



INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

PRESS RELEASE

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Workshop: Marine Mineral Resources of Africa

JAMAICA, Kingston (02 May 2017) - - The workshop on Marine Mineral Resources of Africa's Continental Shelf and Adjacent International Seabed Area – Prospects for Sustainable Development of Africa's Maritime Domain, in support of Africa's Blue Economy is being held in Kampala, Uganda from 2 to 4 May 2017.

The workshop is jointly organized by the Republic of Uganda and the ISA, in partnership with the African Mineral Development Centre ([AMDC](#)), the [Pew Charitable Trusts](#), and [GRID-Arendal](#) (Norway); with the support of the African Union Commission ([AUC](#)) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa ([UNECA](#)).

The workshop will bring together experts from the international legal and scientific community, national and regional government officials, scientists, researchers and academics to discuss issues associated with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ([UNCLOS](#)); the work of the ISA on marine mineral resources development and the protection and preservation of the marine environment from activities in the international seabed area (the Area).

The workshop will also discuss and propose mechanisms for improving regional cooperation and participation of African countries in the deep seabed regime. In particular, it will address special interests of landlocked African countries.

These issues will be addressed in the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ([SDGs](#)). In particular, SDG 14, which refers to “conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development.”

The workshop is specifically planned to: motivate African States to build relevant technical capacity in relation to activities in the deep seabed; increase participation in decisions that relate to the Area; take part in the activities in the Area; define and enable sustainable activities on Africa's continental shelf; and contribute to the sustainable development of Africa's Blue Economy.

Secretary-General Michael Lodge [Statement](#)

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