

Notification

Fifteenth 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

Convening of the fifteenth meeting (by correspondence)

Pursuant to paragraph 324 of General Assembly resolution 75/239 of 30 December 2020 on “Oceans and the law of the sea”, the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole is to convene, in 2021, up to two meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of no more than two days total duration for each meeting, one in the first half of 2021 and another in the second half of 2021.

Due to the constraints imposed on the conduct of in-person meetings at the United Nations Headquarters and further to the letter dated 30 June 2021 from the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the proposed modalities of the fifteenth meeting of the Working Group, Member States, observers and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole are hereby informed that the modalities of the fifteenth meeting will be set forth as follows:

(i) The fifteenth meeting will be declared open on 14 July 2021 via a letter from the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole. That letter will include the provisional agenda of the meeting and place a decision of the fifteenth meeting on the item “Adoption of the agenda” under the silence procedure **until 5 p.m. on 19 July 2021.**

(ii) The mechanism for the establishment of the Pool of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process, the Terms of Reference and Working Methods of the Group of Experts of the third cycle of the Regular Process, and the Terms of Reference for National Focal Points and Focal Points for Intergovernmental Entities to be considered under the item “Implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle” have been made available on the website of the Regular Process (<https://www.un.org/regularprocess/events/fifteenth-meeting-correspondence>). The report by the Bureau to be considered under the item “Report of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole” will be made available on the same website in advance of the opening of the meeting. Any comments on these documents 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) **no later than 21 July 2020.**

(iii) Taking into account any comments that may be received, draft recommendations to the General Assembly on the mechanism for the establishment of the Pool of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process, the Terms of Reference and Working Methods of the Group of Experts of the third cycle of the Regular Process, and the Terms of Reference for National Focal Points and Focal Points for Intergovernmental Entities will be prepared by the Bureau and communicated in writing to the membership of the Working Group. The Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole will then place a decision of the fifteenth meeting on “*Adoption of the recommendations to the General Assembly*” under the 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 provisional agenda of the fifteenth meeting, the mechanism for the establishment of the Pool of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process, the Terms of Reference and Working Methods of the Group of Experts of the third cycle of the Regular Process, and the Terms of Reference for National Focal Points and Focal Points for Intergovernmental Entities have been made available on the website of the Regular Process (<https://www.un.org/regularprocess/events/fifteenth-meeting-correspondence>). The report by the Bureau will be made available on the same website in advance of the opening of the meeting.

Participants to the fifteenth 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 in joining 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) the **names and email addresses** of their representatives attending the fifteenth meeting (by correspondence), with “The fifteenth AHWGW meeting (by correspondence) of the Regular Process” in the subject line, **no later than 13 July 2021**.

Other non-governmental organizations, including relevant scientific institutions and major groups identified in Agenda 21, wishing to attend the fifteenth 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), indicating the **names and email addresses** of their representatives who would attend the meeting, with “The fifteenth AHWGW meeting (by correspondence) of the Regular Process” in the subject line, **no later than 12 July 2021**.