



NATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP ON DEEP-SEA RELATED MATTERS

9 - 11 October 2023



Manila, Philippines



ISA-Philippines national capacity development workshop on deep-sea related matters

9 -11 October 2023

Diamond Hotel Philippines - Manila, Philippines

Concept Note

Background and rationale

The 2023 ISA-Philippines national capacity development Workshop on deep-sea related matters will build on the *Pioneering Workshop for Development of Sustainable Seabed Policy* workshop held in 2014, a subsequent workshop in 2017, and the December 2022 *Consultation with Technical Experts*, with a view to discuss updates and progress in the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the work of ISA.

The workshop will bring together government officials, experts, academics, and representatives from the private sector for capacity development sessions on selected topics of deep-sea related matters associated with prospecting, exploration, and exploitation activities. The workshop will also examine recommendations for Philippines' future participation in matters related to the Area.

This workshop will be jointly organized by the International Seabed Authority (ISA) together with the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines (DFA) - Maritime and Ocean Affairs Office (MOAO).

Objective of the workshop

The main objectives of the workshop are to increase awareness and understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the 1994 Agreement, raise awareness of the potential economic and environmental benefits and risks of seabed mining, identify the key issues and challenges that need to be addressed in developing a deep-sea related policy and regulatory framework for the Philippines and foster dialogue and cooperation among stakeholders from government, academia, and the private sector on deep-seabed related matters.

Programme

The workshop will be divided into the following thematic areas:

1. Legal and regulatory framework for seabed mining
2. The use of deep-seabed minerals resources in support of Philippines' national blue economy
3. Role and responsibilities of Sponsoring States and Contractors
4. Protection of the marine environment, marine scientific research and benefit sharing
5. Capacity building programmes
6. Potential benefits of deep-sea mining to the Philippines

Each theme will feature presentations by ISA experts as well as experts from the Legal and Technical Commission of ISA and other international organizations, followed by discussions and Q&A sessions. The workshop will also include an open discussion plenary session on the overall status of the Philippines's seabed mining law and the way forward.

Outcomes

A workshop report will be produced after the event and will be comprised of expert presentation summaries and key elements of the breakout sessions.

Contacts

For more information, please contact:

- International Seabed Authority
Margaret Koli, Programme Management Officer (Capacity Development)
mkoli@isa.org.jm
- Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines,
Zoilo A. Velasco, Director, Maritime and Ocean Affairs Office (MOAO)
Zoilo.velasco@dfa.gov.ph

Agenda

DAY 1	Monday, 9 October 2023
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:05	Welcome Remarks <i>Ms. Maria Angela A. Ponce, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Ocean Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs</i>
9:05 – 9:40	Message <i>Ambassador Antonio M. Lagdameo Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the International Seabed Authority</i> Opening Addresses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority</i> • <i>Hon. Charles C. Jose, Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of the Philippines</i> Group Photo
9:40 – 10:00	Coffee Break
Session I	Governance structure and mandate
	<i>For each presentation, 15 mins will be allocated to the presentation itself allowing 5 mins Q&A session with the experts</i>
10:00 – 10:25	The International Seabed Authority: Role, mandate and decision making (20 min) <i>Dr. Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Planning Unit, ISA</i>
10:25 – 10:45	The legal framework for activities in the Area: Transitioning from exploration to exploitation <i>Dr. Erasmo Lara Cabrera, Chair, Legal and Technical Commission, ISA</i>
10:45 – 11:05	The mechanism of “reserved areas”: Overview and practical implications <i>Dr. Pedro Madureira, The Task Force for the Continental Shelf Extension Project, Portugal (EMEPC)</i>
11:05 – 11:40	General discussion
11:40 – 13:00	Lunch Break
Session II	The use of deep-seabed minerals resources in support of Philippines’ national blue economy
	<i>For each presentation, 15 mins will be allocated to the presentation itself allowing 5 mins Q&A session with the experts</i>
13:00 – 13:20	Deep-seabed minerals – overview <i>Prof. Mario Aurelio, Philippines, Legal and Technical Commission, ISA</i>
13:20 – 13:40	Importance of deep seabed exploration to support the development of national blue economy: The case of Nauru <i>Ms. Anastasia Francilia Adire, Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Nauru to the United Nations</i>
13:40 – 14:00	Importance of deep seabed exploration to support the development of national blue economy: The case of Philippines <i>Mr. Rogel Santos, DENR-MGB</i>

14:00 – 14:20	General discussion
14:20 – 15:00	Coffee break
15:00 – 15:10	General discussion on the mechanism of “reserved areas”: Overview and practical implications <i>Dr. Pedro Madureira, The Task Force for the Continental Shelf Extension Project, Portugal (EMEPC)</i>
Session III	Role and responsibilities of Sponsoring States and Contractors
	<i>For each presentation, 15 mins will be allocated to the presentation itself allowing 5 mins Q&A session with the experts</i>
15:10 – 15:30	Status of exploration contracts <i>Mr. Chapi Mwangi, Compliance Assurance and Regulatory Management Unit (CARMU), ISA</i>
15:30 – 15:50	Process of application, review and approval <i>Mr. Chapi Mwangi, CARMU, ISA</i>
15:50 – 16:10	Role and responsibilities of Sponsoring States <i>Ms. Talatu Akindolire, Legal Officer, ISA</i>
16:10 – 16:30	Role and responsibilities of contractors <i>Mr. Corey McLachlan, NORI</i>
16:30 – 16:50	Contracts Management – The Philippine Prospect <i>Ms. Myra Fiera F. Roa, OIC-Director III, Legal Services, Department of Energy</i>
16:50 – 17:10	General discussion
17:30 – 19:00	Cocktail reception hosted Government of The Philippines <i>Diamond Hotel Philippines</i>

DAY 2	Tuesday, 10 October 2023
Session IV	Protection of the marine environment, marine scientific research and benefit sharing
	<i>For each presentation, 15 mins will be allocated to the presentation itself allowing 5 mins Q&A session with the experts</i>
9:00 – 9:20	Effective protection of the marine environment from activities in the Area <i>Mr. Jose Dallo, Director, Office of Environmental Management and Mineral Resources (OEMMR), ISA</i>
9:20 – 9:40	Regional environmental management planning in the Area <i>Mr. Jose Dallo, Director, OEMMR, ISA</i>
9:40 – 10:00	Environmental obligations in DSM context, perspective of a contractor <i>Dr Samantha Smith, Head of Sustainability and External Relations, Global Sea Mineral Resources (GSR)</i>
10:00 – 10:20	The legal regime governing the conduct of marine scientific research in the Area <i>Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Planning Unit, ISA</i>
10:20 – 10:40	General discussion
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee Break
Session IV	Protection of the marine environment, marine scientific research and benefit sharing (continued)
	<i>For each presentation, 15 mins will be allocated to the presentation itself allowing 5 mins Q&A session with the experts</i>
11:00 – 11:20	A global deep-sea research agenda – ISA MSR Action Plan in support of the UN Decade of Ocean Science <i>Mr. Jose Dallo, Director, OEMMR, ISA</i>
11:20 – 11:40	Available data and role of ISA in sharing environmental information <i>Mr. Jose Dallo, Director, OEMMR, ISA</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Role of ISA in ensuring the equitable sharing of financial and other economic benefit from deep-seabed mining <i>Mr. Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority</i>
12:00 – 12:20	MSR and Environmental Impacts: The Philippines Experience <i>Dr. Charina Amedo-Repollo, Deputy Director for Research, Marine Science Institute, University of the Philippines (UP-MSI)</i>
12:20 – 12:40	General discussion
12:40 – 14:00	Lunch Break
Session V	Capacity development and training
	<i>For each presentation, 15 mins will be allocated to the presentation itself allowing 5 mins Q&A session with the experts</i>
14:00 – 14:20	Overview of capacity-building programmes and initiatives developed by ISA and way forward <i>Ms. Margaret Koli, Programme Management Officer, Capacity Development, ISA</i>
14:20 – 14:40	Perspective of former ISA trainees (5 min each) 1. Lorelie A. Burgos, 2016, Taxonomy workshop with IFREMER (PMN)- Remote 2. Christine Mae Edullantes, 2018, At sea & Post-cruise with BGR (PMN) 3. Jameal Magno, 2022, Virtual Theoretical Training Govt of India & At-Sea Engineering, NORI (PMN) 4. Keanu Jershon Sarmiento, 2019, At-Sea Training- Geology, PMS, COMRA

14:40 – 15:00	General discussion
15:00 – 15:20	Legal and regulatory framework for a UNCLOS-compliant legislation on deep seabed mining in the Philippines <i>Dr Jay Batongbacal, University of the Philippines, Institute for Maritime Affairs and Law of the Sea (UP-IMLOS)</i>
15:20 – 15:40	General discussion

DAY 3	Wednesday, 11 October 2023		
Session VI	Group Discussion		
9:00 – 9:15	Introduction to group discussion and break-out groups (A, B, C)		
Breakout Sessions	Group Discussion 1	Group Discussion 2	Group Discussion 3
	Discussion topic 1 <i>What regulatory framework does the Philippines need to engage in deep seabed mining, to cover relevant activities and processes, from exploration and mining activities, to financing, fiscal incentives, environmental protection, and benefit sharing, among others?</i>	Discussion topic 2 <i>Who are the key stakeholders in the Philippines for deep seabed mining, what is the current status of their capacity, and what do they need to be capacitated, and do they have the absorptive capacity to receive assistance?</i>	Discussion topic 3 <i>How should the Philippines participate in the deep seabed mining regime – as sponsoring state, receiving state, participating in another sponsoring state – and what capacity does it need to undertake such a role?</i>
	Facilitator: <i>Mr. Jose Dallo, Director, Office of Environmental Management and Mineral Resources (OEMMR), ISA</i>	Facilitator: <i>Prof. Mario Aurelio, Philippines, Legal and Technical Commission, ISA</i>	Facilitator <i>Dr Marie Bourrel-McKinnon, Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Planning Unit, ISA</i>
	Rapporteur: <i>Mr. Chapi Mwangi, ISA</i>	Rapporteur: <i>Mr. Kristoff Ocampo, MOAO</i>	Rapporteur: <i>Ms. Margaret Koli, ISA</i>
9:15 – 10:00	Group-A	Group-B	Group-C
10:00 – 10:45	Group-C	Group-A	Group-B
10:45 – 11:30	Group-B	Group-C	Group-A
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee Break		
12:00 – 13:00	Synthesis and recommendations from group discussion		
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break		
Closing Remarks			
14:00 – 14:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Michael W. Lodge, Secretary-General, ISA • Mr. Charles C. Jose, Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of the Philippines End of workshop		