

# United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

(Fourteenth meeting, 17 to 20 June 2013)

## Information for participants (as at 5 April 2013)

### - Co-Chairpersons

The President of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly in consultation with Member States, and taking into account the need for representation from developed and developing countries, has appointed **His Excellency Ambassador Milan Jaya Nyamrajsing Meetarbhan**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations and **His Excellency Ambassador Don MacKay of New Zealand**, as Co-Chairs of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Informal Consultative Process.

### - Preparatory Meeting (20 March 2013)

- A preparatory meeting for the fourteenth Meeting of the Informal Consultative Process was held at United Nations Headquarters on 20 March 2013.

### - Report of the Secretary-General

- **New:** [A/68/71: Report of the Secretary-General on Oceans and the law of the sea](#)

### - Format and annotated provisional agenda

- **New:** [A/AC.259/L.14: Format and annotated provisional agenda for the fourteenth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea](#)
- **New:** [Provisional table of panellists for the discussion panel on "the impacts of ocean acidification on the marine environment"](#).

### - List of issues

- [Forthcoming]

### - List of participants

- [Forthcoming]

### - Side-events

Requests to hold side-events during the Informal Consultative Process must be communicated in writing to the Secretariat ([doalos@un.org](mailto:doalos@un.org)) no later than **15 May 2013**.

They must be accompanied with an indication of the title, organizing institution(s) and preferred date for the event. The Division will confirm and inform applicants of the schedule of their events in the course of the first week of June 2013.

Please note that organizers of side events will be required to cover the costs of all fees associated with the side-event, in accordance with the practice of the United Nations Department of General Assembly and Conference Management. Unless otherwise indicated, the lunch time side-events will be held from 1:15pm to 2:45pm.

Owing to the limited number of slots available, the Division may not be able to accommodate all requests for side events and, therefore, reserves the right to suggest the organization of joint side events should competing requests be received for the same day. Should the number of requests exceed the number of available days, the Division may also exercise its discretion in selecting side events with the view to ensuring variety in the topics covered by the side events.

- Schedule of lunch time Side-events [Forthcoming]

#### **- Trust Fund**

A voluntary trust fund was established under General Assembly resolution 55/7 to assist the representatives of developing States, in particular least developed States small island developing States and landlocked developing States, to attend the meetings of the Consultative Process by covering the costs of travel. In resolution 67/78, the General Assembly expressed its serious concern regarding the insufficient resources available in the trust fund and urged States to make additional contributions.

States may designate one representative to attend the meeting of the Informal Consultative Process. The trust fund covers the travel costs of an economy round trip ticket from the capital of the nominating State to New York. In view of the current limited resources, only one participant per State will be able to benefit from the trust fund with consideration given, as much as possible, to equitable geographic representation. In addition, pursuant to paragraph 260 of resolution 67/78, priority disbursement will be given to panellists from developing countries invited by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Governments. Panellists from developing countries shall also be eligible to receive daily subsistence allowance subject to the availability of funds after the travel costs of all other eligible participants are covered.

In order to allow for the processing of requests, the name and date of birth of the delegate who will attend the meeting and the contact information (address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address, if available) must be provided. The United Nations does not arrange accommodation or visas for participants to the Informal Consultative Process.

The deadline for States to submit applications for assistance from the Voluntary Trust Fund is **10 April 2013**.

#### **- UN Grounds Passes (Intergovernmental organizations)**

Representatives from intergovernmental organizations invited to attend the meetings of the Informal Consultative process should communicate their intention to attend the meeting directly to the Protocol and Liaison Service, copy to DOALOS, for issuance of grounds passes, which allow access to United Nations premises where the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process are held. Communications should include the names and contact details of representatives of intergovernmental organizations.

A special form may be downloaded by intergovernmental organizations by following the link to the Protocol and Liaison Service site [<http://missions.un.int/protocol/>] then and submitted with the official nomination letter to the Protocol and Liaison Service. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations must pick-up their UN grounds passes directly from the UN Pass Office at 801 United Nations Plaza (45th Street and First Avenue) prior to attending the Informal Consultative Process meeting. An official document identifying the representative should be presented at the time. Intergovernmental organizations having a liaison office in New York should endeavour to obtain their UN grounds pass from that office to attend the Informal Consultative Process meeting.

#### **- UN Grounds Passes (Non-governmental organizations)**

Meetings of the Informal Consultative Process are open to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or which are on the NGO roster of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in accordance with the established United Nations practice.

The names and contact details of representatives of non-governmental organizations invited to attend the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process should be communicated to DOALOS for issuance of grounds passes in order to have access to United Nations premises, where the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process are held. The names and contact details of representatives of non-governmental organizations should be communicated to DOALOS no later than **31 May 2013**.

DOALOS will communicate directly to the non-governmental organization representatives the venue, date and time for pick-up of their UN grounds pass.

#### **- Secretariat**

The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), Office of Legal Affairs, carries out the secretariat functions of the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process. Relevant communications should be addressed to the attention of the Secretary of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea.

**Secretariat contact:**

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