

Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity

Valentina Germani & Charlotte Salpin
*Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations*

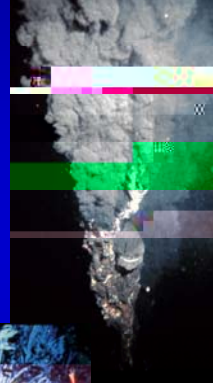
OVERVIEW

- Introduction
 - What is marine biodiversity?
 - Why is it important?
 - What are the main anthropogenic stresses to marine biodiversity?
- International legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity
 - UNCLOS
 - Other instruments
 - Recent developments within the United Nations [AHWG]
- Examples of key issues in recent years:
 - Area-based management tools
 - Marine genetic resources
- Conclusions

2

INTRODUCTION

- **What is marine biodiversity?**
 - Variability among living organisms and the ecological complexes of which they are part
 - Includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems
 - Status of knowledge
- **Why is marine biodiversity important?**
 - Direct value
 - Indirect value



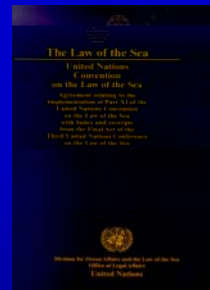
INTRODUCTION (cont.)

- **What are the main anthropogenic stresses on marine biodiversity?**

e(stuctdiv fishvingpractdcems)]TJ 13865 0 TD0.0002 Tc-0.0031 Tw(IUU fishvin, oive-fishy

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- **How does UNCLOS address it?**
 - UNCLOS' framework and principles
 - General obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment (Part XII, etc.)
 - Conservation and management of marine living resources within (art. 61-68) and beyond (art.116-120) national jurisdiction



INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK (cont.)

Fisheries

- UN Fish Stocks Agreement
- FAO Compliance Agreement
- FAO Code of Conduct on Responsible Fisheries
- FAO International Plans of Action

Shipping

- International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships

***KEY ISSUES IN RECENT YEARS:
AREA-BASED MANAGEMENT TOOLS (ABMTs)***

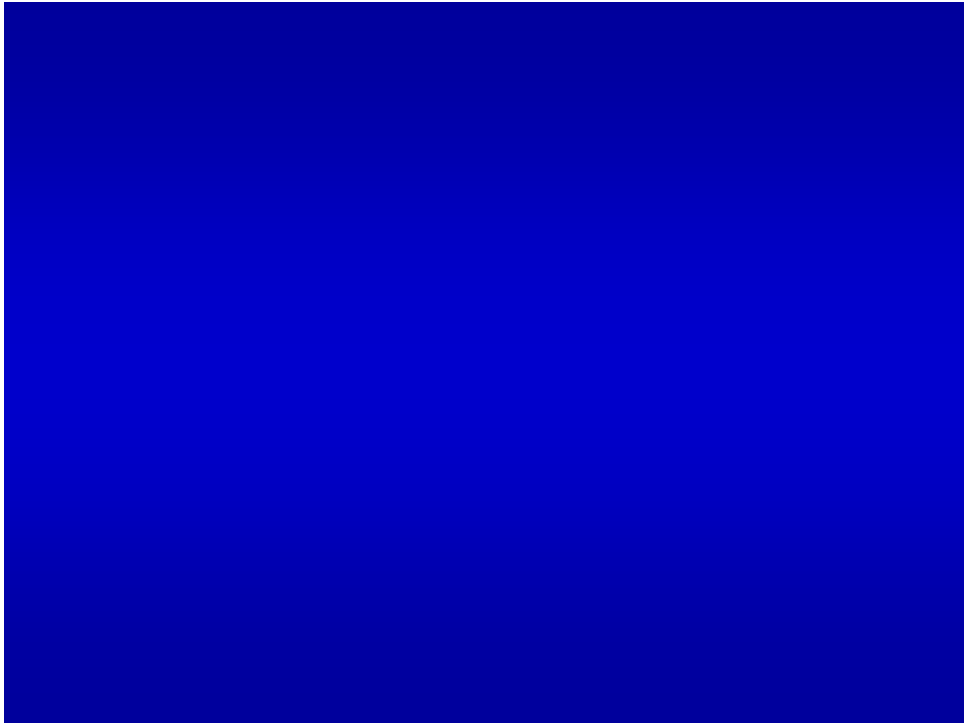
- **Examples of ABMTs and regulatory framework**
 - Marine protected areas (MPAs)
 - Area-based management of fisheries
 - Area-based management of other marine species and ecosystems
 - Area-based management of the impacts of shipping activities
 - Other ABMTs and approaches

11

***KEY ISSUES IN RECENT YEARS:
AREA-BASED MANAGEMENT TOOLS (ABMTs)***

- **Implementation of ABMTs**
 - Identification of areas
 - Management
 - Compliance and enforcement
 - Research monitoring and assessment

12



CONCLUSIONS

- The need for implementation of existing instruments
- Are existing instruments and principles adequate to address emerging issues as well as the cumulative impacts of current activities?
- Are there any legal or institutional gaps? If so, how should those gaps be addressed?

15

THANK YOU

***For more information:
<http://www.un.org/Depts/los>***