



ABIDJAN CONVENTION CONVENTION D'ABIDJAN

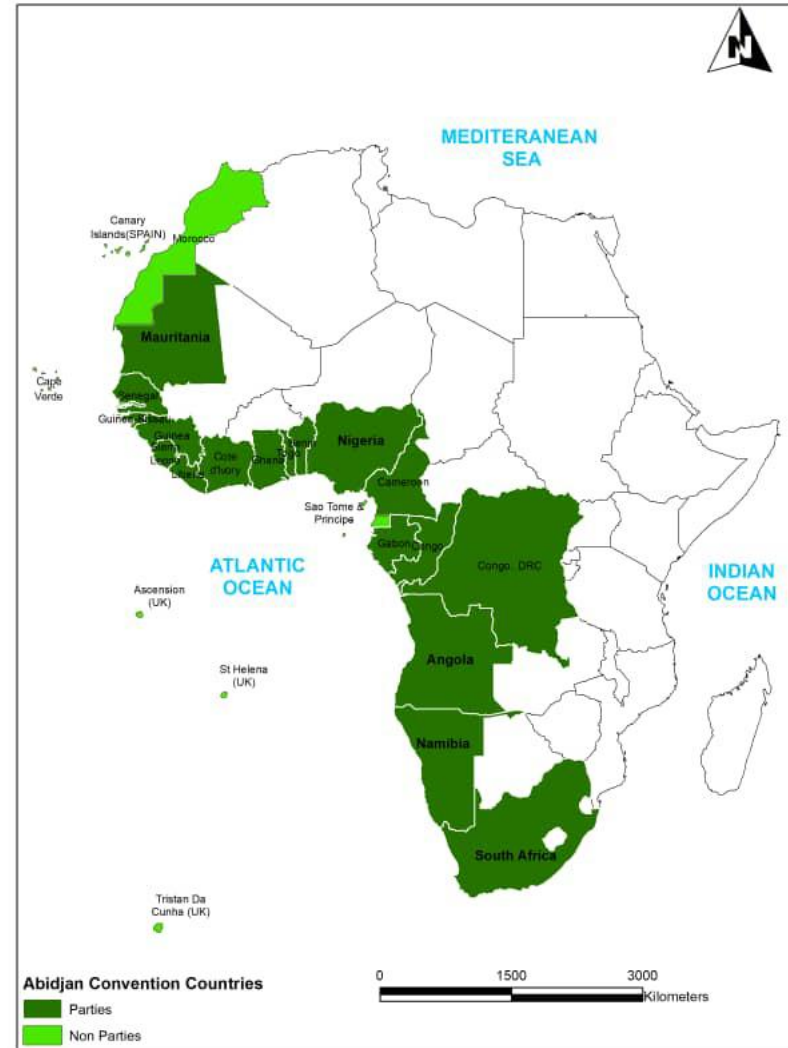
**KEY MARINE AND COASTAL ISSUES, INCLUDING FOR MARINE AREAS BEYOND
NATIONAL JURISDICTION (ABNJ) IDENTIFIED DURING THE 2ND DIALOGUE WORKSHOP
A BEING OF IMPORTANCE TO THE SOUTHEAST ATLANTIC AND WESTERN INDIAN
OCEAN**

Collective Understanding on Key High Seas, Marine and Coastal Issues to
the Southeast Atlantic Ocean and Western Indian Ocean

June 12th, 2019, Cape Town, South Africa

PRESENTATION

- ✓ Mauritania to South Africa
- ✓ 22 Contracting Parties
- ✓ 03 LMEs (Canaries, Guinea, Benguela)
- ✓ 02 RFMOs (ICCAT and IOTC)
- ✓ 04 RECs (ECOWAS, WAEMU, CEEAC, SADEC)



Marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction

General Assembly discussions



ABNJ where several threats and pressures may have a cumulative impact



IMPORTANCE/CHALLENGES OF ABNJ TREATY FOR ABC AND AFRICA

1. Neither the **ABC** or the **NC** can create **legally-binding multi-sectoral MPAs on the ABNJ**, neither **does the relevant RFMOS** (SEAFO or relevant tuna-RFMOS) that cover ABNJ;
2. **CONNECTIVITY : OCEAN AND ECOSYSTEM AS A WHOLE**
 - National waters and ABNJ inherently **connected** from an biological, ecological and oceanographic perspective : dependence of EEZs/coastal fisheries on the health of the ABNJ;
3. **MARITIME CRIME**
 - IUU fishing, Piracy, illegal immigration, marine pollution
3. **IMPORTANCE OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY**, including in ABNJ, **FOR GLOBAL FOOD:**
 - **fisheries shared stocks, impacts of marine pollution on resources)**
4. **FRAGMENTED LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM FOR ABNJ GOVERNANCE** –
 - **National, regional and global levels.**

UNCLOS provides the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, including for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction.

NEGOCIATIONS ON NEW TREATY UNDER UNCLOS FOR CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY OF ABNJ

- Resolution 72/249 (December 2017 : convening and starting date of an intergovernmental conference (IGC)
 - IGC 1 : Sept 2018
 - IGC 2 : January 2019
 - **IGC 3 : August 2019**

Decision 11.10 / CoP 11 Abidjan Convention Cape Town, South Africa, March 2015)

- *instructed the Secretariat*

"to establish a Working Group to study all aspects of the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the Abidjan Convention;

This pursuant UNCLOS and taking into account the ongoing process within the UN framework, and in particular the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity on areas beyond national jurisdiction".

OVERVIEW OF THE KEYS ELEMENTS FOR NEGOCIATIONS

1. Relationship to other instruments and frameworks;
2. marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits;
3. Measures such as area-based management tools, including marine protected areas;
4. Environmental impact assessments;
5. Capacity-building and transfer of marine technology;
6. Institutional arrangements, responsibility, dispute settlement and final clauses.

MOMENTUM FOR OCEANS IN ABC

- 2015-2025: Decade of African Seas and Oceans;
- 25 July: African Day of Seas and Oceans;
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime (AIM) Strategy (January 2014);
- African Charter on Maritime Security and Safety (Lomé Charter);
- Policy framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture;
- 2063 African Union Agenda "**The Africa we want**";
- 2014 : Joint Declaration for the extension of the continental shelf limits beyond 200 nautical miles :
07 ABC States Parties (**Cabo Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinée-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone**);

Nepad Blue Economy Program

Oceans and Africa: African Union 2050 AIM Strategy

- To address *Africa's maritime challenges for sustainable development* and competitiveness;
- To foster more *wealth creation* from African's oceans, seas and inland water ways by developing a thriving *maritime economy* and realizing the full potential of sea-based activities in an *environmentally sustainable manner*.

THE ISSUES :

Draft Collective Understanding on Key ABNJ Marine and Coastal Issues to the Southeast Atlantic Ocean and Western Indian Ocean

•RELEVANT ?

•**HOW THE RELATION BETWEEN ABC AND NC?** Establishment of an institutional arrangement between ABC and NC : dialogue and coordination mechanism on ABNJ :

- informal and non-decision-making mechanism established to strengthen institutional coordination and collaboration with respect to the conservation and sustainable use of resources of the ABNJ.

•**DRAFT DOCUMENT FOR REVIEW** on Collective Understanding on Key ABNJ Marine and Coastal Issues to the Southeast Atlantic Ocean and Western Indian Ocean :

- Gaps on the document?
- Where to emphasize?

•Need to develop **AN AFRICAN POSITION PAPER ON ABNJ** with a view for :

- Harmonizing their Contracting Parties respective positions during the ABNJ negotiations processes;
- Having shared vision and united voice to ensure conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity at the regional and in ABNJ;
- Allowing Transparency, accountability and effective participation of stakeholders including civil society, RECs, RFMOs, RFBs as positive forces for regional economic integration;

•Strengthening **ALIGNMENT OF DONORS AND PARTNERS EFFORTS** with ABC and NC priorities on ABNJ.

CONTACTS

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THANK
YOU
