



**4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States, 27 - 30 May 2024**

***“Ocean action to support resilient prosperity in SIDS”***

**UN-Oceans side event**

**Wednesday, 29 May 2024, 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Room 5, American University of Antigua**

**Speaker biographies (in order of appearance)**

**Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel; and UN-Oceans Focal Point**

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serving as Legal Counsel to the Authority (1996-2003); Counsellor to the Round Table on Sustainable Development, OECD(2004-2007); Legal Counsel to the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency (1991-1995). He has also held appointments as a Visiting Fellow of Somerville College, Oxford (2012-2013), an Associate Fellow of Chatham House, London (2007) and a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Oceans (2011-2016). Michael Lodge spent many years working and living in the South Pacific and was one of the lead negotiators for the South Pacific Island States of the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement. With extensive knowledge of the United Nations and other international organizations, Michael Lodge has facilitated high-level multilateral and bilateral negotiations at the international and regional level.



	<p>coordination with, and input to, other UN agencies and multilateral processes with regards to issues related to marine, coastal and island biodiversity.</p>
	<p><b>Ms. Alison Clausen, Programme Specialist/Deputy Coordinator, UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO</b></p> <p>Alison Clausen is the Deputy Global Coordinator of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development at IOC-UNESCO. She joined IOC as a programme specialist in 2019 with over twenty-five years' professional experience in program and project development and management in the areas of marine conservation, marine policy, and climate change adaptation. Before joining IOC she was based in Madagascar, where she worked throughout the Western Indian Ocean region for the World Bank and most recently as the Regional Director for the Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean program of the Wildlife Conservation Society. Prior to that she lived in Viet Nam where she worked through South East Asia for a range of development banks, UN agencies and NGO partners.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Marc Metian, Research Scientist, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Marine Environment Laboratories</b></p> <p>Marc Metian is researcher scientist at the Marine Environment Laboratories of the International Atomic Energy Agency. He holds a PhD in Marine Environment (France) and his main scientific expertise is on marine radioecology, ecotoxicology and on sustainable aquaculture. He is involved since 2014 in the IAEA technical cooperation activities on topics related to Ocean Health such as plastic pollution, ocean acidification, and seafood safety, providing technical support to IAEA Member States to build capacity on these topics, including in SIDS. He oversees research projects assessing the impact of microplastics on marine organisms.</p>
	<p><b>Ms. Frida Youssef, Chief, Transport Section, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</b></p> <p>Frida Youssef is the chief of the Transport Section within the Trade Logistics Branch at UNCTAD. She has more than twenty-five years of professional experience in areas related to trade, logistics, commodities, finance, and sustainable development, which has given her the opportunity to build, lead and motivate research and technical assistance programmes, geared towards developing countries in a broad range of issues, including commodity supply chains and structured finance, public-private partnerships (PPPs), maritime transport and ports, transit transport and</p>

