



Introductory Course to the BBNJ Agreement

e-learning course

Areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) are home to rich biodiversity and provide us with many goods and services, from the fish we eat to the regulation of the global climate cycle. Yet, they suffer from cumulative anthropogenic pressures, such as overfishing and destructive fishing practices, the effects of climate change and pollution from various sources. States began a process in 2004 and, following nearly two decades of negotiations, adopted 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). This course provides an overview of this process, a detailed synopsis of relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and an overview of the issues addressed by the BBNJ Agreement.



**Office of Legal Affairs
Division for Ocean
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