



OSPAR
COMMISSION

OSPAR STRATEGY OVERVIEW

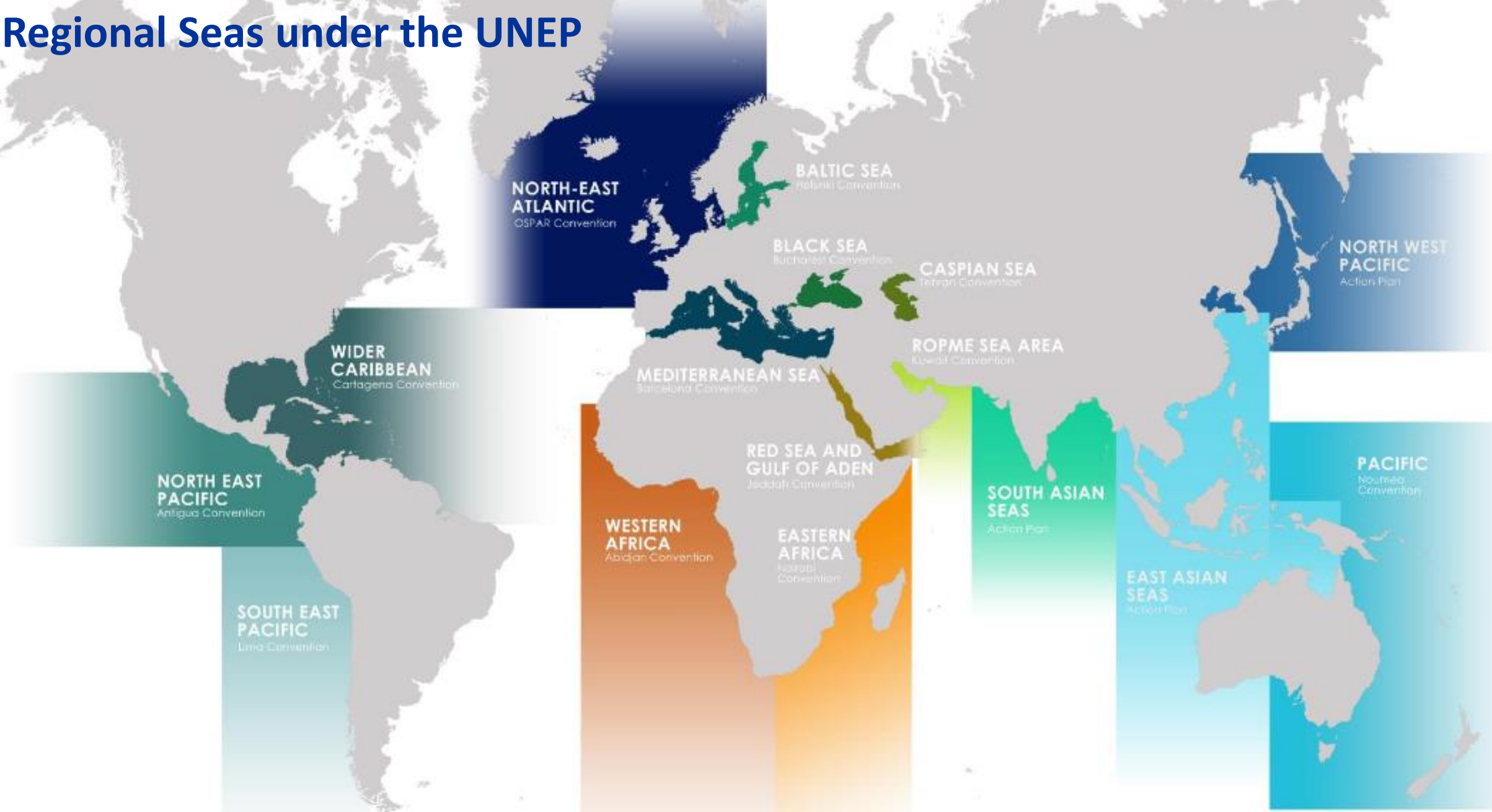
Decommissioning of offshore installations

LAURA DE LA TORRE

OSPAR COMMISSION - DEPUTY SECRETARY

Salvage, Decommissioning & Removal Workshop 2020

18 Regional Seas under the UNEP



OSPAR Commission

OSPAR Maritime Area and Regions

Region I: Arctic Waters

Region II: Greater North Sea

Region III: Celtic Seas

Region IV: Bay of Biscay/Iberian Coast

Region V: Wider Atlantic

16 Contracting Parties

- Belgium
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Luxembourg
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Portugal
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- The United Kingdom
- European Union

Observer organisations

Intergovernmental and international non-governmental organisation

OSPAR Convention – 1992

Convention for the protection of the marine environment of the North East Atlantic

Main Objectives

- Prevent and eliminate pollution
- Protect the maritime area against the adverse effects of human activities
- Safeguard human health and conserve marine ecosystems
- Restore marine areas where possible

Guiding Principles

- Ecosystem Approach
- Precautionary Principle
- Polluter Pays principle
- Best Available Techniques
- Best Environmental Practices

Pillars of OSPAR Convention

monitoring

**regular scientific
assessments**

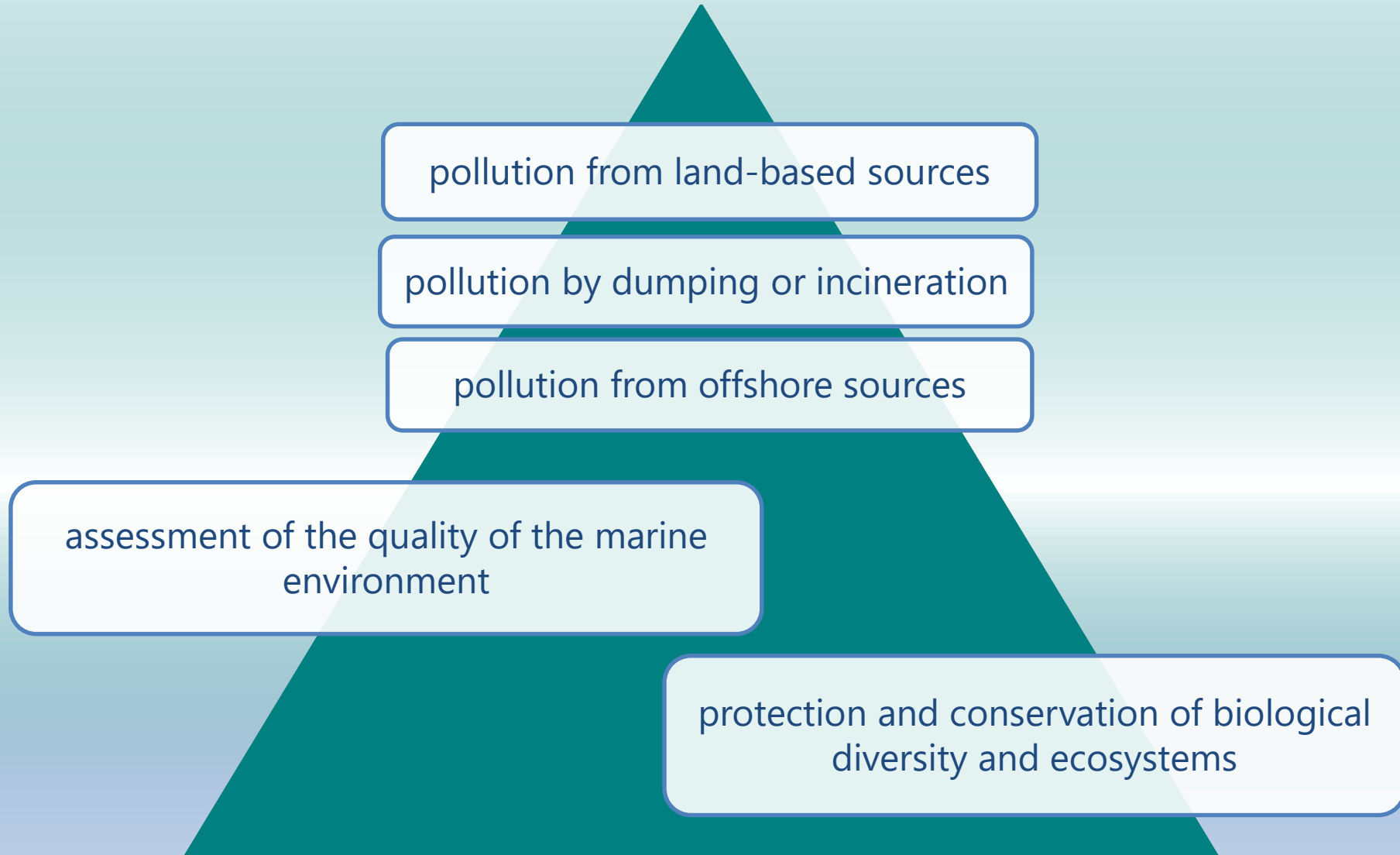
**decision-
making**



Scope of competence



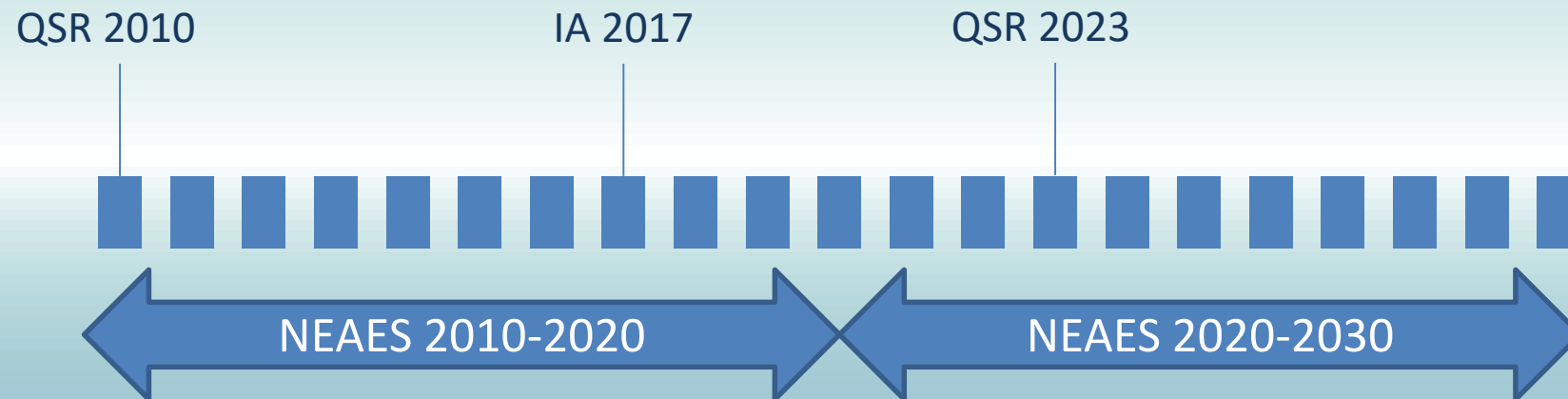
OSPAR CONVENTION (5 Annexes)



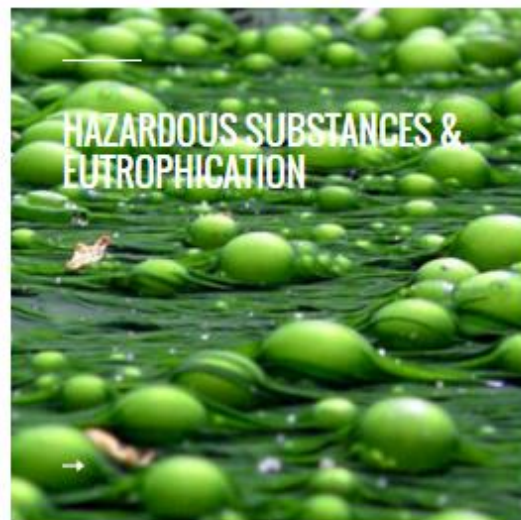
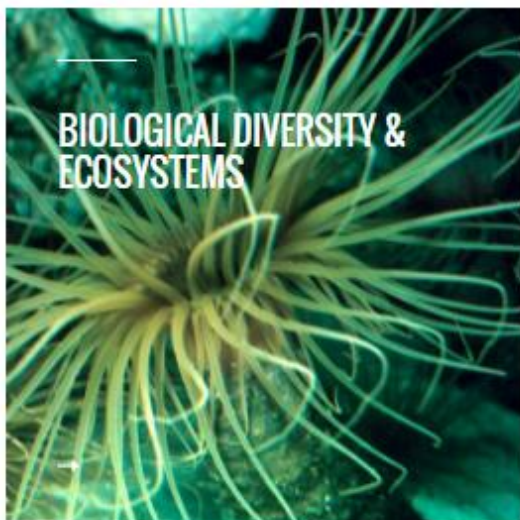
OSPAR Convention – 1992

Convention for the protection of the marine environment of the North East Atlantic

North East Atlantic Environmental Strategy



NEAES 2010-2020



OSPAR Commission

Heads of Delegation

Chairs and Vice-Chairs

Jurists & Linguists

Coordination Group

Environmental Impact
of Human activities

Biodiversity

Radioactive
Substances

Hazardous Substances
and Eutrophication

Offshore
Industry

Expert groups

OSPAR Convention – 1992

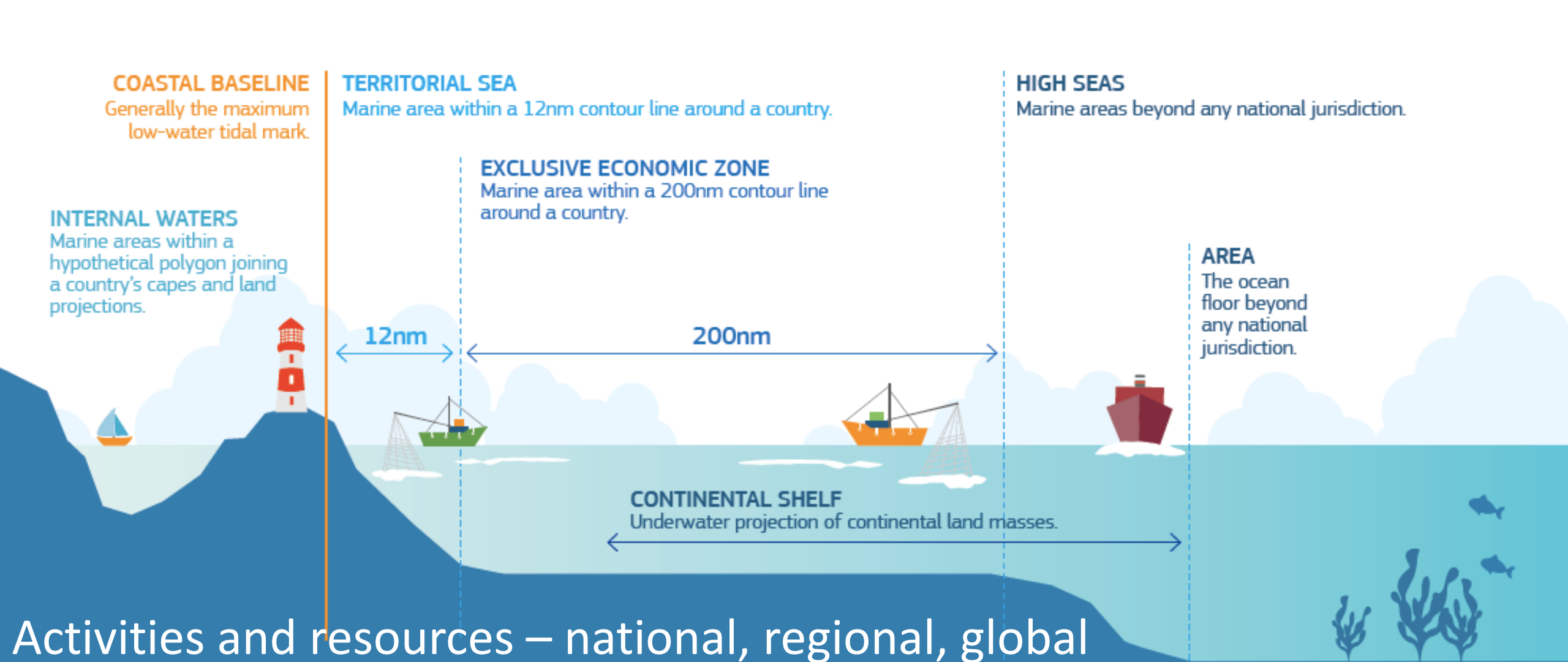
Convention for the protection of the marine environment of the North East Atlantic

Working approach:

- Bottom-up (technical to managing level)
- Practical experience
- Region specific
- Sharing work-load
- Consensus
- Cooperation with other organisations through arrangements (MoUs, Agreements, projects...)

HUMAN ACTIVITIES

- Fisheries (no OSPAR measures)
- Shipping (IMO to take measures)
- Dumping and Dredging
- Offshore renewable energy
- Oil and gas exploration
- Coastal defence and other structures
- Cables and pipelines
- Artificial reefs
- Land reclamation
- Sand and gravel extraction
- Tourism
- Mariculture
- Marine litter
- Discharges, emissions and losses of hazardous substances
- Underwater noise
- Dumped munitions



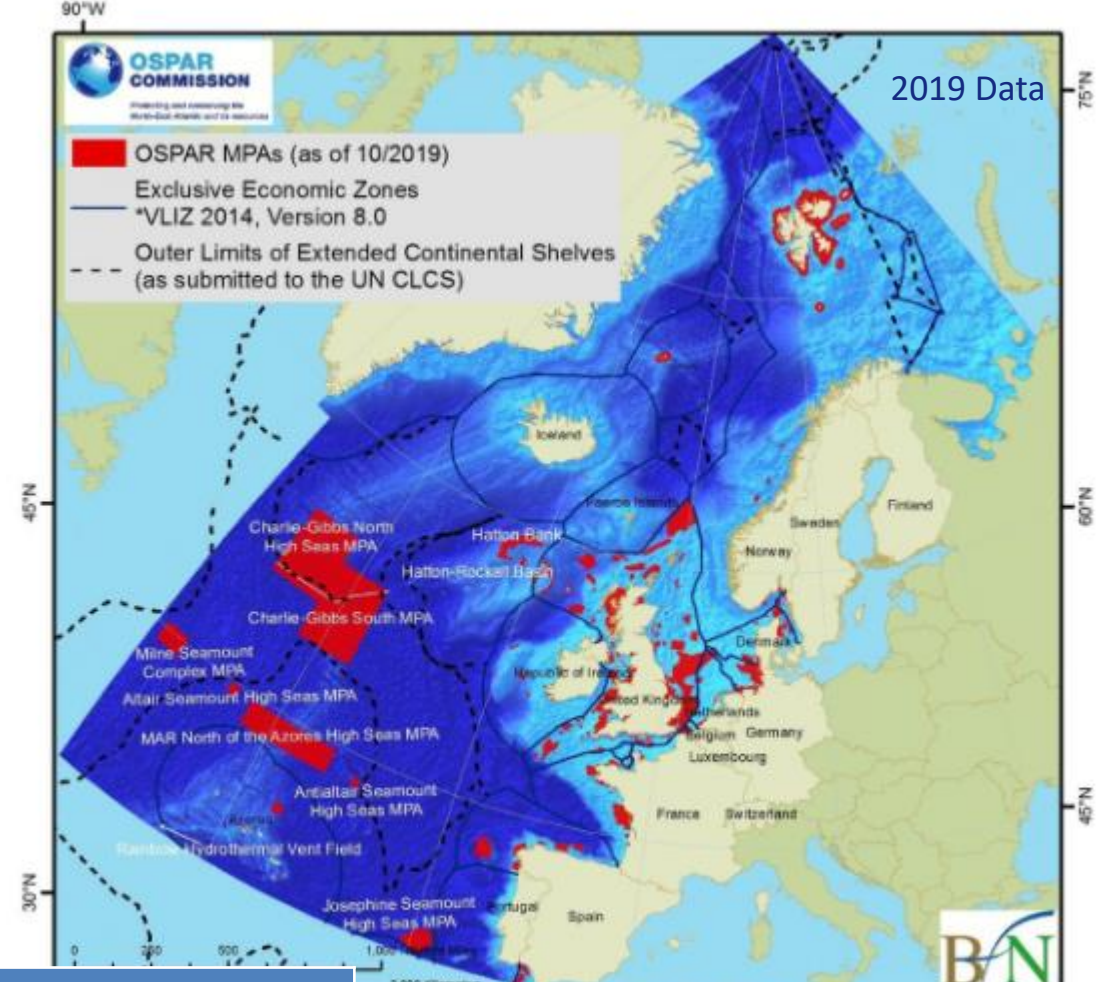
Activities and resources – national, regional, global

All activities and resources at sea are interconnected, including their overall impact on marine ecosystems and coastal communities. This complexity is not sufficiently considered under the sectorial approaches used, causing a lack of efficiency and poor coordination.

Marine Protected Areas

OSPAR network of MPAs:

- to protect, conserve and restore species, habitats and ecological processes adversely affected by human activities;
- to prevent degradation of, and damage to, species, habitats and ecological processes, following the precautionary principle;
- to protect and conserve areas that best represent the range of species, habitats and ecological processes in the maritime area.



550 MPAs (6,4% of OSPAR maritime area)	
Territorial waters	19.8%
EEZ	2.8%
ABNJ	8.9%

Cover by region	
Arctic Waters	1.9%
Greater North Sea	18.9%
Celtic Seas	17.1%
Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast	5.9%
Wider Atlantic	8.3%

Voluntary Commitments on SDG14 with NEAFC and Cartagena Convention



The image features a silhouette of an offshore oil rig against a vibrant sunset sky. The rig is composed of several tall, lattice-structured towers and a central platform with various equipment, including a crane on the left and several cylindrical tanks. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and red, with wispy clouds. The overall scene is dramatic and industrial.

OSPAR Convention

Pollution from offshore sources

OSPAR Convention.

Art 5. Pollution from offshore sources

Annex III on the prevention and elimination of pollution from offshore sources

- Dumping of waste or other matter from offshore installations is prohibited.
- Use, or the discharge or emission, of substances require authorisation or regulation by the competent authorities.
- Disposal of carbon dioxide streams from carbon dioxide capture processes for storage into sub-soil geological formation is permitted if meeting certain requirements.
- A permit is needed for dumping of disused offshore installations and pipelines and for leaving an installation in place.
- Placement of disused offshore installations or pipelines for a purpose other than for which they were originally designed or constructed needs authorisation or regulation.

OSPAR Offshore Industry Strategy

To prevent and eliminate pollution and take the necessary measures by setting environmental goals and improving management mechanisms.

Measures in action

- Reduction of oil in produced water.
- Restrictions on the use and discharge of organic –phase drilling fluids.
- Phasing out and replacement of substitution chemicals.
- A harmonised mandatory control system to promote shift towards the use of non-hazardous substances.
- Banning of dumping or leaving in place disused offshore installations.

OSPAR Offshore Industry Strategy

90%

reduction in USE of chemicals identified for Priority Action

2009 - 2014



30%

decrease in USE of chemicals identified as candidates for substitution

40%

decrease in DISCHARGE of chemicals identified as candidates for substitution

NO CHEMICALS FROM OSPAR'S LIST OF CHEMICALS FOR PRIORITY ACTION WERE DISCHARGED IN 2014

No added chemicals identified for Priority Action were DISCHARGED in 2014

18%

decrease of dispersed oil DISCHARGED in produced water

OIC Measures

Discharges of chemicals and oil

Recommendation 2006/5 on a Management Regime for Offshore Cutting Piles

Recommendation 2011/18 for the Management of Produced Water

Decision 2000/3 on the use of Organic-Phase Drilling Fluids (OPF) and the discharge of OPF contaminated cuttings

OSPAR Recommendation 2012/5 for a risk-based approach to the Management of Produced Water Discharges from Offshore Installations

Use of offshore chemicals

Decision 2000/2 on a Harmonised Mandatory Control System for the Use and Reduction of the Discharge of Offshore Chemicals

Recommendation 2014/17 on a Harmonised Offshore Chemical Notification Format

Recommendation 2017/1 on a Harmonised Pre-screening Scheme for Offshore Chemicals

Decision 2005/2 on Environmental Goals for the Discharge by the Offshore Industry of Chemicals that Are, or Contain Added Substances Listed in the OSPAR LCPA

Recommendation 2006/3 on Environmental Goals for the Discharge by the Offshore Industry of Chemicals that Are or Contain Substances Identified as Candidates for Substitution

OSPAR List of Substances Used and Discharged Offshore which Are Considered to Pose Little or No Risk to the Environment (PLONOR)

Decommissioning

Decision 98/3 on the Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations

Environmental Management

Recommendation 2003/5 on the Promotion of the Use and Implementation of EMS

OSPAR Decision 2007/1 to Prohibit the Storage of Carbon Dioxide Streams in the Water Column or on the Sea-bed

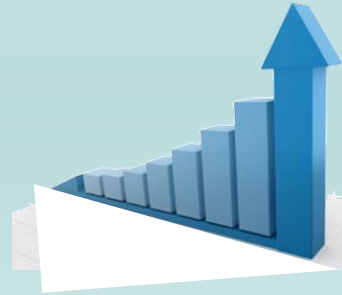
Offshore Drilling activities

Recommendation 2010/18 on the Prevention of significant acute pollution from offshore drilling activities

Guidelines to reduce the impact of offshore installations lighting on birds in the OSPAR maritime area

Decision 98/3

Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations



Number of offshore installations reaching the end of their operational lifetime



The dumping, and the leaving wholly or partly in place, of disused offshore installations is prohibited

BUT...

Decision 98/3

Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations

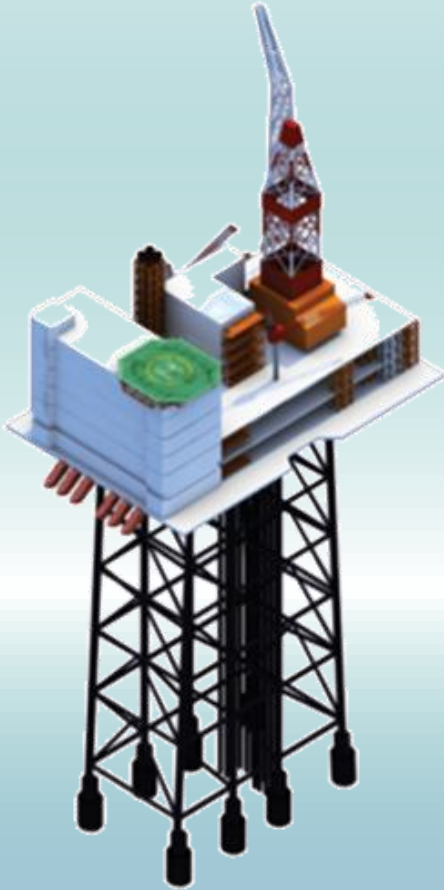
BUT...

A permit can be issued by the relevant Contracting Party to leave the installation in place according to certain rules



Decision 98/3

Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations



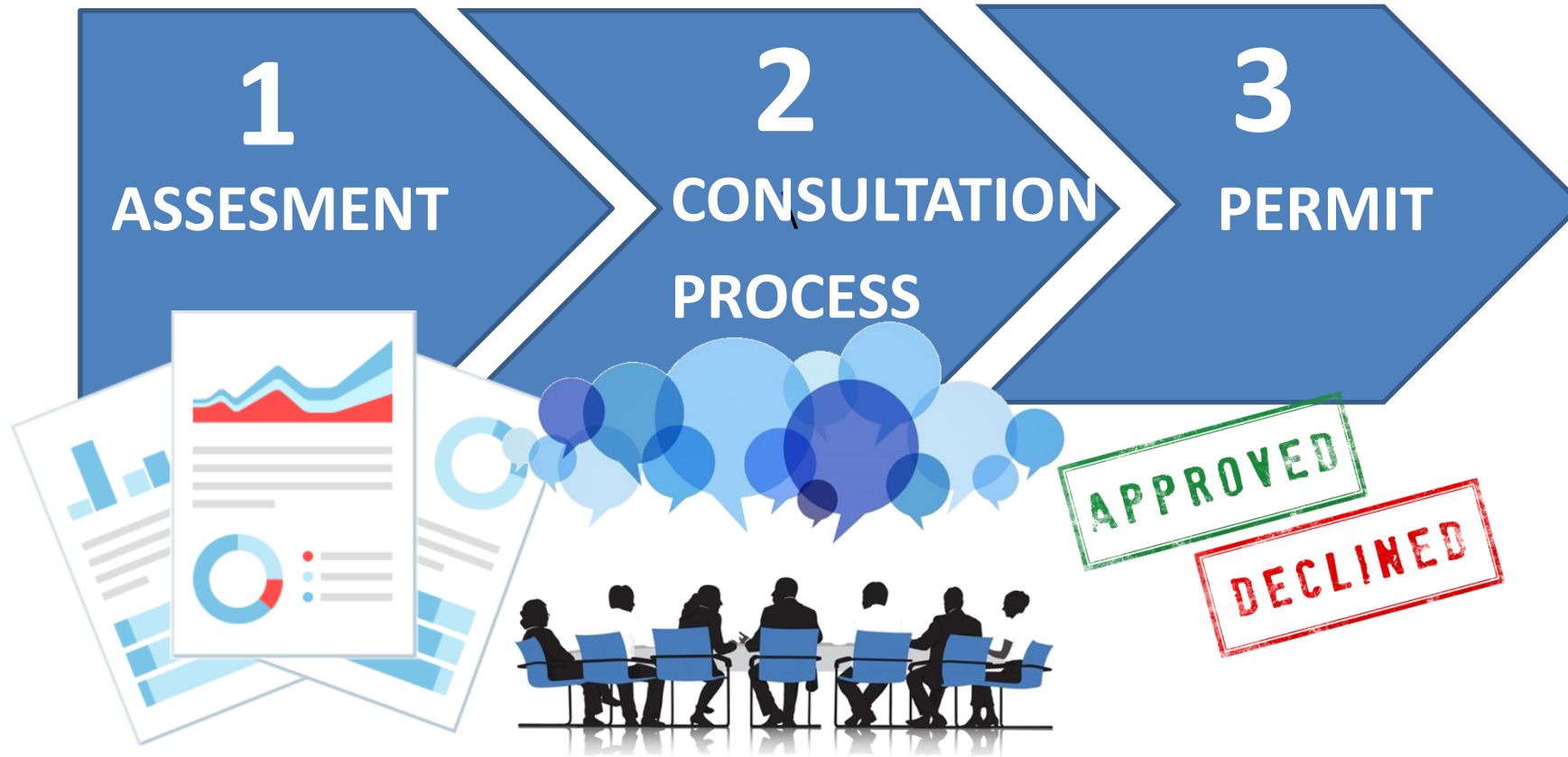
Derogation categories (excluding topsides) (Annex 1)

- footings of existing steel installations $\geq 10,000$ tonnes
- floating or gravity-based concrete installations
- concrete anchor-bases that could affect other uses of the sea
- any other case of exceptional and unforeseen circumstances (structural damage, deterioration)

Decision 98/3

Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations

Possible derogations



Decision 98/3

Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations



2

CONSULTATION
PROCESS

Decision 98/3 Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations

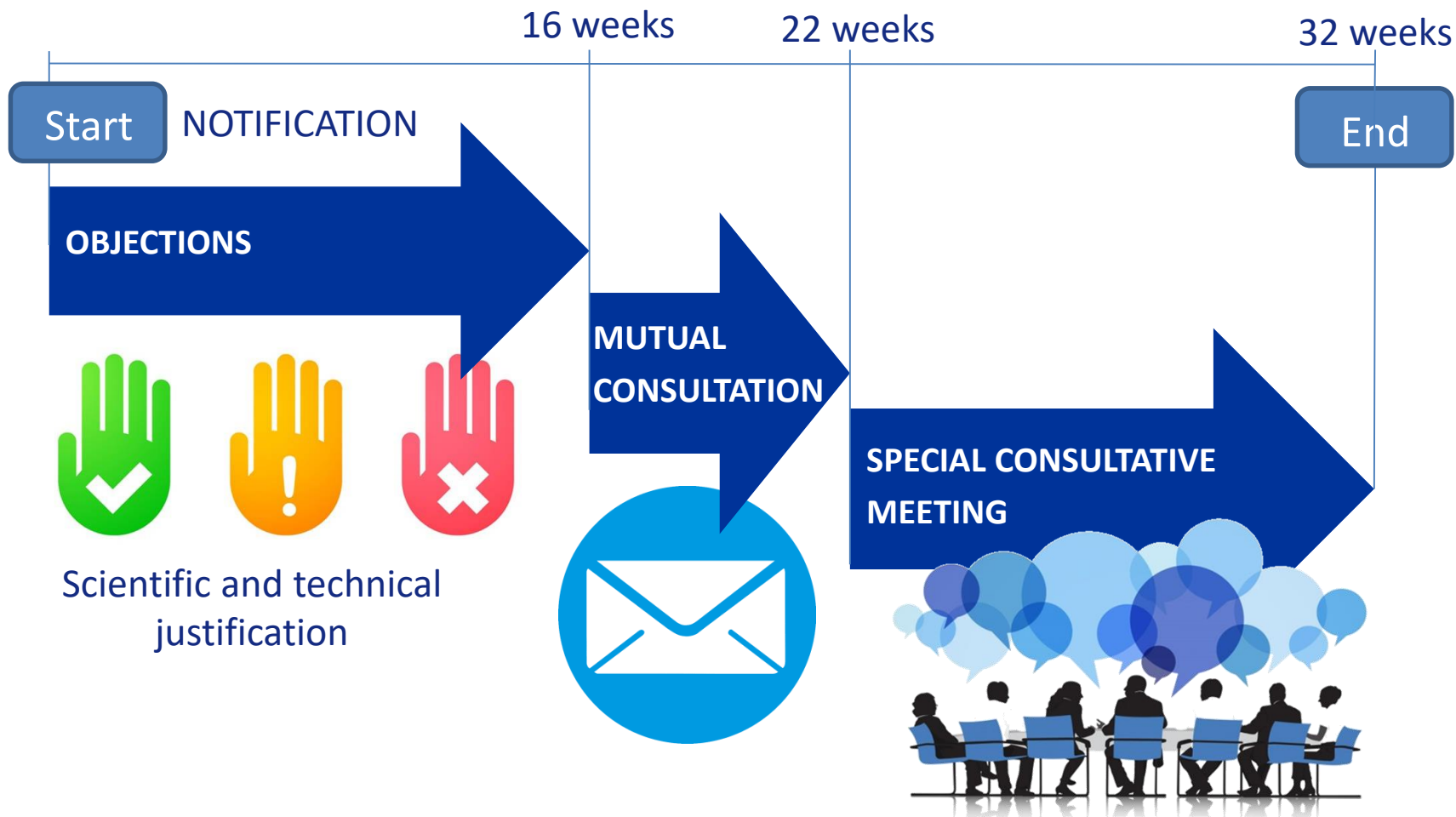


2

CONSULTATION
PROCESS

Decision 98/3

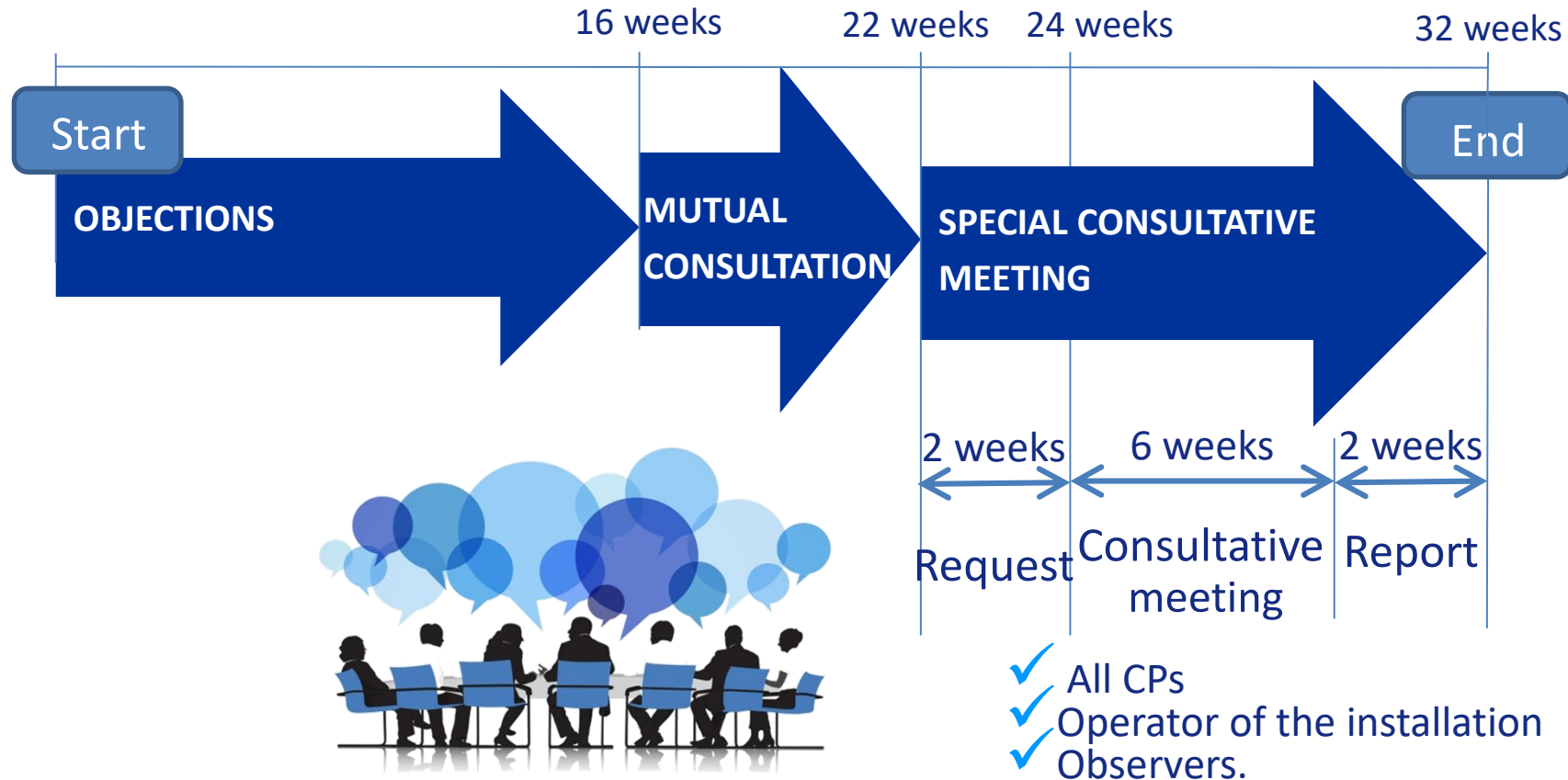
Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations



3
PERMIT

Decision 98/3

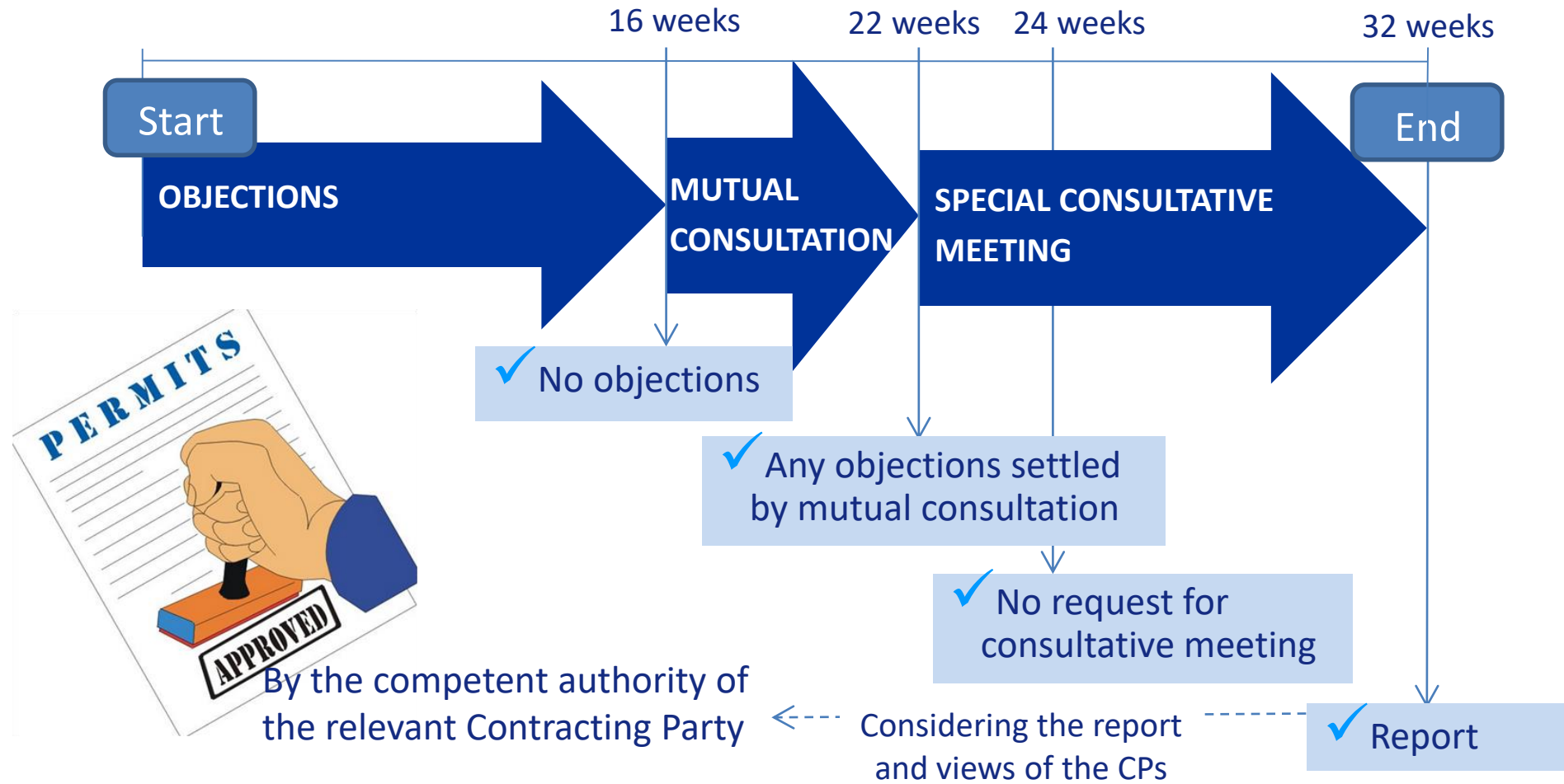
Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations



3
PERMIT

Decision 98/3

Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations



3

PERMIT

Decision 98/3

Disposal of Disused Offshore Installations

Implementation reports



Within 6 months of the disposal

Report

- ✓ Reasons to issue a permit
- ✓ extent to which the views recorded in the report of the special consultative meeting were accepted

Report

- ✓ steps of the disposal at sea;
- ✓ consequences of the disposal;
- ✓ management measures, monitoring or publication.

Inventory of Oil and Gas Offshore Installations

Database contains information on all offshore installations of Denmark, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom

- type (steel, concrete) and weight
- location (maps) and water depth

CPs reporting every 2 years

Number of installations

~1350 Operational

~170 Decommissioned

10 Derogations

Application of Decision 98/3 10 Derogations

Year	
Notification	Permit issued
2001	2002
2002(3)	2003(2)/2004(1)
2005	2006
2006	2008
2010	2013
2013	2014
2018	2019
2019	2020

Consultative process

- *Comments received*
- *No objections*
- *Objections*
- *Special Consultative Meeting*

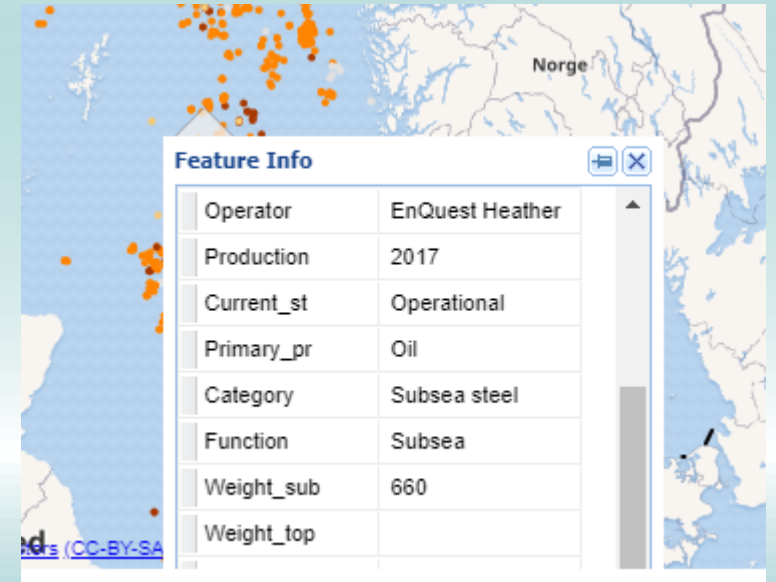
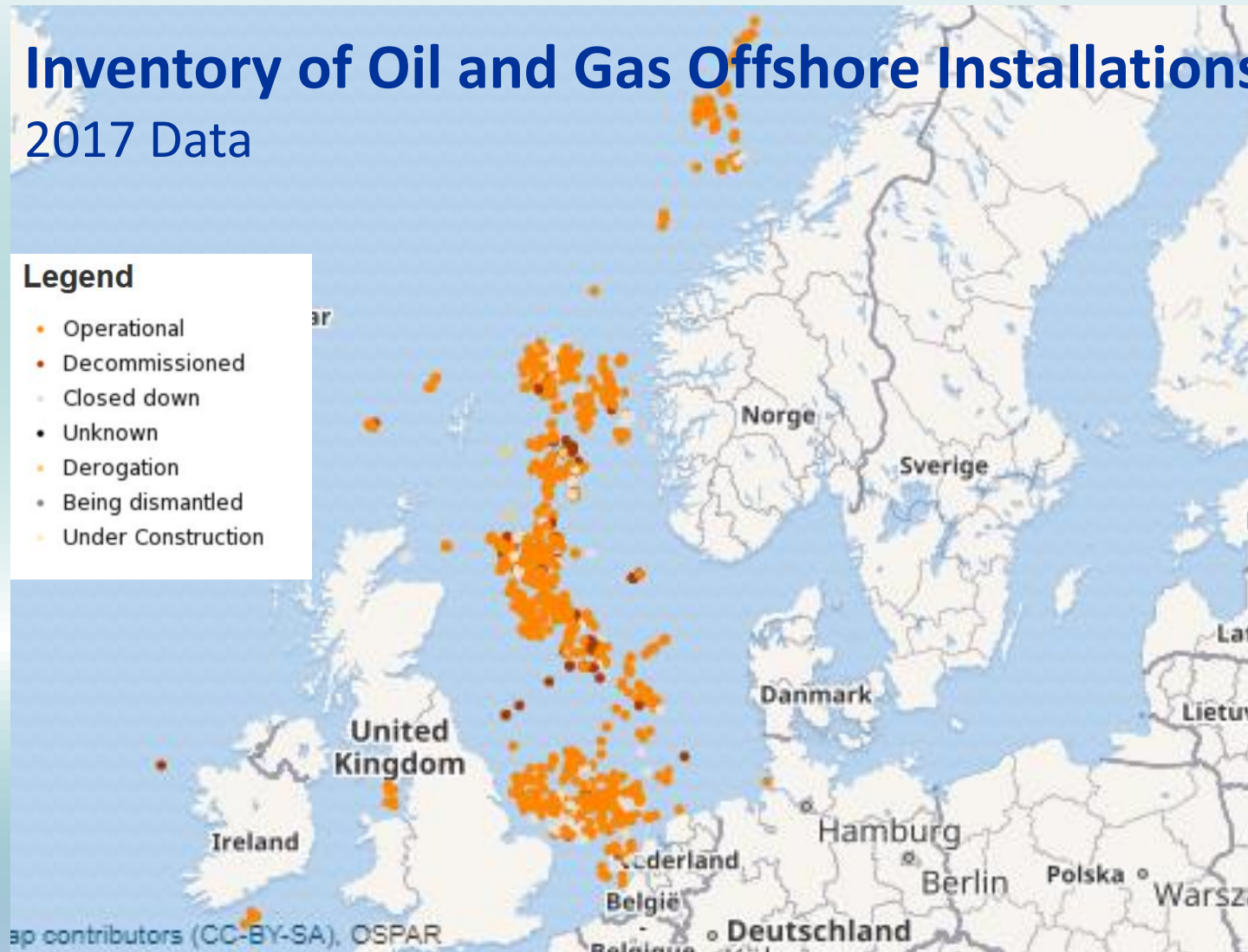
Types of installations	
5	Gravity based
5	Steel jacket

Inventory of Oil and Gas Offshore Installations

2017 Data

Legend

- Operational
- Decommissioned
- Closed down
- Unknown
- Derogation
- Being dismantled
- Under Construction





**OSPAR
COMMISSION**

Thank-you for your attention

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