

**DOSI Report on SBSTTA 24:
24th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and
Technological Advice
Geneva, Switzerland
14 - 29 March 2022**

Two experts attended SBSTTA 24 on behalf of DOSI supported by Benioff Ocean Initiative funding. Given this was DOSI's first time attending this meeting, DOSI's objectives were to listen, learn and engage in a variety of bilaterals. An important lesson learned is that to be effective, DOSI delegates must engage with national delegations, starting before the meetings.

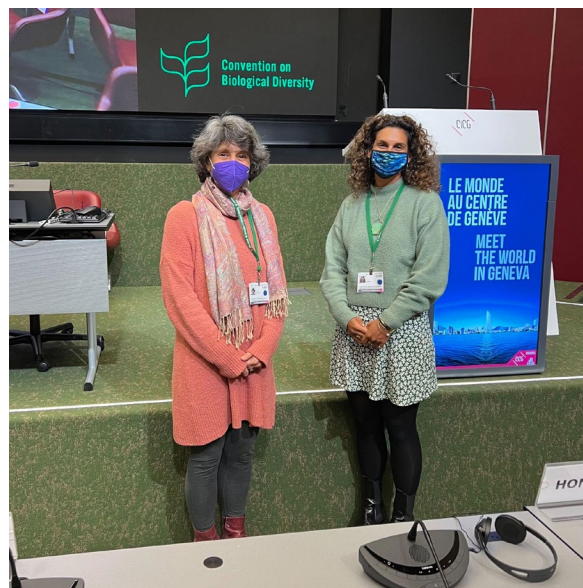
DOSI Delegation

Diva Amon, Trinidad and Tobago

(DOSI Co-Lead of Task Force for Conservation of Deep-Ocean Biodiversity)

Anna Metaxas, Canada

(DOSI Co-Lead of Task Force for Conservation of Deep-Ocean Biodiversity)



DOSI Delegation (L-R): Anna Metaxas, Diva Amon

DOSI Activities at SBSTTA 24

1) Interactions to Advance Science

A number of productive meetings were held and interactions were had:

- DOSI representatives attended a GOBI-CBD side event on EBSAs. There they met with Jihyun Lee and Joe Appiott, CBD Secretariat, informally to maintain and improve relations. At this side event, it was mentioned that the deep and open ocean needed to be considered more in the EBSA process. David Johnson, GOBI, stated publicly that DOSI has a key role to play in identifying new EBSAs.
- DOSI representatives met with David Johnson and Vikki Gunn to discuss the EBSA process and the potential future role of DOSI. In the future, there will be further iterations of the EBSA process, with more focus on deep ocean and high seas, as well as revising existing EBSAs. DOSI can play a key role in raising awareness, attending the EBSA regional workshops, as well as nominating experts and providing data for the workshops. **It could be useful for DOSI to create a seedbank of deep-sea habitats for consideration as EBSAs, as well as a strawman of 5-10 cases that are highly supported by data.**
- Anna Metaxas met several times with the Canadian delegation, Andrew McMaster and Renee Sauvee (leads) and Fariz Ahmadov (all from Fisheries and Oceans Canada) to discuss how to best contribute to the content of Canada's interventions.
- Anna Metaxas met with the UK Delegation (Farah Chaudry) to discuss DOSI's role in the CBD and our position relative to some of the indicators in the current version of the Post-2020 Framework. It was agreed that DOSI will follow up with the UK delegation.
- DOSI representatives met with several representatives from the DSCC and WWF (Jessica Battle, Daniela Diz, Matthew Gianni, etc.) to discuss the issue of deep-seabed mining. It was stated that Jordan and Denmark could be key allies in getting language around deep-seabed mining proposed.
- DOSI representatives met with the delegation from Pew Charitable Trust (Masha Kalinina and Sebastian Nicholls). This was largely a learning exercise as they provided useful information on how these sessions work. Deep-seabed mining was also discussed, with the EU, Portugal and Czech Republic interested in supporting a ban. Brazil and Argentina are apparently and generally the most challenging States in the room. Australia also, especially on issues of climate change, and Thailand on issues of marine-spatial planning.

2) Interventions

No interventions were given as this was DOSI's first time attending meetings of the CBD. In the CBD process, interventions by observers must be supported by a member state to go on the record.

3) Side Events

No side events were held as this was DOSI's first time attending meetings of the CBD.