



United Nations

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

28 February to 1 March 2018

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Wednesday, 28 February 2018

10am-1pm

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

1. The Co-Chair 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-Chair 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 first round of regional workshops (paragraph 318 of resolution 72/73), the outline of the second world ocean assessment (paragraph 319 of resolution 72/73), the draft timetable and implementation plan for the preparation of the assessment, part II of the draft



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Guidance for contributors, the holding of a multi-stakeholder dialogue and a capacity-building partnership event, awareness-raising, the appointment of experts to the Group of Experts (paragraph 316 of resolution 72/73), the appointment of additional experts to the Pool of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process (paragraph 312 of resolution 72/73), and the designation of National Focal Points (paragraph 315 of resolution 72/73).

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

Item 5. Presentations on the outcome of the first round of regional workshops.

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 of the second cycle.

8. The first round of workshops took place in 2017 in Lisbon, Portugal from 14 to 15 September; Auckland, New Zealand from 18 to 19 October; Camboriú, Brazil from 14 to 15 November; Bangkok, Thailand from 29 to 30 November; and Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania from 14 to 15 December. The first round of workshops served to provide information and receive feedback on the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment, inform the scoping and preparation phases of the second world ocean assessment, raise awareness about the Regular Process, and generate interest from the scientific community.

9. The Joint Coordinators of the Group of Experts, Mr. Renison Ruwa and Mr. Alan Simcock, will present an overview of the first round of regional workshops and be invited to respond to any comments or questions raised by participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

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



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3pm-6pm

Item 6. Outline for the second world ocean assessment

11. 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 to be finalized in late 2020. The Group of Experts, to facilitate the scoping exercise and preparation of an outline, and in accordance with the Terms of Reference and working methods of the Group of Experts, prepared, in consultation with the secretariat, draft elements for an outline for the second world ocean assessment(s). The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole considered the draft elements at its last meeting.

12. The General Assembly noted in its resolution 72/73 the elements for discussion on the shape and structure of the assessment or assessments to be carried out in the second cycle of the Regular Process prepared by the Group of Experts, in accordance with the programme of work, and decided that, in the elaboration of an outline, the Group of Experts should proceed on the basis of the preparation of a single comprehensive assessment.

13. The draft elements were presented to the first round of workshops in 2017, and the draft outline was prepared taking into account the feedback from the regional workshops. It is recalled that 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.

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

15. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider and approve the outline for the second world ocean assessment.



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Thursday, 1 March 2018

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Item 7. Timetable and plan of implementation for the preparation of the second world ocean assessment

16. In accordance with the Terms of reference for the Group of Experts, the Group of Experts have prepared a draft implementation plan and timetable for the preparation of the second world ocean assessment.

17. The Joint Coordinators of the Group of Experts, Mr. Renison Ruwa and Mr. Alan Simcock, will introduce the draft timetable and plan of implementation for the preparation of the second world ocean assessment and will be invited to respond to any comments or questions raised by participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

18. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider and take note of the draft timetable and draft plan of implementation for the preparation of the second world ocean assessment.

Item 8. Guidance for Contributors, part II

19. 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. In accordance with the Terms of reference for the Group of Experts, the first part of the Guidance for Contributors (intended for members of the Group of Experts, of the Pool of experts and Peer-reviewers) was revised by the Group of Experts and endorsed by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its ninth meeting.

20. The Group of Experts has revised the second part of the Guidance for Contributors (intended for Writing Teams). The Joint Coordinators of the Group of Experts, Mr. Renison Ruwa and Mr. Alan Simcock will present the Guidance for Contributors, and will be invited to respond to any comments or questions raised by participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

21. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider the Guidance for Contributors.



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Item 9. Second round of regional workshops

22. The second round of regional workshops envisaged by the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 will take place in 2018, with the objective to, *inter alia*, inform the collection of regional-level information and data for the preparation of the second world ocean assessment. Invitations to consider hosting a regional workshop were circulated to States on 4 December 2017, and to relevant intergovernmental organizations on 7 December 2017, respectively.

23. In response to these invitations, the secretariat has received a number of formal offers to host a regional workshop for the second round in support of the Regular Process.

24. The meeting will be invited to take note of the various offers and expressions of interest and provide guidance on the way forward.

25. The Group of Experts are preparing draft guidelines for the second round of workshops. The Joint Coordinators of the Group of Experts will present the elements of the guidelines for the second round of workshops and will be invited to respond to any comments or questions raised by participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

26. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider the draft elements for guidelines for the second round of workshops.

Item 10. Capacity-building

27. 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.



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28. The Joint Coordinators of the Group of Experts will present the input received from the first round of regional workshops regarding capacity-building. Participants at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to propose priorities for needs-based capacity-building and modalities for the multi-stakeholder dialogue and a capacity-building partnership event planned to be held in early 2019. Participants are also encouraged to share studies of good practice in capacity-building in support of the science-policy interface.

Item 11. Adoption of recommendations to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly.

29. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will be invited to consider and adopt recommendations to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, for consideration for submission under the agenda item entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”. The General Assembly would be invited to also take note of the guidance to the Bureau, secretariat and Group of Experts, adopted by the tenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

Item 12. Other matters

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

Item 13. Closure of the meeting

31. The meeting will be closed by the Co-Chair.