



## **INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS**

relating to biodiversity in sustainable DEEP-SEA FISHING in the ABNJ are embodied in a wide range of instruments, and are implemented by States and eight regional bodies.

Deep-sea fishing occurs over continental slopes, seamounts, ridge systems and banks with bare muddy sediments, and on hard rocky substates that may support species or communities that could be vulnerable to bottom fishing impacts. The potential negative impacts of fishing on vulnerable deep-seas habitats in the high seas has been an issue of international concern over the last decade.

In support of improved implementation of existing policy and legal frameworks, FAO, under the auspices of the ABNJ Deep Seas Project, initiated an analysis of the existing legal and policy instruments related to biodiversity and sustainable deep-sea fishing in the ABNJ, including identifying the constraints and challenges related to their implementation.

An analysis and guide for the implementation of international legal and policy instruments relating to biodiversity and sustainable deep-sea fisheries in the ABNJ will be available in late 2016.

The release of this report will be accompanied by a training programme including a step-wise guide to assist countries, where necessary, to better integrate their international obligations into national laws and policies.

The ABNJ Deep Seas Project is a five year project designed to enhance sustainability in the use of deep-sea living resources and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ. The Project brings together over 20 partners working on deep-sea fisheries and conservation issues in the ABNJ globally.

For more information see wwww.commonoceans.org

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships

**Convention on Biological Diversity** 

**UN Fish Stocks Agreement** 

FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks

FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity

> FAO International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries

THERE International instruments

THAT ARE RELEVANT TO

## **DEEP-SEA FISHING**

and its impacts on BIODIVERSITY IN THE AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION

of the regional bodies\* with a mandate for the management and conservation of deep-sea fishing

FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

UN General Assembly Resolutions 61/105, 64/72, and 66/68

FAO Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations

FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas

FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards

**FAO Guidelines for Flag State Performance** 

**FAO Port State Measures Agreement** 

\*The regional bodies are: the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine
Living Resources (CCAMLR), the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), the North East
Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO), the South East Atlantic Fisheries
Organisation (SEAFO), and the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA).