

Notification

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

Convening of the fourteenth meeting (by correspondence)

Pursuant to paragraph 327 of General Assembly resolution 74/19 of 10 December 2019 on “Oceans and the law of the sea”, the fourteenth meeting of 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 convened on 6 November 2020.

In that resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene the fourteenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole with a view to considering the second world ocean assessment and providing recommendations to the General Assembly.

Due to the constraints imposed on the conduct of in-person meetings at the United Nations Headquarters and further to the letter dated 15 October 2020 from the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the proposed modalities of the fourteenth meeting of the Working Group, Member States, observers and other participants in the Ad Hoc Work Group of the Whole are hereby informed that the modalities of the fourteenth meeting will be set forth as follows:

- (i) The fourteenth meeting will be declared open on 6 November 2020 via a letter from the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole which will also place a decision of the fourteenth meeting on the item “*Adoption of the agenda*” under a silence procedure **until 5 p.m. on 11 November 2020**.
- (ii) The second world ocean assessment, including its Chapter 1 (Summary) will be circulated to Member States and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole by correspondence in advance of the opening of the meeting. Any comments on the second world ocean assessment should be submitted by email to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs (doalos@un.org; temnova@un.org; legesseh@un.org) **no later than 11 November 2020**. All comments received will be circulated to Member States and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

- (iii) In light of the comments received, draft recommendations to the General Assembly on the second world ocean assessment will be prepared by the Bureau. The Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will then place a decision of the fourteenth meeting on “*Adoption of the recommendations to the General Assembly*” under a silence procedure of at least 72 hours.
- (iv) An informal virtual meeting may be held through MS Teams platform to facilitate the informal exchange of views if necessary. No decisions will be taken as a result of the informal virtual meeting.

Documents

The second world ocean assessment, including its Chapter 1 (summary) has been circulated to Member States and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on 19 October 2020, and it can be retrieved from the website of the Regular Process (<https://www.un.org/regularprocess/WOA-II-review-by-states/draft-assessment>). The rest of the documentation for this meeting will be circulated to delegations in advance of the opening of the meeting and will also be available at the website of the Regular Process (<https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/ad-hoc-working-group-whole>).

Participants to the fourteenth meeting (by correspondence)

All Permanent and Observer Missions to the United Nations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council interested to join the informal virtual meeting are kindly requested to communicate to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs (doalos@un.org; temnova@un.org; legesseh@un.org) the **names and email addresses** of their representatives attending fourteenth meeting (by correspondence), with “the fourteenth AHWGW meeting (by correspondence) of the Regular Process” in the subject line, **no later than 5 November 2020**.

Other non-governmental organizations, that is relevant scientific institutions and major groups identified in Agenda 21, wishing to attend the fourteenth meeting (by correspondence) should send a request for invitation to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs (doalos@un.org; temnova@un.org; legesseh@un.org), indicating the **names and email addresses** of their representatives who would attend the meeting, with “the fourteenth AHWGW meeting (by correspondence) of the Regular Process” in the subject line, **no later than 2 November 2020**.