

Draft recommendations to the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, for consideration for submission under the agenda item entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”, on the four brief documents of the second World Ocean Assessment and the draft preliminary timetable and implementation plan for the third cycle of the Regular Process (2021-2025)

Recalls that the Group of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process shall comprise a maximum of 25 experts, with no more than five experts per regional group, and encourages regional groups that have appointed fewer than five experts to continue to appoint experts to the Group of Experts, taking into account the need to ensure adequate expertise, gender balance and geographical distribution;

Endorses the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its sixteenth meeting on the four brief documents of the second World Ocean Assessment (World Ocean Assessment II) and the preliminary timetable and implementation plan for the third cycle of the Regular Process (2021-2025);

Takes note of the four brief documents of the second World Ocean Assessment on Climate Change; Sustainable Development Goal 14; the United Nations Decades on Ecosystem Restoration and on Ocean Science for Sustainable Development; and Marine Biodiversity;

Recognizes with appreciation the work of the Members of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process with respect to the preparation of the four brief documents;

Recognizes the need for early preparation of the regional workshops to be held in 2023 as outlined in the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process, and invites States to consider hosting such workshops and inform the secretariat of their intent as early as possible.