


Notification of Workshop for North-East and South-East Asia on the BBNJ Agreement

 Bangkok, Thailand

 16-20 September 2024

 [Registration Form](#)

The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (the Division) is offering a Workshop for North-East and South-East Asia on 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).

The Workshop will be hosted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) from 16 to 20 September 2024 at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) in Bangkok, Thailand.

Purpose and Objective of the Workshop

The Workshop is offered by the Division as part of its programme of activities mandated under General Assembly resolution 77/321 to promote a better understanding of the BBNJ Agreement and to prepare for its entry into force.

The objective of the Workshop is to increase knowledge and understanding of the BBNJ Agreement, including the rights and obligations set out therein, among States and other stakeholders, with a view to supporting the efforts of States towards becoming parties to the Agreement and to prepare for its implementation. It will include modules on:

- the background to the BBNJ Agreement;
- an overview of the Agreement and its importance and the implications of becoming parties;
- the substantive and cross-cutting elements of the Agreement, including the related rights and obligations set out therein;
- relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies; and
- procedural steps towards becoming party to the Agreement.


A particular focus in discussions and breakout groups will be placed on the technical needs and requirements in preparation for implementation, including needs identification and gap analysis for legal and policy frameworks.

The Workshop will be delivered by the Division, with the support of regional and subject matter specialists, alongside contributors from across the United Nations system and other global, regional and subregional organizations. The Workshop will include presentations, breakout group discussions and plenary discussions.

Participation, Funding and Nominations

Participation in the Workshop is open to States in the North-East Asia and South-East Asia subregions, relevant intergovernmental organizations and other relevant entities.

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Eligible participants include those who are playing or expected to play a leading role in the national process towards becoming a party to the BBNJ Agreement, which may include governmental officials and/or parliamentarians.

Nominations are invited for up to two nominees per State of the North-East Asia and South-East Asia subregions, preferably from different agencies of government. Additional nominees may be accepted, if self-funded, depending on the venue capacity.

The Division will cover the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance for up to two nominees from each developing State of these subregions.

A limited number of participants from other developing States of the Asia-Pacific region may be accepted and benefit from financial support, depending on available resources and venue capacity.

Intergovernmental organizations and other entities may nominate one participant.

In line with international commitments to ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life, nominations should pay due consideration to the importance of gender balance.

The Workshop will be delivered in English. Hybrid participation in certain elements of the Workshop may be possible for additional participants, to be notified in due course.

Nominees for the in-person workshop must register online ([Registration Form](#)) by **8 July 2024**. Please note that each nominee is required to register individually. A formal letter of nomination issued by the Government or, in the case of intergovernmental organizations or other entities, by the head of the organization or entity is required to complete the online registration. Selected participants will be notified in due course.

Any questions with respect to the workshop may be sent to **Bingzhuo Li** (bingzhuo.li@un.org), with a copy to the Division (doalos@un.org).