findings of the assessment of the Internship Programme”*.

20. A presentation was delivered by Ms Kayon Wray, on the *“Key findings of the draft assessment report prepared by the ISA Secretariat”* which was followed by a presentation from Mrs Ximena Hinrichs-Oyarce, Registrar at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) on the different capacity-building schemes implemented by ITLOS. Ms Jessica Howley, provided an overview of the *“Capacity-building and fellowship programmes”* implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations. The last presentation was delivered by Mr David Garzón Pico, Surveyor at the Oceanographic Institute of the Ecuadorian

Navy and focused on benefits gained from his internship within the ISA Secretariat in 2017.

21. Former interns noted that such experience has proven to be very valuable. Several elements of the presentations were discussed by the participants including in relation to the importance for ISA to explore options to: (i) increase outreach and dissemination of internship opportunities through social media, (ii) secure financial contributions to ensure that all interns from developing States are provided with stipends and, (iii) to develop, with other institutions, including those used by the Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme, a specific internship module.

22. Participants considered the recommendations listed in the draft assessment report prepared by the Secretariat.

#### **Session V: Towards a more programmatic approach to enable ISA to deliver capacity development activities**

23. Session V was chaired by H.E Carlos den Hartog, Permanent Representative of Brazil to ISA who was supported by Mr Tearinaki Tanielu, Consultant of ISA.

24. The first presentation was delivered by the Secretary-General of ISA, Mr Michael W. Lodge, and focused on *“ISA’s programmatic approach: context and suggested way forward”*. Mr Sai Navoti, Chief of SIDS Unit at UNDESA presented the objectives and preliminary results of the Abyssal Initiative project implemented in partnership by UNDESA and ISA. A third presentation was provided by Mr Paul Msoma, Acting director of the Africa Mineral Development Centre and Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, Senior Policy Officer at ISA on the Africa Deep Seabed Resources (ADSR) project implemented jointly by ISA, the African Union and NORAD.



25. Several elements were further discussed during the break-out group particularly in relation to the need for ISA to: (i) develop strong programmatic approach for capacity development, (ii) strengthen the staff of the Secretariat to deliver against this programmatic approach and mobilize resources; and (iii) foster strategic partnerships.

### **Session VI: The potential contribution of regional centres to the achievement of SDG14**

26. This section was chaired by Mr Nyan Lin Aung, Counsellor from the Permanent Mission of Myanmar to the United Nations in New York. Mr Ulrich Schwarz-Schampera, Head of Section Ore Deposit Geology and Analytical Fingerprint with BGR acted as rapporteur.

27. After the Chair had provided an overview of articles 275 and 276 of UNCLOS which highlight the importance of the establishment of marine scientific centres and transfer of technology, particularly to developing countries, Mrs Jihyun Lee, Director of the Office of Environment Management and Mineral Resources of the ISA Secretariat delivered a presentation on the *“Context, development and future prospects of the ISA-China Joint Training and Research Centre”*.

28. A video presentation about JTRC was also made by Mr Jun Jiang, Deputy Permanent Representative of China to ISA.

29. This session was followed by an interactive break-out group discussion that was facilitated by Mr Nyan Lin. Participants made the following recommendations:

- Consideration should be given by ISA to form strategic partnerships with existing national and regional institutions to create platforms to strengthen international cooperation for capacity building/development and transfer of marine science technology instead of establishing new regional centres in each region.

- Consideration should be given by ISA to explore opportunities to ensure sustainable funding for the functioning of regional centres including by exploring necessary arrangements for co-funding with respective regional institutions.
- Consideration should be given to establish an online training platform that would enable the sharing of information and the outcomes of marine scientific research cruises or programmes.
- Consideration should be given to establish an ISA audio-visual library through which it will be possible to sensitize on the role and functions of ISA as well as critical issues under discussion by the Council and the Assembly.

### **Session VII: Assessment of capacity needs and priorities**

30. Session VII took place in two segments. One, from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm on Tuesday 11 February 2020 and the other, on Wednesday 12 February from 9:00 am to 9:45 am. It considered the theme *“Assessment of capacity needs and priorities”*. The session was chaired by Ambassador Duncan Laki, Legal Adviser at the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations; Mr Sai S. Navoti, Chief, SIDS Unit, UN-DESA was the Rapporteur.

31. The first presentation was made by H.E. Ms Fekitamoeloa 'Utoikamanu, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) who spoke on the *“Importance of capacity-building for LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS in the context of the 2030 Agenda and other high-level frameworks”*. The second presentation, a case study entitled: *“Overview of the Technology Bank for LDCs”* was presented by Mr Joshua Setipa, Director of the United Nations Technology Bank (UN-TB). Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon was the third presenter. She spoke on the theme: *“Identification of capacity development needs and priorities by developing*

*States – What methodology?'* The fourth and final presentation of the first segment of this session was a case study entitled: *"Overview of the potential future capacity needs in deep sea research related to the protection of marine environment."* This comprehensive brief was delivered by Dr Luciano Genio, Environmental Analyst, ISA.

32. The second segment of this session started with a presentation by Professor Ronan Long, Director at the WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute of the World Maritime University and focused on the activities undertaken by this organization to *"Enhance the role of women in marine scientific research."* This was followed and complemented by a presentation delivered by Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, Senior Policy Officer at ISA, which aimed at detailing further the engagement of ISA in *"Enhancing the participation of women in deep sea research."*

33. Participants acknowledged the work undertaken by the Secretariat to increase the participation of women in marine scientific research and gender parity; and suggested to strengthen measures to increase the participation of women in capacity building opportunities, including by implementing specific outreach activities.

34. Following discussions held during the interactive break-out group session chaired by H.E Laki which specifically focused on the *"Special needs of SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs,"* participants made several suggestions including the possibility for the Secretariat to develop a matrix or a data bank containing (i) information supplied by member States and other stakeholders stipulating or listing the capacity priorities and needs of SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs; and (ii) information regarding existing institutions, frameworks and all mechanisms currently available to be accessed by developing countries including the UN Technology Bank for LDCs.

## **Session VIII: Building strategic partnerships in support of ISA's capacity development programmes and initiatives**

35. This session was chaired by H.E Gina Guillen-Grillo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to ISA. Mr Paul Msoma, Interim Director of the Africa Minerals Development Centre of the Africa Union acted as rapporteur.

36. Dr Cesar Toro, of IOC-UNESCO, provided participants with a presentation highlighting the importance of *"Building synergies and opportunities through the UN Decade of Ocean Science to enhance the capacity development programme and initiatives of ISA."* This was followed by a presentation from the Secretary-General of ISA, Mr Michael W. Lodge, on the *"Future of capacity development and technology transfer to meet the needs of developing States."*

37. This session was followed by an interactive break-out group discussion that was facilitated by the Chair, H.E Gina Guillen-Grillo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to ISA. Participants made the following recommendations:

- Consideration should be given by each Member of ISA to identify a national focal point for dissemination at the national level, of information on the capacity development opportunities to be implemented by ISA. Information on such national focal points should be updated regularly. The ISA Secretariat is invited to develop Terms of Reference on the role and responsibilities of national focal points that will be submitted for consideration by the Assembly.
- Consideration should be given by each Member of ISA to identify potential partners at national level, with which



ISA could develop, in close cooperation, specific training and capacity development initiatives.

- Consideration should be given to ensure that, through a programmatic approach, sensitization seminars are undertaken by ISA in all regions to raise awareness of national and regional representatives on the role and responsibilities of ISA and how to increase engagement in the activities undertaken in the Area.
- Consideration should be given by ISA to strengthen the network for the dissemination of information on training opportunities.
- Consideration should be given to develop and share a framework for partnership with ISA.
- Consideration should be given to take into account existing initiatives and networks of other UN agencies, including

the UN Technology Bank, to disseminate information on capacity development programmes and initiatives to be implemented by ISA.

### **3. Outcomes and way forward**

38. The discussions held during the nine sessions of the workshop provided the ISA Secretariat with the relevant elements to start developing a dedicated strategy designed with the view to enable ISA, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to develop and implement the necessary programmes and initiatives to meet the specific needs and priorities of developing States Members of ISA, taking into particular consideration the need for SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs.



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