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The Abyssal Initiative

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UN-DESA



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The Abyssal Initiative

A UNDESA & ISA 2018-2020 Voluntary Commitment





Abyssal initiative for Blue Growth Activities

Srl	Activities	Date
1	Pacific SIDS Regional Training & Capacity Building Workshop	1 st Quarter 2019
2.	National Capacity Building Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cook Islands • Kiribati • Nauru • Tonga 	2 nd Quarter 2019 – 2 nd Quarter 2020
3.	Abyssal Initiative Side Event	Margin- 25 th Session of ISA
4.	Abyssal Side Event	2 nd UN Ocean Conference – Portugal (June 2020)

#OceanAction16538





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Capacity Development Themes

- Status of activities in the P-SIDS region; overview and way forward, current status of marine mineral technology development, trends and development in marine mineral demand and supply, the role of ISA, the role of P-SIDS in the development of the draft Exploitation Regulations for the Area, and the contribution of the private sector;
- Roles and responsibilities of sponsoring states;
- Marine scientific research;
- Environmental management of deep-seabed mineral resources;
- Benefit sharing; and
- Capacity building.



**President of Nauru with Workshop Participants,
Yaren, Nauru, 7 August 2019**



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Future Capacity Development Needs

- **National Legislations**
 - Need to synchronize with ISA Regulations
- **Regional Cooperation**
 - Regional marine minerals technical resource assessment support mechanism
- **Environmental management of deep-seabed mineral resources;**
- **Benefit sharing; and**
- **Capacity building.**



Kiribati's Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development & Workshop Participants, Tarawa, Kiribati 12 August 2019



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Going Forward

- Request for continuation of the Abyssal Initiative
- Post UN 2020 Ocean Conference
 - ✓ SDG 14 “Blue Economy”
- Invite other stakeholders
 - ✓ World Bank
 - ✓ Commonwealth
 - ✓ Pacific Community (SPC)



Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Tonga) & Pacific Regional Workshop Participants
Nuku'alofa, Tonga 12 February 2019



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Thank You