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**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC
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14 May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

In our capacities as the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the States of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (Regular Process), we wish to invite you to provide your views on the lessons learned from the second cycle of the Regular Process.

It is recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 70/235, decided to launch the second cycle of the Regular Process. In resolution 71/257, the General Assembly recalled that the scope of the first cycle of the Regular Process focused on establishing a baseline, and decided that the scope of the second cycle would extend to evaluating trends and identifying gaps. In accordance with the programme of work for the period 2017 - 2020 of the second cycle of the Regular Process, adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its seventh meeting held in 2016, the two main outputs of the second cycle of the Regular Process are the preparation of a second world ocean assessment and Regular Process support to other ocean-related intergovernmental processes, including the preparation of technical abstracts of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment for such processes.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 74/19, requested the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to consider the lessons learned from the second cycle of the Regular Process, including with regard to the duration of the cycle and its outputs, in line with the modalities set forth in paragraph 282 of resolution 70/235 and on the basis of input received from Member States and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group and the Group of Experts, as well as from the secretariat, and also requested the Bureau to inform the Ad Hoc Working Group of the views received and to circulate that information in advance of the thirteenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

It is recalled that in paragraph 282 of resolution 70/235, the General Assembly requested the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to continue the consideration of lessons learned from the first cycle of the Regular Process with a view to the implementation of the second cycle, including by inviting Member States, observers and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group, through the Co-Chairs, to contribute by sending their views in writing to the Bureau and convening one or more informal open meetings with Member States, observers and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group, and requested the Bureau to inform the Ad Hoc

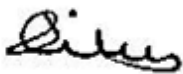
Working Group at its seventh meeting of the views received and to circulate that information in advance of the seventh meeting

We further note in this regard that, on 19 February 2020, the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole agreed that the lessons learned exercise for the second cycle would consist only of the submission of written input by Member States, observers and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, which would be compiled by the secretariat and submitted for consideration by the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole and then by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

On behalf of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, we would like to invite Member States, observers and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to provide input in writing on lessons learned from the second cycle of the Regular Process. In preparing their written input, Member States, observers and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole may wish to take into account the attached list of relevant documents and questions for consideration developed by the secretariat.

It would be greatly appreciated if such written input could be submitted to the secretariat of the Regular Process in Word format by e-mail (doalos@un.org; temnova@un.org; legesseh@un.org) no later than midnight (New York time) on **26 June 2020**.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Juliette Babb-Riley



Gert Auväärt

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