

Greenpeace NRDC High Seas Alliance on ABM/Definitions 6 pm Tuesday

Madam Facilitator, thank you for giving us the floor again on the issue of definitions.

Greenpeace believes that new Instrument should rely as much as possible upon existing concepts and definitions. These should include those found not only in legal instruments, but also in soft law instruments or terms commonly used in peer reviewed scientific papers, with the understanding that some might need to be adapted to the BBNJ context and take into account the need to build resilience to climate change and ocean acidification.

The definition of MPAs could be based on, and build on, the combination of the CBD and the IUCN definition and should be broad enough to include different types of protected areas including no-take marine reserves. **I quote here:**

“A designated geographically defined marine area where human activities are **regulated, managed or prohibited** in order to achieve specific conservation objectives including the long-term conservation and resilience of nature.”

End quote

As long as the definition of MPAs under the new Instrument clearly includes the option of areas where extractive and destructive human activities are prohibited (i.e. marine reserves), there is no specific need to have a separate legal definition of marine reserves.

Thank you Madam Facilitator