

**Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to
the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity
beyond areas of national jurisdiction**

**16 to 19 June 2014
UNHQ, New York**

In resolution 68/70, paragraph 200, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene three meetings of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, to take place from 1 to 4 April and 16 to 19 June 2014 and from 20 to 23 January 2015.

As a result, the eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group will take place from 16 to 19 June 2014, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Invitations

Invitations to the meeting were sent in the first half of April 2014 to all States Members of the United Nations and all parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as well as to entities that have received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly pursuant to its relevant resolutions, competent specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, other competent intergovernmental organizations, and relevant non-governmental organizations.

Working documents

The provisional agenda for the meeting will be available from the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS), in due course, at:
<http://www.un.org/depts/los/biodiversityworkinggroup/biodiversityworkinggroup.htm>.

The draft format and annotated provisional agenda and organization of work will also be available on the website of DOALOS in due course.

Side events

Requests for side events will be accepted until **15 May**. Such requests must be made by filling-in the dedicated request form available on the website of DOALOS (<http://www.un.org/depts/los/biodiversityworkinggroup/biodiversityworkinggroup.htm>), and must be addressed to the Secretary of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, at doalos@un.org, with an indication of the title, organizing institution(s) and preferred date for the event. The subject of the message should specify the following: **“Request for side event: Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group on biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction”**.

Owing to the limited number of time slots available, the Division may not be able to accommodate all requests for side events or preferred dates. It therefore reserves the right to suggest the organization of joint side events should competing requests be received for the same day. Should the number of requests exceed the number of available days left, the Division may also exercise its discretion in selecting side events with the view to ensuring variety in the topics covered by the side events.