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# 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 of the General Assembly**

**United Nations Headquarters, New York  
6 to 8 September 2017**

### **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**Wednesday, 6 September 2017**

**10am-1pm**

*Item 1. Opening of the meeting*

1. The Co-Chairs will open the proceedings and make opening remarks.
2. The Secretary-General or his representative will make opening remarks.

*Item 2. Adoption of the agenda*

3. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (the Regular Process) will be invited to consider and adopt the agenda for the meeting.

*Item 3. Organization of work*

4. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider the proposed organization of work for the meeting. The agenda items may be advanced depending on the progress made in the discussions.

*Item 4. Report of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole*

5. The Co-Chairs will report on the activities of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process since the last meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, including, in relation to, the launch of the official publication of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment and of the Technical Abstracts, the compilation and maintenance of a capacity-building inventory, the holding of a multi-stakeholder dialogue (case studies of good practices) and a capacity-building partnership event, awareness-raising, establishment of a Pool of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process, and the designation of National Focal Points pursuant to paragraphs 290, 311 and 312 of resolution 71/257, respectively. The Co-Chairs will also report on the finalization of the Guidelines for the first round of Workshops in 2017 to Assist the Regular Process.



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6. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider and take note of the report.

**Wednesday, 6 September 2017**

**3pm-6pm**

*Item 5. Regional workshops to assist the second cycle of the Regular Process*

7. The programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, which was adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process at its meeting from 3 to 9 August 2016 and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/257 of 23 December 2016 on “Oceans and the Law of the Sea” (paragraph 299), envisages a total of ten regional workshops to be held in two rounds beginning from the second half of 2017 and continuing into 2018. These workshops will serve to, *inter alia*, raise awareness, provide information, and receive feedback on the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment (“World Ocean Assessment I”), generate interest from the scientific community, contribute to capacity-building and inform the scoping and preparation phases and the collection of regional-level information and data for the preparation of the assessment(s) of the second cycle.

8. Following the finalization by the Bureau, in consultation with the Group of Experts, of the Guidelines for the first round of Workshops in 2017 to Assist the Regular Process, the secretariat circulated an invitation to Permanent and Observer Missions and to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, inviting them to express their interest to host a regional workshop in 2017. The meeting will consider the proposed schedule for the workshops and related modalities. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to take note of the offers to host regional workshops as well as the proposed schedule.

*Item 6. Elements for an outline for a second world ocean assessment or assessments*

9. The programme of work for the period 2017 to 2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process foresees, as Output I, the preparation of a second world ocean assessment or assessments. The General Assembly in paragraph 294 of its resolution 71/257 recalled that, in the first cycle, the scope of the Regular Process focused on establishing a baseline, and decided that the scope of the second cycle would extend to evaluating trends and identifying gaps. It is also recalled that the first round of regional workshops for the second cycle of the Regular Process (to be held in 2017) would, *inter alia*, build capacity, facilitate outreach and awareness-raising, and contribute to the scoping of regional priorities for the assessment(s) of the second cycle, which in turn would contribute to the preparation of an outline for such an



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assessment or assessments. According to the programme of work, the finalization of the assessment or assessments would be in late 2020.

10. In order to facilitate the scoping exercise and preparation of an outline, the Group of Experts, in consultation with the secretariat prepared draft elements for an outline for a second world ocean assessment or assessments. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider the draft elements for an outline for a second World Ocean Assessment or Assessments, which could be presented to the first round of workshops in 2017 in order to facilitate the preparation phases and the collection of regional-level information and data for the preparation of the assessment(s) of the second cycle.

11. The Joint Coordinators of the Group of Experts, Mr. Renison Ruwa and Mr. Alan Simcock, will introduce the elements for an outline for a second world ocean assessment or assessments and will be invited to respond to any comments or questions raised by participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

12. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider the Elements for an Outline for a second world ocean assessment or assessments.

**Thursday, 7 September 2017**

**10am-1pm**

*Item 6. (continued)*

13. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will continue its consideration of the draft elements for an outline for a second World Ocean Assessment or Assessments.

*Item 7. Guidance for Contributors*

14. Pursuant to paragraph 310 of General Assembly resolution 71/257, the Group of Experts was requested to, *inter alia*, review, the Guidance for Contributors (A/67/87, Annex III) which had been adopted by the General Assembly during the first cycle of the Regular Process (paragraph 222 of resolution 67/78) upon the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole (A/67/87) and to modify them, as appropriate, so as to ensure, among other things, continuous full membership and engagement by the members of the Group of Experts and inform the Bureau for subsequent endorsement by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

15. The Group of Experts prepared revised Guidance for Contributors for the Group of Experts. The Joint Coordinators will present the Guidance for Contributors.

**Thursday, 7 September 2017**

**3pm-6pm**

16. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will continue its consideration of the Guidance for Contributors and will be invited to adopt it.



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**Friday, 8 September 2017**

**10am-1pm**

*Item 8. Capacity-building*

17. Capacity-building is one of the core objectives of the Regular Process and will be pursued through a number of activities to facilitate needs-based capacity-building initiatives, including the compilation and maintenance of a capacity-building inventory; the holding of workshops and their follow-up, which will play a central role in raising the awareness of stakeholders to the Regular Process, the identification and collection of data, the identification/scoping of regional priorities and the wider dissemination of the assessment. They will also foster a wider geographical representation in the appointment of experts to the pool of experts and the holding of a multi-stakeholder dialogue (case studies of good practices) and a capacity-building partnership event; and fundraising for the Regular Process special scholarship trust fund and the implementation of the special scholarship.

*Item 9. Adoption of recommendations to the seventy-second session of the General Assembly.*

18. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider and adopt recommendations to the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, for consideration for submission at its seventy-second session under the agenda item entitled, "Oceans and the law of the sea". The recommendations will be transmitted along with the recommendations of the eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, which was held from 17 to 18 April 2017. The General Assembly would be invited to also take note of the guidance to the Bureau, secretariat and Group of Experts, which was adopted by the eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

**Friday, 8 September 2017**

**3pm-6pm**

*Item 10. Other matters*

19. Delegations will be invited to raise any other matters if they so wish.

*Item 11. Closure of the meeting*

20. The meeting will be closed by the Co-Chairs.