

## Project Update: March 2015

President of GPS and Argentina's National Research Council researcher addressed the UNITED NATIONS at high-level symposium.

The symposium: "ONE OCEAN, achieving sustainability through sanctuaries" was held in UN Headquarters in New York, 5th March 2015. Under the leadership of President of Palau, the event was organized by the Ocean Sanctuary Alliance and hosted by the European Union and other five countries.

Only about 2% of the World's Ocean is protected, far short of the 20-30% recommended by scientists. The initiative seeks to commit UN member countries to increase and improve ocean protection through the creation of Marine Protected Areas. The ocean is in a severe and accelerating crisis. It is a global problem that will require a global solution. International collective action at the United Nations is the most effective way to create such a solution. For the first time, a worldwide effort to stabilize the ocean is under serious consideration at the UN as part of one of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The scientific case was chaired by Dr. Pikitch and presented by five speakers from China, US, Israel, UK and Pablo G. Borboroglu from Argentina. Borboroglu's presentation showed how sanctuaries are necessary to protect seabirds and other marine wildlife, the ecological and financial reasons to create marine protected areas and why science is fundamental to optimize their design. Watch his presentation online: scroll to 2:26 minutes. <http://webtv.un.org/.../one-ocean-achieving-sus.../4097144985001>

