

INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY'S WORKSHOP TO STANDARDIZE MEIOFAUNAL TAXONOMY FOR DEEP-SEA EXPLORATION AREAS

Jointly organized by the

International Seabed Authority, Kingston, Jamaica

and

Global Sea Mineral Resources BV (GSR), Zwijndrecht, Belgium

and

Ghent University, Belgium

PROVISIONAL AGENDA



Ghent, Belgium

14 to 17 December **2015**

MONDAY 14 DECEMBER 2015

- 08:00 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 09:30 Welcome to participants
[Mr. Kris Van Nijen, GSR](#)
- 09:30 – 10:00 Inaugural Address: Introduction to ISA's requirements and overarching objectives of the workshop
[H.E. Nii Allotey Odunton, Secretary-General, ISA](#)
- 10:00 – 10:30 Introduction to the local facilities
[Dr. Ann Vanreusel, Ghent University](#)
- 10:30 – 11:00 Introduction of the experts and participants
[Dr. Sandor Mulsow, Head of OREM, ISA](#)
- 11:00 – 11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**

I. TAXONOMIC INTRODUCTION TO MEIOFAUNA I

(Chair: G. Paterson)

- 11:30 – 12:15 “Mind the Gap” –Current **taxonomic knowledge** in the Area, its impact and how do we close it?
[Dr. Gordon Paterson](#)
- 12:15 – 13:00 “Diversity of deep-sea **nematodes**, with focus on abyssal and vent environments”
[Dr. Daniel Leduc](#)
- 13:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH BREAK**
- 14:00 – 14:45 “The taxonomy and biogeography of meiofaunal **harpacticoid copepods**, with focus on the abyssal ecology”
[Dr. Pedro Martinez Arbizu](#)
- 14:45 – 15:30 “The taxonomy and biogeography of meiofaunal **kinoryncha**, with focus on the abyssal ecology”
[Dr. Nuria Sánchez Santos](#)
- 15:30 – 16:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

- 16:00 – 16:45 “Abyssal meiofaunal **foraminifera (Protista)**: taxonomy, diversity, biogeography and ecology”
[Dr. Andrew J. Gooday](#)
- 16:45 – 17:30 “The taxonomy and biogeography of meiofaunal **loricifera and tardigrada**, with focus on the abyssal benthic ecology”
[Dr. Reinhardt Møbjerg Kristensen](#)

TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2015

II. TAXONOMIC INTRODUCTION TO MEIOFAUNA II

- 9:00 – 9:45 “Importance of **DNA barcoding and meta-barcoding** in meiofaunal studies”
[Dr. Jan Pawlowski](#)
- 9:45 – 10:30 “High-throughput meiofaunal biodiversity identification using **environmental DNA** sequencing”
[Dr. Simon Creer](#)

III. STATUS OF CONTRACTORS’ ACTIVITIES ON BIOLOGICAL BASELINE SURVEYING: FROM SAMPLING TO TAXONOMIC IDENTIFICATION I

(Chair: S. Mulsow)

- 10:30 – 10:45 InterOceanMetal Joint Organization, Poland et al.
[Representative of IOM](#)
- 10:45 – 11:00 Yuzhmorgeologiya, Russia
[Representative of YUZHMOERGEOLGIYA](#)
- 11:00 – 11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:30 – 11:45 China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association
[Representative of COMRA](#)
- 11:45 – 12:00 Deep Ocean Resources Development Co., Ltd., Japan
[Representative of DORD](#)
- 12:00 – 12:15 Institut Francais de Recherche pour l’Exploitation de la Mer
[Representative of IFREMER](#)
- 12:15 – 12:30 The Ministry of Earth Sciences for The Republic of India
[Representative of INDIA](#)

12:30 – 13:00 Discussion of Session III

13:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH BREAK**

IV. STATUS OF CONTRACTORS' ACTIVITIES ON BIOLOGICAL BASELINE SURVEYING: FROM SAMPLING TO TAXONOMIC IDENTIFICATION II

14:00 – 14:15 Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of the Federal Republic of Germany
Representative of BGR

14:15 – 14:30 Nauru Ocean Resources Inc.
Representative of NORI

14:30 – 14:45 Tonga Offshore Mining Limited
Representative of TOML

14:45 – 15:00 Global Sea Mineral Resources BV, Belgium
Representative of GSR

15:00 – 15:30 Discussion of Session IV

15:30 – 16:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

V. STATUS OF CONTRACTORS' ACTIVITIES ON BIOLOGICAL BASELINE SURVEYING: FROM SAMPLING TO TAXONOMIC IDENTIFICATION III

16:00 – 16:15 UK Seabed Resources Ltd., United Kingdom
Representative of UKSRL

16:15 – 16:30 Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation
Representative of JOGMEC

16:30 – 16:45 Ocean Mineral Singapore Pte Ltd
Representative of OMS

16:45 – 17:30 Discussion of Sessions III - V

WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2015

VI. EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE ON TAXONOMIC STANDARDIZATION BETWEEN EXPERTS AND CONTRACTORS FOR IMPORTANT MEIOFAUNAL TAXA.

(Chair: A. Vanreusel)

9:00 – 11:00	Assessment of biological material: One-to-one (experts and contractors) exchanges of knowledge and experiences about taxonomic issues: from surveying and handling to standard taxonomic identification.
11:00 – 11:30	COFFEE BREAK
11:30 – 13:00	One-to-one assessment of biological material continued
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00 – 15:30	One-to-one assessment of biological material continued
15:30 – 16:00	COFFEE BREAK
16:00 – 17:30	Closure of One-to-one assessment of biological material: Taxonomic review and summary of findings of the practical sessions.
Evening	Reception (hosted by GSR)

THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER 2015

(Chair: G. Paterson)

9:00 – 11:00	Plenary discussion: <i>Practical approaches to improve taxonomy knowledge of the meiofauna.</i>
11:00 – 11:30	COFFEE BREAK
11:30 – 13:00	Plenary discussion: <i>Introduction to the Nemys database, creation of a meiofauna atlas etc.</i>
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK

- 14:00 – 15:30 Plenary discussion: *Agreed recommendations of the participants of the ISA workshop for deep-sea meiofauna standardization taxonomy and classification.*
- 15:30 – 16:00 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 16:00 – 17:30 Plenary discussion: *Agreed recommendations of the participants of the ISA workshop for deep-sea meiofauna standardization taxonomy and classification.*
- 17:30 – 18:00 Closure of the meeting
[Mr. Kris Van Nijen, GSR](#)
[H.E. Nii Allotey Odunton, Secretary-General, ISA](#)