



**Regular process for global  
reporting and assessment of the  
state of the marine environment,  
including socioeconomic aspects**

# **The Second Global Integrated Marine Assessment**

## **IMPLEMENTATION REPORT**

**By the Joint Coordinators of the  
Group of Experts of the Regular Process**

**JULY 2019**



# World Ocean Assessment 2

## Issues for Reporting

- Communications and Website
- Second round of Regional Workshops
- Pool of Experts
- Group of Experts of the Regular Process
- Writing teams for the chapters of the Outline
- Progress on drafting chapters
- Peer Reviewers



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## Communications and website

- Effective IT communications are essential to the work of the Regular Process
- We have now had a workable website for the Regular Process for the past year – thanks to the efforts of DOALOS and their colleagues.
- The UNITE system for storing documents on which the Group of Experts can work is still not without problems – we shall have a meeting next week with the UN IT experts to try to resolve these..
- We have not been able to establish a single system for storing documents on which Writing Teams are working – each Writing Team has had to develop its own approach.



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## Second Round of Regional Workshops

- North Pacific – Koror, Palau (8-9 Aug, 2018)
- North Atlantic – Valetta, Malta (27-28 Aug, 2018)
- North Atlantic – Odessa, Ukraine (17-18 Oct, 2018)
- Indian Ocean – Bali, Indonesia (8-9 Nov, 2018)
- Indian Ocean – Doha, Qatar (28-29 Nov, 2018)
- South Atlantic – Accra, Ghana (3-4 Dec, 2018)
- South Pacific – Guayaquil, Ecuador (17-18 Dec, 2018)

***A separate report will be given later***



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### Populating the Pool of Experts(1)

- Real success has been achieved in populating the Pool of Experts.
- We now have more than 700 members in the Pool.
- Less success in drawing them into the work of the Regular Process.
- Many have not properly filled out their entries on the Regular Process website list.
- Many are not responding to requests to join Writing Teams.



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### Populating the Pool of Experts (2)

At the end of June 2019, the Pool of Experts had been nominated by the following States  
(percentages in brackets):

African States	80 (12%)
Asia/Pacific States	114 (17%)
Eastern European States	15 (2%)
Latin American & Caribbean States	125 (18%)
Western European and Other States	366 (51%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>700 (100%)</b>



## **World Ocean Assessment 2**

### **Group of Experts (1)**

- The Group of Experts still has 5 vacancies – 2 from the Eastern European Group and 3 from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.
- Dr Michelle McClure (USA) has resigned and been replaced by Dr Jörn Schmidt (Germany)
- Members of the Group of Experts, as Lead and Co-Lead Members, have been organizing Writing Teams.
- Most have also attended one or more of the Second Round of Regional Workshops.





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## Group of Experts (2)

- The Group of Experts has not met face-to-face since January 2018, but some members met in the margins of AHWGW 11 in August 2018 and of the Capacity Building Event in January 2019.
- We shall meet again face-to-face next week.
- There have been a substantial number of meetings over the internet.
- Not the easiest arrangement, since we are spread over 17 of the world's 24 hours.
- Practice to have two virtual meetings, at 10:00 am and 5:00 pm (New York time), with the Joint Coordinators trying to join both. We are managing, but it is not always easy.
- Also a large amount of e-mail traffic and use of the UNITE site.





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## Writing teams (1)

- The Guidance for Contributors sets out the role of writing teams and their convenors
- For some chapters, the Lead Member will have the expertise also to be convenor of the writing team
- The writing teams provide the expertise on their chapters or sections
- The Group of Experts collectively act as overall editors



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### Writing Teams (2)

- The Bureau has decided that it will not approve Writing Teams which do not have a convenor and at least 3 other members.
- Proposed lists of Writing Teams have been being submitted to the Bureau progressively since January 2019.



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### Writing Teams (3)

- The Group of Experts collectively is responsible for Chapter 1 (Summary) and Chapter 2 (Mandate and procedure).
- There are 52 other Chapters and Sub-Chapters that require separate Writing Teams.



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### Writing Teams (4)

- 43 Writing Teams have been set up and approved by the Bureau.
- Further members have been identified for some of these, but await the approval of the Bureau.
- 4 Writing Teams are lacking one or more members
- 5 Writing Teams are in the process of construction.



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### Writing Teams (5)

- The 43 approved Writing Teams currently have 381 members.
- This number includes duplicates where an expert is a member of more than one Writing Team.
- Problems exist where some experts who have agreed to be a member of a Writing Team have not participated in drafting exchanges.



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### Writing Teams (6)

The 381 seats in the approved Writing Team are divided as follows:

African States	26 ( 7%)
Asia/Pacific States	48 (13%)
Eastern European States	8 ( 2%)
Latin American & Caribbean States	59 (15%)
Western European and Other States	240 (63%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>381 (100%)</b>



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### Writing Teams (7)

The proportions from the different Regional Groups among the 381 seats in the approved Writing Teams and the proportions in the Pool of Experts compare as follows:

	PoE	WTs
African States	12%	7%
Asia/Pacific States	17%	13%
Eastern European States	2%	2%
Latin American & Caribbean States	18%	15%
Western European and Other States	51%	63%





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# Progress in drafting chapters

- So far drafts of 10 of the 52 substantive Chapters and Sub-Chapters have been up-loaded to UNITE in preparation for review at the meeting of the Group of Experts on 5 – 9 August.
- Drafts of a substantial number of other Chapters and Sub-Chapters are well on the way to completion.
- The Group of Experts will review the situation at its meeting and develop plans to ensure that all draft chapters are in a form suitable for peer review at an early date.
- The peer review and consequent revisions by the Writing Teams need to be finished by early December.



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### Peer Reviewers

- All chapters and sub-chapters will be subject to peer review before being presented to Member States for comment.
- A list of proposed peer reviewers is being developed. Some of these have already agreed to act, if their designation is approved.
- The aim is to complete the proposed list at next week's meeting of the Group of Experts.
- The aim is also to have at least two peer reviewers for each chapter and sub-chapter, with more where the breadth of the subjects or regional differences make this desirable.