



General Assembly

Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole

8-11 September 2015
United Nations, New York

FORMAT

Methods of work

1. The sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole is convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/245 of 29 December 2014. In paragraph 264 of the resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene the meeting from 8 to 11 September 2015, with a view to making recommendations to the General Assembly, in particular in light of paragraph 267.
2. Paragraph 267 recalls the General Assembly's decision that, with the approval of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, the draft assessment should be transmitted for consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, that the assessment should be available on the website of the Regular Process in the working language of the Group of Experts, that the Secretary-General should endeavour to translate the assessment into all other official languages, subject to the availability of resources in the voluntary trust fund for the purposes of supporting the operations of the first five-year cycle of the Regular Process, and also, that the summary of the first global integrated marine assessment should be submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, to be issued as a document of the General Assembly for its final approval by the Assembly at its seventieth session.
3. In light of the above, the main item on the agenda of the sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be the consideration of the first global integrated marine assessment (the first World Ocean Assessment), including its summary, as well as lessons learned and the way forward.
4. Pursuant to paragraph 204 of General Assembly resolution 65/37 A of 7 December 2010, the meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole are open to Member States and observers of the United Nations. In accordance with past practice of the United Nations, relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council will be invited to participate in the meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole. Relevant scientific institutions and major groups identified in Agenda 21 may request an invitation to participate in the meeting.



General Assembly

Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

5. The meeting will be conducted by two Co-Chairs, Mr. João Madureira (Portugal) and Ms. Fernanda Millicay (Argentina), representing, respectively, developed and developing countries, appointed by the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with the regional groups.

6. The Co-Chairs will be assisted by the members of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole who have been appointed by their respective regional groups. The Joint Coordinators and a number of members of the Group of Experts will also be participating in the meeting.

Agenda

7. The Co-Chairs will propose a provisional agenda and an organization of work, including a timetable, for the meeting.

Outcome

8. In accordance with the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole as set out in paragraph 267 of resolution 69/245, the Co-Chairs will propose that the outcome of the meeting consist of a set of suggested recommendations to the General Assembly, including on lessons learned during the first cycle of the Regular Process and the way forward, which will form part of the report of the meeting.

9. The Co-Chairs, in consultation with the Bureau, will prepare draft recommendations for consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole. The recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be transmitted by the Co-Chairs to the President of the seventieth session of the General Assembly.