

## TIAGO DE PITTA E CUNHA

BORN IN LISBON, PORTUGAL, 1967



Graduated in Law at the *Universidade Católica Portuguesa* (Lisbon, Portugal) in 1990, and obtained a LL.M. degree (Master of Laws) in European and International Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science (London, United Kingdom) in 1994.

Began practicing law as a trainee at the London Office of the Law Firm *Abreu & Marques e Associados, Sociedade de Advogados*, in 1990, and was admitted to the Bar in Lisbon in 1992. It was an attorney at the Lisbon Office of this Law Firm for 7 years working in EU Law, Corporate Law and Litigation.

Was also an assistant lecturer at the Law School of *Universidade Católica Portuguesa* in Lisbon from 1991 to 1993.

Was advisor to the President of the United Nations General Assembly from 1995 to 1996. This UN GA mandate aimed at moving forward the reform process of the UN Security Council.

Was the representative of Portugal in the 53rd Session of the UN General Assembly (1998) as delegate to the 6<sup>th</sup> Committee (Legal Affairs), focusing on law of the sea and ocean affairs, terrorism and the International Law Commission.

Was diplomatic Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations from 1999 to 2002. Therein represented Portugal and the EU 15 Member-States on oceans affairs (topics under discussion included sustainable development of the oceans and seas; oceans integrated policies; marine environment and pollution; fisheries and natural resources; marine scientific research; safety and security of navigation).

Represented Portugal in the International Sea Bed Authority and was a member of the Council of this Organization. Was also the representative of Portugal in the Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea of the UN General Assembly and in the Assembly of State-Parties to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Was a delegate to the Preparatory Commissions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) during 2001 and 2002.

In June of 2002 returned to Lisbon as member of the Cabinet of the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, of the XV Constitutional Government of Portugal (Lisbon).

In 2003 was appointed, by Mr. Barroso, then Prime Minister of Portugal, as coordinator of the Portuguese Oceans Strategic Commission, a high level policy working group with the mandate to design the Country's national oceans integrated policy.

From November 2004 to January 2010 was a member of the Cabinet of the European Commissioner for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, with responsibility for coordinating the development of the EU Integrated Maritime Policy.

He was a member of the International Ocean Governance Network and is currently a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands.