



## High Seas Alliance

### Agenda Item 6 Intervention Day 3 ABMT Informal Working Group (Articles 16-18) Article 16.1 - 16.3

IGC3 21 August 2019

Thank you Madam Facilitator

The Pew Charitable Trusts makes this intervention on behalf of the High Seas Alliance. And we would like to align ourselves with the intervention made by IUCN.

We would like to thank the delegate from Cuba for reminding us of the alarming trends in biodiversity loss and I would further note that the IPBES Global Biodiversity Assessment also pointed to marine protected areas as the most effective tool for protecting ocean life.

This is why it is so important that you all are here to negotiate this landmark agreement for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ.

To the text in Article 16, in para 1, we also support retaining reference to areas requiring protection through the establishment, rather than designation, of area based management tools, including marine protected areas, as well as a specific reference to the precautionary principle, not just approach, following the African Group, EU, PSIDS, Norway and others.

We further support identifying areas requiring protection toward the achievement of the ABMT objectives as stated by G77, Algeria on behalf of African Group, Belize on behalf of CARICOM, Senegal and others and we look forward to a discussion on the ABMT Objectives during this IGC.

Regarding para 2, as noted by several delegations, many of the listed criteria are found in other instruments and used by other bodies to identify areas of ecological or biological significance. We support proposals to streamline this indicative list and could see these potentially listed in an appendix as suggested by States.

And in para 3, we agree that “**additional criteria for area-based management tools, including marine protected areas may be further developed and revised by the Scientific Body, as necessary, for the consideration by the Conference of the Parties**” as mentioned by the US.

### Text-specific edits:

1. Areas requiring protection through the ~~{establishment}~~ ~~{designation}~~ of area based management tools, including marine protected areas, shall be identified on the basis of the best available science, the precautionary ~~{approach}~~ ~~{principle}~~ and an ecosystem approach and take into account relevant traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities **“to the achievement of the objectives set forth in Article 14”**.

2. [Recommend move to appendix and streamlining of paragraph 2]

3. **“Additional criteria for area-based management tools, including marine protected areas may”** be further developed and revised by the Scientific and Technical Body, as necessary, for the consideration by the Conference of the Parties.”

4. [Recommend deletion of paragraph 4]

END