



Parliamentarians for Global Action
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي



National Assembly
of Belize

42ND ANNUAL FORUM OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION (PGA)



DAY 2:
17 DECEMBER 2021
Second Consultative
Assembly of
Parliamentarians for the
Oceans (CAP-Oceans)



8 AM – 11:45 AM (EST)



ONLINE EVENT
CO-HOSTED BY THE
PARLIAMENT OF BELIZE



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[CAMPAIGN FOR THE
PROTECTION OF
THE OCEANS AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF
SDG 14](#)

The global COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted fisheries and aquaculture food systems. Necessary and life-saving protective measures taken by governments have disrupted national and international seafood supply chains. Fisheries management processes have been adversely impacted in an industry already challenged by hazardous working conditions and other human rights violations. Parliamentarians are in the best position to provide long-lasting solutions that protect fish workers, empower impoverished fishing communities, and secure the right to food.

The Oceans absorb nearly one-third of carbon dioxide emissions and roughly 90% of the excess heat retained by greenhouse gases. Establishing Marine Protected Area networks is critical to maintaining climate change resilience and rebuilding ecological and social resilience. PGA has therefore engaged in a new partnership with the Blue Nature Alliance, highlighting combined efforts to protect 30% of the Oceans by 2030.

Issues for Discussion:

Following up on the commitments made at the [first Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the Oceans](#), lawmakers will work together on exploring creative solutions towards protecting the rights and safety of those working in the fishing industry, while at the same time conserving our oceans to build resilience to climate change, maintain essential biodiversity, and support the air we breathe.

The 42nd Annual Forum is made possible thanks to the core support of:
Sida - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency



and the campaign support of:

Blue Nature Alliance | Deep Sea Conservation Coalition | Environmental Law Institute | The Pew Charitable Trusts





DAY 2 - 17 DECEMBER 2021

8:00-8:15 INTRODUCTION

Opening Remarks

**MS. MARGARETA CEDERFELT
MP (SWEDEN)**

President of PGA; President, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly

Keynote Address

**SEN. OSMANY SALAS
(BELIZE)**

*Non-Governmental Organizations Representative,
Member of PGA*

8:15-9:15 **SESSION I: CONSERVING OUR OCEANS TO BUILD RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE
- PROTECTING 30% BY 2030**

**CO-CHAIRS: HON. KASTHURI PATTO, MP (MALAYSIA), MEMBER OF PGA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE;
DIP. GRACIELA CAMAÑO (ARGENTINA), MEMBER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
CONSERVATION OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECIAL
MODERNIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARY FUNCTIONING, MEMBER OF PGA**

Establishing a network of Marine Protected Areas in the Seychelles

**HON. BERNARD GEORGES, MP
(SEYCHELLES)**

*Parliamentary Leader of Government Business,
Member of PGA*

Global Efforts towards reaching 30% by 2030

**DIP. ALFREDO PACHECO
(DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)**

*President of Chamber of Deputies,
President of Committee on Internal Administration,
Member of PGA*

**DIP. JUAN CRISTÓBAL LLORET
(ECUADOR)**

*Member of Commission of Biodiversity and Natural Resources,
Member of PGA*

**HON. ANGELA BROWN-BURKE
(JAMAICA)**

Member of PGA

**HON. HAMUNYERA HAMBYUKA,
MP (NAMIBIA)**

*Government Chief Whip,
Member of PGA*

MR. JOAQUÍN LABOUGLE

*Latin America & Caribbean Regional Program Officer,
Blue Nature Alliance*



9:15-9:45

DISCUSSION AMONG PARTICIPANTS

9:45-10:30 SESSION II: PROTECTING FISH WORKERS, EMPOWERING FISHING COMMUNITIES, AND SECURING THE RIGHT TO FOOD

**CO-CHAIRS: HON. CATARINA DIMANDE, MP (MOZAMBIQUE), CHAIRPERSON OF COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, COOPERATION AND COMMUNITIES;
& HON. MILLIE ODHIAMBO, MP (KENYA), MEMBER OF PGA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Empowering Fisher Communities: A Rights-based Approach to Fisheries Management

**HON. FAITH MUTHAMBI, MP
(SOUTH AFRICA)**

Chair of Portfolio Committee on Environment Forestry and Fisheries

ATANASIO BRITO, Ph.D.

Senior Director, Mozambique Program, RARE/Fish Forever

Sustainable Financing for the Long-term Stewardship of Small-Scale Fisheries and Marine Protected Areas

XIAO RECIO BLANCO, Ph.D.

Director of Ocean Program, Environmental Law Institute

Ratifying the IMO's Cape Town Agreement – A deadline of less than 1 year

HON. SEMI KOROILAVESAU, MP (FIJI)

Minister of Fisheries

**HON. KWAME ANYIMADU-ANTWI,
MP (GHANA)**

*Chair of the Constitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee,
Member of PGA*

MR. JOHANNES MUZANIMA

*Chief Ship Surveyor,
Ministry of Works and Transport of the Republic of Namibia*



10:30-11:00

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS

11:00-11:20 LAUNCH OF PGA'S PROJECT ON THE CONSERVATION OF THE DEEP SEABED

SIAN OWEN

Director, Deep Sea Conversation Coalition

MS. PETRA BAYR, MP (AUSTRIA)

PGA Treasurer



11.20-11:30

ADOPTION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION - SUMMARY BY THE RAPPORTEURS
CO-RAPPORTEURS: DAVID DONAT CATTIN, Ph.D., PGA SECRETARY-GENERAL;
MS. LEYLA NIKJOU (LL.M), SENIOR ADVISOR, PGA OCEANS CAMPAIGN



11:30-11:45

CLOSING REMARKS BY THE HOSTS
HON. NAVEED QAMAR, MP (PAKISTAN), MEMBER OF THE PGA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE;
HON. VALERIE WOODS, SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT OF BELIZE, MEMBER OF THE PGA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BACKGROUND

The future of sustainable small-scale fisheries (SSF) is inextricably linked to all other areas of maritime governance – from illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing to Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

IUU fishing is widely associated with human rights' violations and crimes such as piracy, forced labour, human trafficking, and arms and narcotics smuggling. Its ability to undermine national and regional efforts to manage fisheries, as well as efforts to conserve marine biodiversity, make IUU fishing one of the greatest threats to marine ecosystems. IUU fishing occurs in all dimensions of fisheries: the high seas, areas within national jurisdiction, and all stages of the capture and utilization of seafood. Those involved in IUU fishing take advantage of administrations and management regimes that lack the capacity and resources for effective monitoring, control, and surveillance. As a result, fisheries resources typically available to *bona-fide* fishers are removed by IUU fishing, leading to the collapse of local fisheries. This especially impacts small-scale fisheries.¹

MPA management benefits from the involvement of local fishers in the impact on marine conservation, but also can generate socioeconomic benefits for the fishers themselves. In turn, small-scale fisheries are successfully managed when fishers are actively engaged in MPA management practices. Since fishers are key actors in SSF management, constructive interactions with MPA management bodies are crucial to successful SSF management. This includes enforcement of fisheries rules within MPAs, SSF catch data collection for scientific monitoring, and the promotion of sustainable fisheries initiatives.² Research has shown, for example in the Mediterranean, that fish stocks are healthier, fishers' incomes are higher, and the social acceptance of management practices is fostered if: MPAs are highly enforcement; there is an MPA management plan; fishers are engaged in MPA management; fishers are represented in the MPA board; and sustainable fishing practices are promoted.³

1 www.fao.org/iuu-fishing/en/

2 www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/fishmpablue_7_final_brochure_en.pdf

3 www.nature.com/articles/srep38135#citeas

BACKGROUND

Deep seabed mining (DSM), which is the process of mining the deep seabed to access mineral deposits, has not yet begun on a commercial scale but will have unknown detrimental effects on large portions of the Ocean.⁴ As the world's largest biome, the deep sea not only accounts for 90 percent of the marine environment, but is also one of the most inaccessible areas on earth. Many experts urge extreme caution, considering the inevitable and likely irreversible biodiversity loss if deep-sea mining is permitted.⁵ As part of the balanced ecosystem that sustains both our planet and numerous livelihoods, DSM can have a significantly negative impact on various areas, including the immense impact diminished fish stocks will have on communities that depend on fish as their main source of protein or income.

Small-scale fisheries (SSF) provide their communities with a vital source of protein and can be essential to individual and community livelihoods. Because of the social and economic importance of SSF it is necessary to protect access to the fisheries resources on which communities depend through increased sustainability. SSF provide employment and nutrition to millions of coastal families and communities as well as generating income that contributes to national economies. Approximately half of those employed in SSF are women presenting opportunities for women's economic empowerment. However, SSF are not without their challenges. Rapid technological and societal change have affected traditional practices and jeopardized the small-scale fishers access to fisheries resources. Decades of over-exploitation of the marine environment threaten the ecosystems traditionally harvested by SSF.

Each of these aspects of maritime governance contribute to a more sustainable future for the Ocean and its resources, and protect the lives and livelihoods of those who depend on the Ocean. An inclusive and integrated approach to maritime governance makes for more effective Marine Protected Areas, protection against IUU fishing, a moratorium on deep seabed mining, and sustainability of small-scale fisheries.

4 www.savethehighseas.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/DSCC_FactSheet2_DSM_science_4pp_web.pdf

5 www.savethehighseas.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/DSCC_FactSheet1_DSM_intro_2pp_web.pdf