

Summary of discussions of the fifth regional Workshop of the first round of workshops held under the auspices of the United Nations in support of the second cycle of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, 14– 15 December 2017

I. Overview

The present document provides a summary of the discussions and information emanating from the fifth regional Workshop of the first round of workshops in support of the second cycle of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (Regular Process), covering the region of the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and the ROPME/RECOFI area (Regional Organisation for Protection of the Marine Environment/Regional Commission for Fisheries). The Workshop was held in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, from 14 to 15 December 2017.

The information provided in the present summary synthesizes the discussions, presentations, as well as the remarks of the Co-Chairs of the Workshop under the following overarching topics: review of available and proposed assessments and sources of information; possible structure of the second world ocean assessment; priorities in the region of the Workshop; how to make the second world ocean assessment most helpful to policy-makers in the region, including with respect to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda); supporting contributions to the preparation of the second world ocean assessment; capacity-building needs and opportunities, including for the conduct and improvement of integrated assessments; and improving the information available for the second world ocean assessment and future assessments. The annexes to the present summary of discussions provide other details of the Workshop and its outcomes, including the agenda and the list of participants.

II. Background

The programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, developed by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process¹ and endorsed by the General Assembly,² includes in the activities for 2017 the holding of regional workshops to support the development of the assessment and facilitate outreach, awareness-raising and capacity-building, through, *inter alia*, the identification and collection of data, the identification/scoping of regional priorities and the wider dissemination of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment – World Ocean Assessment I (WOA I or the Assessment).³ The workshops will also foster a wider geographical representation in the appointment of experts to the pool of experts. Subsequently, the Group of Experts of the Regular Process developed the “Guidelines for the first round of Workshops in 2017 to Assist the Regular Process for Global Reporting and

¹ See the attachment to A/71/362.

² See General Assembly resolution 71/257, paragraph 299.

³ See paragraph 8 (h) of the Programme of Work 2017-2020, attachment to A/71/362.

Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects” for the first round of regional workshops. The Guidelines provide for, *inter alia*, the purpose, objectives, participants and outputs of the workshops, as well as for the various operational and administrative considerations on their implementation.

In accordance with the Guidelines, the objectives of the first round of workshops are to:

- (a) Provide an opportunity to present the main conclusions of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment – World Ocean Assessment I;
- (b) Enable participants to put forward their views on the scope and structure that should be adopted for the assessment to be prepared in the second cycle of the Regular Process, which is to be completed by the end of 2020. Given that the General Assembly decided that the first cycle of the Regular Process should focus on establishing a baseline, and that subsequent cycles should extend to establishing trends, the workshops should, in particular, aim to conclude:
 - (i) What aspects of the ocean are most relevant to include in the assessment to be made in the second cycle, and the extent to which it is possible to establish trends in relation to them;
 - (ii) How the establishment of such trends can most effectively be done in the different oceanic regions in a standard manner;
 - (iii) How the existence of trends can, in the future, be evaluated;
 - (iv) How risks in relation to the various aspects of the ocean can be evaluated, taking into account regional interests and differences; and
 - (v) What regional priorities should be addressed in the preparation of the assessment of the second cycle, bearing in mind the global ocean policy agenda;
- (c) Promote capacity-building within the region for which each workshop is held, so as to assist in creating the abilities to contribute from the region to the production of the assessment. In particular, the workshops should consider what steps might be taken to improve abilities to carry out integrated assessments within the region;
- (d) Explore what increased cooperation or coordination between processes already under way in the region could assist in providing the information required for the assessment;
- (e) Consider how assessments produced by the Regular Process can be structured so as to help policy-makers most effectively with their tasks; and
- (f) Consider how to improve arrangements for networking between experts and organizations taking part in each workshop, and the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, the Group of Experts, the Pool of Experts, the National Focal Points and the secretariat of the Regular Process.

III. Conduct of the Workshop

The Workshop was held under the auspices of the United Nations, represented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs, which also serves as the secretariat for the Regular Process, and hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), through its Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean, with the assistance of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Workshop was conducted in accordance with the draft agenda (Annex 1). Under item 5 of the agenda, the presentation on behalf of Mr. Alan Simcock (Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process) on the possible structure of the second world ocean assessment was delivered by both Mr. Renison Ruwa (Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process) and Mr. Joshua Tuhumwire (Member of the Group of Experts).

The Workshop was chaired by Mr. Islam S. Salum, Deputy Principal Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Livestock and Fisheries, Government of Zanzibar, and by Mr. Renison Ruwa. It was attended by representatives from the Governments of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Myanmar, Sudan, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia and by representatives from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (IGOs and NGOs), regional scientific bodies and academic research institutions from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, and Uganda, as well as from the Intergovernmental Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Islands (IOCAfrica) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Additionally, among the participants were two members of the Group of Experts, a member of the Pool of Experts, and three National Focal Points (Annex 2, List of Participants). The United Nations was represented by the Programme Officer of the secretariat of the Regular Process and by a Legal Officer of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea. Overall, the workshop was attended by fifty-one participants, seventeen of whom were female. Ms. Joana Akrofi (UNEP) served as the facilitator.

At the outset, welcoming remarks were delivered by a representative of the secretariat of the Regular Process on behalf of the United Nations and by Mr. Dixon Waruinge (UNEP, Nairobi Convention). The Workshop was opened by Mr. Juma Makungu Juma (Deputy Minister, Ministry of Land, Water and Energy) who pledged his Government's continued support for the Regular Process.

Following these remarks, the secretariat of the Regular Process gave a presentation on current developments in global ocean policies. Mr. Renison Ruwa, Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts, gave a presentation on WOA I, in which he highlighted challenges in the preparation of the first assessment, such as lack of effective cooperation with regional intergovernmental organizations, including with regard to the nomination of experts to the Pool of Experts. Mr. Ruwa also observed that the contributions to WOA I were marked by low participation and low motivation. He noted that the new mechanism for appointment of experts to the Pool of Experts for the second cycle aimed to address this issue. He also noted prior website limitations that had inhibited effective communication with the members of the Pool of Experts. The designation of National Focal Points during the second cycle had helped by providing a coordinating focal point that could liaise with

relevant experts. During the second cycle, IGOs were expected to facilitate liaison with relevant experts. Face-to-face meetings of the writing teams would also assist the drafting process. He also noted the need to balance and reflect the experience of developing countries including in the regional composition of the Pool of Experts.

Mr. Ruwa and Mr. Tuhumwire then presented on the possible structure of the second world ocean assessment. Mr. Ruwa noted that the ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole decided that one comprehensive assessment would be prepared. He observed that the preparation of the second assessment would need a more integrated approach, as opposed to the “cubist approach” adopted in WOA I, aided in part by input from the regional workshops. Mr Tuhumwire thereafter introduced the draft elements for discussion on the scope and structure of the assessment of the second cycle (draft elements), prepared by the Group of Experts, which were organized under the following sections: the ocean and its circulation; the food web; the coastal and shelf areas and the open ocean, and noted that the organization of content needed to be useful for policy-makers.

These presentations were followed by presentations by a number of participants under the agenda item on the review of assessments carried out since 2012/to be carried out between 2017 to 2020, in order to identify how the assessment under the Regular Process can best build on them; and by discussions in break-out groups on the possible structure of the assessment of the second cycle; regional priorities for consideration in the preparation of the second world ocean assessment; and on how to make the assessment of the second cycle more helpful to policy-makers in the region, including with respect to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Presentations made available for distribution will be posted on the Regular Process homepage (www.un.org/depts/los/rp) in due course.

Subsequent discussions in plenary focused on possible steps which may be undertaken within the region to support contributions to the second world ocean assessment; on the capacity-building needs and opportunities relevant to the science-policy interface and how the activities undertaken during the second cycle of the Regular Process may contribute to this end; on how capacities to achieve integrated assessments of the marine environment can be improved; and on what steps could be taken, either within the region or at a global level, to improve the information available for the second world ocean assessment and future assessments.

The Workshop concluded with the Co-Chairs presenting their summary of the main elements that have emerged from the Workshop and providing closing remarks. The representative of UNEP, Nairobi Convention and a representative of the secretariat of the Regular Process also made closing remarks.

III. Summary of discussions

The discussions that took place under the various agenda items were largely cross-cutting in nature and provided an important source of information to be considered during the implementation of the second cycle of the Regular Process, in particular for the preparation of the second world ocean assessment. These discussions have been summarized below under various overarching cross-cutting themes.

A. Consideration of the available assessments and sources of information

Workshop participants were invited to provide information on the various assessments and sources of information in the Western and Eastern Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and the ROPME/RECOFI area since 2012 and that are proposed to be carried out within the region in the period 2017 – 2020, in order to identify how they might be of relevance to the preparation of the second world ocean assessment. A number of participants gave presentations on assessments and provided information regarding the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden, including Australia (State of the Environment report); India (Review of Assessments in the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea); Indonesia (ASEAN Trans-boundary Marine Debris and Consortium for Indonesia Oceanic Research); Sudan (ongoing projects on “Building institutional capacities for the sustainable management of the marine fishery in the Red Sea State” and on “Coastal Environmental and Socioeconomic Monitoring Port Sudan, Sudan”); and the UNEP, Nairobi Convention (Regional State of the Coast report – Western Indian Ocean which is based on the Driver-Pressure-State-Impacts-Response (DPSIR) framework in line with WOA I and includes a section on scenarios, policy options and capacity-building, and for which a summary for policy-makers was produced in 2016).

A separate presentation was also delivered by UNEP in respect of its Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme which gave an overview of its five technical reports and related summaries for policy-makers that are available in all the official languages of the United Nations.

The following specific sources of information were identified:

- India: seawater quality (COMPAS programme), fisheries;
- Indian Ocean/regional assessments: observations and analyses resulting from the second Indian Ocean Expedition (IOE2), outputs and analyses from the Bay of Bengal programme, a global ocean assessment report being contributed to by IOC Africa; and the Regional State of the Coast Report (Western Indian Ocean);
- Indonesia: coral reefs, seagrass beds, marine debris (ASEAN trans-boundary assessment), dynamics of upwelling in Sumatra and Java, the Indonesian Through-Flow, the eastern pole of the Indian Ocean Dipole; and
- Mauritius Environment Outlook Report 2011 (as well as a number of assessments for the Mauritius region available at moi.govmu.org).

These presentations were followed by a general discussion on a range of issues, including how to address baseline information that was missing from WOA I, how experts could contribute to the second cycle and the preparation of the second world ocean assessment, how the ocean regions for the workshops were determined and how the Bay of Bengal could be factored in the second round of regional workshops.

Participants also discussed the global nature of the second world ocean assessment, based on regional inputs, in order to provide an integrated assessment of the state of the world ocean; how to coordinate and gather regional information and data and the need to standardize scientific methodologies. Challenges in the preparation and application of regional assessments to other regions were noted in this context, including with regard to trends and modelling.

It was generally agreed that there was a wealth of information available in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region, but that a challenge existed in coordinating and collecting as well as integrating the relevant data. Participants also noted in this

context, the challenges associated with the availability and compatibility of data and assessments undertaken at different scales (temporal and spatial differences), which made it difficult to integrate in a global assessment. The need for harmonization of methodologies and comparison of indicators was emphasized in this context.

The Workshop was seen as an important opportunity to raise awareness of the Regular Process and to create a regional network for the identification of data and information needed for the second world ocean assessment. Representatives from regional scientific organizations indicated that their organizations could assist in the identification of existing sources of information and data that could be relevant to the preparation of the second world ocean assessment.

B. Consideration of the possible structure of the second world ocean assessment

Following the establishment of three break-out groups, participants considered the possible structure of the second world ocean assessment, regional priorities for the assessment of the second cycle and how to make the assessment of the second cycle most helpful to policy-makers in the region with their tasks, including implementing the 2030 Agenda. The summary of the discussions has been arranged as follows: scope and structure.

Scope

It was noted that since the mandated scope of the next assessment was to assess trends, it would be necessary to consider how best to identify and develop a method to establish the trends. This process would need to include the development of indicators. The point was made that the second world ocean assessment presented an opportunity to identify a baseline on governance. An observation was made that the second world ocean assessment, just as with WOA I, should not duplicate the work of other bodies and should also not be policy-prescriptive.

Structure

Participants generally agreed that the structure of the second world ocean assessment needed to consider the user perspective and provide practical assistance to policy-makers in the implementation of policy goals, in particular, the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Some participants noted challenges regarding the length of WOA I which made it inaccessible to all stakeholders, and the need, in this regard, for the second world ocean assessment to provide effective scientific advice and guidance to policy makers. The role of the media and press was also noted, including in raising awareness about the outputs of the Regular Process.

While there was general agreement on the overall proposed structure of the second world ocean assessment, some specific proposals were made on certain parts.

In this regard, participants understood that the focus in Part 2 (The Ocean and its General Ecosystem Services) was centered on pressures on oceans and ecosystem services. It was suggested that the human dimension should be added, including immigration, emigration and population pressures. It was suggested that Part 2 should be separated into two sections, namely, physical drivers (ocean currents and thermocline circulation, sea temperature rise, sea level rise) and anthropogenic drivers, including the human dimension. Another suggestion was to strengthen Part

2 by including two separate sections on “socioeconomics” and “governance”. It was also suggested that a Part 2.5 on “Upwelling” could be added.

With regard to Part 3 (The Food Web), the suggestion was made to include bio-magnification, food safety and security in Part 3.1. Another suggestion was that Part 3.2 should be revised to cover both primary and secondary production. It was also suggested that Part 3.9 should be rephrased as “seafood for human consumption”, since the focus was on food for consumption, rather than the issue of trade, and that some elements on microbes and coral larvae should be added.

Concerning Part 4 (Coastal and Shelf Seas), it was considered that there was a need to re-order the subsections into three broad categories, namely ecosystems, impacts and management. With regard to “ecosystems” it was suggested that Part 4.3 be moved to 4.1 in order to describe the ecosystems, while with regard to “management” it was suggested that Part 4.4 on area-based integrated management tools be moved to Part 4.15. Another suggestion was made to include sediment and water quality in Parts 4 and 5.

C. Consideration of additional topics for inclusion in the second world ocean assessment

Throughout the workshop proceedings participants identified a number of topics for possible inclusion in the second world ocean assessment, noting both the regional and global significance of these topics, as well as their cross-cutting nature.

In this context, some participants proposed the need for the second world ocean assessment to consider an assessment of technology needs and to elaborate what are the technologies or expertise needed, what financial mechanisms are appropriate for the regions and what infrastructure is required, including through the transfer of technology. A suggestion was made that the assessment take a landscape to seascape approach, thereby providing for discussion of the ecological and social linkages between the land and the sea.

Among the specific topics proposed, participants identified the following:

- Mangrove pollination / regeneration;
- Benthic ecology (mindful of the fact that seabed issues were regulated by the International Seabed Authority, (ISA));
- Coastal agriculture;
- Desalination;
- Sea salt mining;
- Nuclear energy;
- Radioactive disposal;
- Decommissioning old ships;
- Bio-prospecting;
- Ballast water and alien invasive species; and
- Integrated ocean management.

D. Consideration of priorities in the Workshop region

With respect to regional priorities, participants emphasized the importance of including all stakeholders and regional seas bodies at the outset in order to ensure the priorities from the region were properly reflected in the second world ocean assessment.

In terms of specific topics, participants identified the following regional priorities that might also be relevant to other regions and might warrant consideration in the context of the preparation of the second world assessment. In addition to these specific topics, participants also identified general principles that were relevant to the region, in particular, good governance (institutions, policy framework, etc.), sustainability, urbanisation, well-being and subsidiarity. The need for gender considerations in the world ocean assessment was also highlighted.

- Ocean acidification;
- Microplastics;
- Coastal erosion;
- Hazardous wastes;
- Coral bleaching;
- Extensive coverage of the region through data buoys and ocean modelling, including the placement of data buoys beyond exclusive economic zones (EEZs);
- Common protocol on data (meteorological) collection, collation and processing for modelling;
- Availability of processed information to wider community, including ocean atmosphere coupling and the impact it has on the regional climate, data on river flows (landscape to seascape approach) and marine spatial planning in the context of the blue economy;
- Regional monitoring of harmful algal blooms;
- Safety and security at sea, particularly of fishermen;
- Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing;
- Marine aquaculture and its interactions with wild fisheries, including trend analysis;
- Ecosystem approach to fisheries management, with emphasis on the triple bottom line (ecology, economics, governance);
- More engagement on gender issues, especially in the context of fisheries post-harvest activities;
- Primary and secondary production;
- Invasive alien species and ballast water management;
- Ecosystem-based management (effective governance balanced by ecological well-being and human well-being);
- Indigenous knowledge on the oceans, shelf seas and inland waterways (cross-cutting);

- Review the role of marine protected areas in the context of livelihood versus biodiversity conservation;
- Access and benefit sharing;
- Capacity-building with respect to modelling, physical oceanography, knowledge of endangered, threatened and protected species and the importance and impact of technology and innovation;
- Capacity-building for biodiversity assessment;
- Capacity-building in science-policy communication (inter-disciplinary communication);
- Building technical capacity that links with the SDGs;
- Empowerment of women;
- Technology development; and
- Technology/knowledge transfer and dissemination.

E. Consideration of how to make the second world ocean assessment most helpful to policy-makers in the region

In considering how to make the second world ocean assessment most helpful to policy-makers in the region, including with respect to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, participants agreed that the Group of Experts of the Regular Process should carefully consider the intended audience of the second world ocean assessment, including in preparing the structure of the assessment and the identification of thematic areas. The particular value of the second world ocean assessment in integrating socioeconomic aspects was mentioned by a number of participants.

The important role of the second world ocean assessment in providing scientific advice to policy-makers on regional issues and disputes, including concerning the integrated management of waterways and water usage was highlighted. The relevance of the second world ocean assessment to all States, including landlocked countries was noted.

Participants were reminded of the mandate of the Regular Process, which was to provide scientific and not policy advice to policy-makers, as well as of the importance of avoiding duplication in the second world ocean assessment e.g., by reporting on the work of other organizations.

In terms of specific proposals, participants identified the need for policy briefs to be tailored to meet the needs of respective States, regions and other users, as well as summaries for decision-makers and public awareness to allow for bottom-up approaches. The need to value oceans resources was also highlighted.

The need for participation and involvement of policy-makers in common platforms was also highlighted in order to allow for interaction and awareness among e.g., inter-ministerial portfolio committees. In the WIO region, the need to align the relevant parts of the second world ocean assessment to the goals of Agenda 2063 “The Africa We Want” was also emphasized.

F. Consideration of supporting contributions to the preparation of the second world ocean assessment

With respect to cooperation or coordination between processes already under way in the region that could assist in providing the information required for the second world ocean assessment, participants agreed on the need for increased engagement of a wider cross-section of relevant stakeholders and users, including through the development of a database and establishment of platforms for the exchange of information and sensitization of stakeholders and users. Participants noted in this context the need to also make use of existing institutional frameworks and to take stock of the lessons already learned from existing organizations and assessments in the region e.g., from the WIO assessment, such as to ensure inclusive engagement and participation from the beginning.

Some participants also agreed on the need for harmonization of regional and national methodologies to help coordinate regional-level work with the global assessment and prevent the duplication of efforts. It was particularly important, in this regard, for national and regional assessments to align to the structure proposed for the second world ocean assessment. The need to align regional and national assessments with the timing of global processes was also highlighted in this context, in particular regarding the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

It was noted that data collation and sharing is key to the success of the second world ocean assessment and that it would be important to have protocols in place including regarding persons empowered with this task. In terms of what could be done in relation to issues on which relevant data and information was known to be available, but had not been fed into any assessment, participants stressed the importance of sensitizing experts to the value of the second world ocean assessment in order for them to understand the benefit of data contribution and sharing. It was considered that this could help mitigate against the tendency of experts to guard their own data and thus prevent the need for protracted “data negotiation”. A point was made that the need to avoid “consultation fatigue” was an important consideration in the process of gathering information.

Participants also emphasized the importance of: (i) taking stock of the work already being done in the region, including under the auspices of United Nations processes, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the IPCC (including so as to align with IPCC timelines), and (ii) compiling an inventory of institutions that could contribute data in order to avoid duplication and to target relevant and available expertise. In this regard, the following observations were made: the Mauritius Oceanography Institute has data on physical and biological oceanography which could be relevant; the Intergovernmental Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States has a coordination role to collate and compile all relevant data in the region and make it available for use; the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange II has an important role; the African Union could contribute through the framework of its Aims Strategy 2050, Agenda 2063, its fisheries program and inventory on fisheries and aquaculture; the first phase of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Environment assessment (2009-2015) and the RV Fridtjof Nansen which will be in the Bay of Bengal from 2018 onwards could contribute to the understanding of information for WOA II. Other organizations and institutions that could be relevant were noted to be the Indian Ocean Rim Association, the Intergovernmental Union for the Conservation of Nature, the Kenya Marine and

Fisheries Research Institute, the Ocean Partnerships Project (Tuna and tuna like species); regional fisheries bodies, the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (expert groups), the annual meetings of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Association and the World Wide Fund for Nature.

The utility of the second round of workshops scheduled for 2018 was also seen as important as it would provide an opportunity for regional experts to collect and compile data and information and enhance collaboration among regional organizations.

The issue of data and information gaps was also discussed, in particular, what could be done to provide data and information by 2020 on issues that were relevant to the region, but where data and information was currently lacking. Participants emphasized in this context the need to broaden data sources to include, for example, research already being conducted or developed at the university level.

The need to make use of existing processes and periodic meetings in order to raise awareness about the Regular Process, the WOA I and the preparation of the second world ocean assessment was highlighted. Participants mentioned, in this context, a number of upcoming meetings and platforms in which awareness could be raised about the Regular Process and the second world ocean assessment.

Finally, participants discussed how to improve arrangements for networking between experts and organizations taking part in each workshop, and the Group of Experts and the secretariat of the Regular Process. The need to use existing forums was mentioned in this context, including regular meetings of regional bodies, as well as the importance of social media and other informal platforms for information dissemination and awareness-raising, including institutional websites and newsletters.

It was suggested that as a way to create initial momentum, the summary of discussions of the Workshop should be quickly and broadly disseminated, and that the secretariat could prepare briefs and information brochures that would be circulated to Workshop participants and other stakeholders to disseminate among their networks, including using their own organizational platforms and including a link to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) website.

G. Considerations of capacity-building needs, including for the conduct of integrated assessments

The present section summarizes relevant points relating to capacity-building raised during the course of the Workshop (see also section D on Consideration of priorities in the Workshop region).

The need to enhance capacity-building especially with regard to developing socioeconomic aspects in the assessment and to factor in the gender dimension, especially the role of women was highlighted, as well as the need to build capacity in fish stock assessment. The need for capacity-building and the sharing of knowledge and experience regarding on-going assessments was noted. Technical capacity was also considered necessary for science/policy communication (inter-disciplinary communication) and legal drafting.

H. Consideration of what steps could be taken to improve the information available for the assessment of the second cycle and for future assessments

In considering the steps that could be taken to improve the information available for the assessment of the second cycle and for future assessments, participants emphasized the importance of the establishment of National Focal Points and the nomination of individuals to the Group of Experts in raising awareness and coordinating efforts in the region.

The challenges associated with the nomination of experts to the Pool of Experts in WOA I were noted by several participants. The secretariat of the Regular Process provided details on the nomination procedures and the lessons learned in this regard during the WOA I.

It was considered important for representatives in the region to coordinate and prepare an inventory of assessments that might already be available, making use of existing processes and the creation of new platforms. The importance of contributing to the inventory of recent and on-going assessments being prepared by the secretariat was noted in this regard.

A suggestion was made that Member States should be requested to produce periodic reports on implementation of international treaties/obligations, as this would assist the on-going work of the Regular Process.

Some participants noted in this context the significant networking that was needed to ensure experts from the region were aware of the work of the Regular Process, including those from regional fisheries bodies as well as individual experts working outside the United Nations system. The need to create synergies and link national and regional processes was highlighted in this context in order to make optimal use of available resources, including the scientific work undertaken in universities, scientific institutions and NGOs. The important role of National Focal Points was also emphasized, including in the nomination of experts to the Pool of Experts. The need to engage experts that are already involved in other global and regional processes was also recognized.

ANNEX 1: Draft Agenda

REGULAR PROCESS FOR THE GLOBAL REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING SOCIOECONOMIC ASPECTS

Workshop to support the Regular Process: Zanzibar, 14 to 15 December 2017

(Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and the ROPME/RECOFI area)

Hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme through its Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean

DRAFT AGENDA

First day – Thursday 14 December 2017

1. Welcome addresses.
2. Adoption of agenda for the Workshop.
3. Presentation by a representative of the secretariat of the Regular Process on current developments in global ocean policies.
4. Presentation by Renison Ruwa (Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process) or a member of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process on the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment – World Ocean Assessment I, and discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the Assessment.
5. Presentation on behalf of Alan Simcock (Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process) of a document on the possible structure of the assessment to be prepared under the Regular Process in the second cycle, running until the end of 2020.
6. Review of assessments that have been carried out in the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and the ROPME/RECOFI area since 2012 and that are proposed to be carried out within the region in the period 2017 – 2020, in order to identify how the assessment under the Regular Process can best build on them.

Participants in the workshop are requested to be prepared to make short presentations on any assessments which they have been involved in.

7. Establishment of break-out groups.

The purpose of the break-out groups is to enable as many participants as possible to contribute to the discussion. The membership of the break-out groups could be by area or by discipline.

Lunch-break

8. Break-out groups meet to discuss:
 - (a) Possible structure of the assessment of the second cycle;
 - (b) Regional priorities for the assessment of the second cycle;
 - (c) How to make the assessment of the second cycle most helpful to policy-makers in the region with their tasks, including implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Second day – Friday 15 December 2017

9. Report-back session for the break-out groups and discussion of their conclusions.
10. Consideration of what steps might be taken within the region in the period 2017 – 2020 to support contributions to the assessment under the Regular Process in the second cycle. This consideration will be broken down into separate discussions of:
 - (a) What increased cooperation or coordination between processes already under way in the region could assist in providing the information required for such an assessment;
 - (b) What can be done in relation to issues on which relevant data and/or information is known to be available for the region or parts of it, but where it has not been fed into any assessment;
 - (c) What can be done to provide data and/or information by 2020 on issues relevant to the region where data and/or information are currently lacking;
 - (d) How to improve arrangements for networking between experts and organizations taking part in each workshop, and the Group of Experts and the secretariat of the Regular Process.

Lunch-break

11. The secretariat of the Regular Process will present information and material relevant to the database on capacity-building needs and opportunities and to the Capacity-Building Partnership Event and Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (to be held in 2018), as well as the identification of best practices and the role of the workshops and participants therein in awareness-raising and outreach.
12. Consideration of how capacities to achieve integrated assessments of the marine environment can be improved, including of what steps could be taken to achieve the capacities.

Participants in the workshop are requested to be prepared to make short presentations on their ideas.
13. Consideration of what steps could be taken, either within the region or at a global level:
 - (a) To improve the information available for the assessment of the second cycle;
 - (b) To improve the information available for future assessments.

Participants in the workshop are requested to take account of the information gaps identified in World Ocean Assessment I in formulating ideas on these questions.

14. Oral presentation by the Chair and the Joint Coordinator (s) of the main elements that have emerged from the workshop.
15. Closure of the Workshop.

ANNEX 2: List of Participants

| # | TITLE | FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | COUNTRY / ORGANIZATION |
|----|-------|------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | Mr. | Abdalla | Ali Ibrahim | United Republic of Tanzania / The State University of Zanzibar |
| 2 | Mr. | Abdullahi Abdi Mohamed | Abdi | Kenya / Somalia ECOSOC |
| 3 | Ms. | Agnes | Muthumbi | Kenya / University of Nairobi |
| 4 | Mr. | Ahmed | Shan | Maldives / ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY |
| 5 | Ms. | Bernadine | Everett | South Africa / Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI) |
| 6 | Mr. | Bo | Ni | Myanmar / Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation |
| 7 | Mr. | Edward | Kimakwa | Kenya / WWF Regional Office for Africa |
| 8 | Ms. | Ekhlas | Adam Mohamed | Sudan / Ministry of Environment |
| 9 | Mr. | Farhat | Mbarouk | United Republic of Tanzania / The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, Ministry of Lands, Water, Energy and Environment, Department of Environment |
| 10 | Mr. | Ibrahim Mike | Okumu | Uganda / School of Economics, Makerere University |
| 11 | Mr. | Islam | Salum | United Republic of Tanzania / SOCIETY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION (SERC) |
| 12 | Mr. | Jamal | Angelot Mahafina | Madagascar / University of Toliara - Institute of Fisheries Science Marine |
| 13 | Mr. | James | Njiru | Kenya / Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute |
| 14 | Mr. | Javad Iqbal | Mosaheb | Mauritius / Mauritius Oceanography Institute |
| 15 | Mr. | Jean Marie | Bope Bope Lapwong | Democratic Republic of the Congo / MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MARINE AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT CCPM |

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| 17 | Mr. | Joseph | Maina Mbui | Australia / Macquarie University |
| 18 | Mr. | Julius | Francis | United Republic of Tanzania / Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association |
| 19 | Ms. | Karen | Evans | Australia / CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere |
| 20 | Mr. | Kwame | Koranteng | Ghana / FAO |
| 21 | Ms. | Margareth | Kywalyanga | United Republic of Tanzania / Institute of Marine Sciences- University of Dar es Salaam |
| 22 | Mr. | Martin | Le Tissier | Ireland / Future Earth Coasts |
| 23 | Mr. | Md. M. Maruf | Hossain | Bangladesh / Institute of Marine Science & Fisheries (IMSF), University of Chittagong |
| 24 | Mr. | Minky | Groenewald | Swaziland / Ministry of Tourism and Environment Affairs |
| 25 | Mr. | Monnaie | Bernard | Seychelles / University of Seychelles |
| 26 | Mr. | Muki Mukafya Benas | Phiri | Zambia / Permanent Mission of Zambia to the United Nations |
| 27 | Ms. | Mutiara Rachmat | Putri | Indonesia / Institut Teknologi Bandung |
| 28 | Mr. | Mwakio | Tole | Kenya / Pwani University |
| 29 | Ms. | Nilza | Diaz | Mozambique / National Fisheries Research Institute |
| 30 | Ms. | Nina | Wambiji | Kenya / Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute |
| 31 | Ms. | Nozipho Portia | Mdawe | South Africa / PMAESA |
| 32 | Mr. | Rakotonjanahary | Vola | Madagascar / Ministry of Fisheries |
| 33 | Mr. | Ramalingam | Kirubakaran | India / National Institute of Ocean Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India |
| 34 | Mr. | Rasoaniana | Jacquis | Madagascar / Ministry of Environment, Ecology and Forests |
| 35 | Mr. | Renison | Ruwa | Kenya / Joint Coordinator / Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute |

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| 37 | Mr. | Salomao | Bandeira | Mozambique / University of Eduardo Mondlane |
| 38 | Ms. | Sheha M. | Juma | United Republic of Tanzania / Ministry of Lands, Water, Energy and Environment, Department of Environment, The Environmental Management Authority |
| 39 | Mr. | Shigalla | Mahongo | United Republic of Tanzania / Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute |
| 40 | Mr. | Tiwangye Joshua | Tuhumwire | Uganda / Gondwana Goescience Consulting LTD |
| 41 | Ms. | Valerie | Cummins | Ireland / Future Earth Coasts |
| 42 | Mr. | Yugraj Singh | Yadava | India / Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organization |
| 43 | Mr. | Yves | Jean Michel Mong | Madagascar/National Environment Research Centre (CNRE). |
| 44 | Ms. | Zahra | Djama Mahamoud | Republic of Djibouti / Ministry of Housing, Urban Planning and Environment |
| 45 | Mr. | Michael | Shewchuk | UN DOALOS |
| 46 | Ms. | Vita | Onwuasoanya | UN DOALOS |
| 47 | Ms. | Caroline | Cherotich | UNEP - Kenya |
| 48 | Mr. | Dixon | Waruinge | UNEP - Kenya |
| 49 | Ms. | Joana | Akrofi | UNEP - Kenya |
| 50 | Ms. | Marlyn | Omondi | UNEP - Kenya |
| 51 | Mr. | Theuri | Mwangi | UNEP - Kenya |