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Item 6: Consideration of the subject matter referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of General Assembly resolution 72/249

Capacity building and technology transfer item 6.2 Types of and modalities for capacity-building and transfer of marine technology

**Statement:**

Thank you, Madam Facilitator.

In light of the interest expressed today in capacity needs assessment, I would like to briefly share some information about a capacity needs assessment recently undertaken focused on national and regional capacity for engagement in ABNJ related matters.

UN Environment and the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the UN are jointly implementing a project funded by the Global Environment Facility on deep sea fisheries and biodiversity. Under the UN Environment component, a participatory capacity building needs assessment was carried out targeting countries in two regions: the South East Pacific (which is the CPPS region) and Western Indian Ocean (which is the Nairobi Convention region). The assessment had the specific purpose of identifying existing capacity gaps relevant to the application of area-based management and planning tools in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The assessment report for the Western Indian Ocean (available from [https://wcmc.io/ABNJ\\_capacityassessment\\_wio](https://wcmc.io/ABNJ_capacityassessment_wio)) considers capacity related to existing knowledge, organizational structures, previous relevant experiences, and available data – amongst other things. This assessment has been published and clearly shows priority areas

In response to your request to comment on our specific role in light of