

Notification of Training Opportunity: 2024 Pacific Regional Ocean Governance and BBNJ Workshop



Suva, Fiji



03 - 11 July 2024



Notification

The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (the Division), in cooperation with the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC), is offering a capacity-building workshop in the Pacific Region. The workshop will contain two segments: the first on ocean governance and the law of the sea, and the second on the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement).

The workshop will be hosted by OPOC at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in Suva, Fiji, and is scheduled to take place from 3 to 11 July 2024

First Segment: Ocean Governance and the Law of the Sea (3-5 July 2024)

This three-day segment will take place from 3 to 5 July 2024, and will be delivered by the Division, with the support of regional and subject matter specialists, alongside contributors from across the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations, through the project “Strengthening the strategic capacity of developing States in ocean governance and the law of the sea for sustainable ocean economies”. This project is funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad).

The objective of this segment is to provide an introduction to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention), its implementing Agreements and related instruments, and an overview of the legal and institutional frameworks for the management of ocean activities at the global, regional and national levels, with a view to promoting a wider appreciation of the Convention framework and assisting in its uniform and consistent application and implementation.

It will include modules on:

- the Convention, including the maritime zones, activities in the ocean, protection and preservation of the marine environment, and dispute settlement;
- instruments bodies and processes under the Convention;
- an overview of the United Nations General Assembly’s work related to ocean affairs and the law of the sea and sustainable fisheries;
- modules on ocean governance frameworks (at all levels), and including a focused overview of the regional ocean governance and agreements; and
- the blue economy and ocean finance.

Notification of Training Opportunity: 2024 Pacific Regional Ocean Governance and BBNJ Workshop



Suva, Fiji



03 - 11 July 2024

[Notification](#)

Second Segment: BBNJ Agreement (8-11 July 2024)

The four-day segment will take place from 8 to 11 July 2024, and will be delivered by the Division and facilitated by OPOC, with the support of regional and subject matter specialists, including Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies, alongside contributors from across the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations. This segment is offered by the Division as part of its mandate as per General Assembly resolution 77/321 to promote a better understanding of the BBNJ Agreement and to prepare for its entry into force. Further, this segment will deliver on OPOC's role as mandated by the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders, in terms of coordinating plans and support for the ratification and implementation of the BBNJ Agreement at regional and sub-regional levels in the Pacific.

The objective of this segment is to increase knowledge and understanding of the Agreement, including the rights and obligations set out therein, among States and other stakeholders, with a view to supporting the efforts of States towards becoming parties to the Agreement and for its implementation.

It will include modules on:

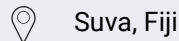
- the background to the BBNJ Agreement;
- an overview of the Agreement and its importance and implications of becoming Parties;
- the substantive and cross-cutting elements of the Agreement, including the related rights and obligations of Parties;
- relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies;
- procedural steps towards ratification.

A particular focus in discussions and breakout groups will also be given to the technical needs and requirements in preparation for implementation, including needs identification and gap analysis for legal and policy frameworks.

Both segments will include:

- presentations by DOALOS staff;
- presentations by relevant global, regional, and sub-regional bodies and frameworks;
- presentations by subject matter experts;
- break-out group discussions; and
- plenary discussions.

Notification of Training Opportunity: 2024 Pacific Regional Ocean Governance and BBNJ Workshop



03 - 11 July 2024

[Notification](#)

Participation, Funding and Nominations

Participation in the workshop is open to States in the Pacific Region, relevant intergovernmental organizations and other relevant entities.

Funding offered by the Division (which consists of travel and daily subsistence allowance) is currently limited to participants from small island developing States of the Pacific. A limited number of participants from other developing coastal States of the Pacific and regional or sub-regional intergovernmental organizations may also benefit from financial support, depending on available resources and venue capacity.

Nominations are invited for up to two participants per State of the Pacific Region per segment. Intergovernmental organizations and other entities may nominate one participant per segment.

Nominees can be the same or different for each segment. Nominated persons should be actively working in ocean affairs and the law of the sea in their government or organization. To the extent possible, nominees should come from different agencies of government.

For the segment on the BBNJ Agreement, nominees should be playing or expected to play a role in the national process towards becoming a party to the Agreement and driving the work on ratification and domestication of the Agreement.

In line with international commitments to ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life, nominations should pay due consideration to the importance of gender representation.

The workshop will be delivered in English. Hybrid participation in certain elements of the workshop may be possible for additional participants, to be notified in due course.

Nominations for the in-person workshop must be submitted through this form by **26 April 2024**: <https://forms.office.com/e/qHm3r4nQUf>. Successful applicants will be notified in due course.

Any questions with respect to the workshop may be sent to Amber Maggio (amber.maggio@un.org), with a copy to Luciana Fernandes Coelho (luciana.fernandescoelho@un.org) and the Division (doalos@un.org).