



Agenda Item 6
Intervention Day 7
ABMT Informal Working Group (Articles 17, 18, 20)
Article 18

Intervention by Greenpeace for High Seas Alliance

Thank you Madam Facilitator, distinguished delegates,

First, we would like to associate ourselves with the statement delivered by IUCN.

We are already well into week 2 of text negotiations at this 3rd IGC, and we have seen all delegations here intensely engaged in crafting text that will form the future global ocean treaty. The words in this text hold power. They hold our collective ambition and they hold the hope for a better future for the ocean and all of us, including future generations.

For a moment we invite you to look up from the text and recall why we are here.

The UN Biodiversity Report made it clear that we are in the middle of a climate & biodiversity emergency. Around 1 million animal and plant species are threatened with extinction, including over a third of marine mammals and nearly a third of sharks.

The existing fragmented governance regime is not fit for purpose. Relying upon existing frameworks is simply not enough to address the cumulative impacts of ever expanding human activities, fishing, mining, climate change and pollution.

But it's not too late to act.

Madam facilitator, this is an urgent call to action and higher ambition.

We are encouraged by statements made by some delegations during this IGC, such as Costa Rica, Switzerland, Cuba, and the Federated States of Micronesia, calling for more ambition.

The Treaty must be able to deliver a global network of truly protected MPAs with the necessary measures to protect them, **not** paper parks.

To this end it is important to keep reference to both conservation and management measures and a management plan in subpara (f). We support the suggestion by the PSIDS, Canada, Mauritius, among others to include measures and like Australia we agree that proposed measures should include activities to be prohibited, restricted or managed. We also agree with the EU, Costa Rica for CLAM, Belize for CARICOM, China, Cuba, Cameroon, and New Zealand, ,... on the inclusion of a management plan. But again, both, in our view, should be included. We also support all those

countries that supported precautionary principle rather than approach, while we do not support setting an arbitrary duration to MPAs, as suggested by Russia & China.

Distinguished Delegates, we appreciate that it is often hard to see beyond the world as we know it, but we again urge you to take a moment and remember the long road that led us here. The ocean itself is changing and how we manage and protect it must as well.

We will be submitting detailed text suggestions on behalf of the 40 members of the High Seas Alliance.

Thank you Madam Facilitator.