

Draft recommendations to the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly, for consideration for submission under the agenda item entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”, on the progress in the implementation of the second cycle and on the draft programme of work and resource requirements for the third cycle of the Regular Process

Recalls its decision to launch the third cycle of the Regular Process from 2021 to 2025, and endorses the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole [...] on the programme of work and resource requirements for the third cycle of the Regular Process;

Recalls that the Regular Process shall be overseen and guided by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, and decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall facilitate the delivery of the outputs of the third cycle as outlined in the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process;

Decides that the meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole shall continue to be coordinated by two Co-Chairs, representing developing and developed countries, respectively, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with regional groups, for the duration of the third cycle;

Requests the Bureau to continue to put into practice the decisions and guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole during the intersessional period, including by providing oversight of the delivery of the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process;

Requests the Secretary-General to invite the Chairs of the regional groups to constitute a group of experts, ensuring adequate expertise and geographical distribution, comprising a maximum of 25 experts, with no more than five experts per regional group, for the duration of the third cycle of the Regular Process, taking into account the desirability of some degree of continuity;

Requests the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to review and update the mechanism to establish the Pool of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process, and to provide oversight of the establishment of the Pool of Experts, including by inviting individuals who served in the Pool of Experts during the second cycle of the Regular Process to indicate to the secretariat of the Regular Process whether they would be interested in serving in the Pool of Experts for the third cycle and beyond;

Invites the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization and relevant United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes, as appropriate, to assist in the implementation of the third cycle of the Regular;

Invites relevant intergovernmental organizations to contribute, as appropriate, to the activities of the third cycle;

Invites States that have not yet done so to designate national focal points to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process and beyond;

Invites the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to designate focal points to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle and beyond;

Recognizes the need for early preparation for regional workshops 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;

Requests the Secretary-General to secure the necessary resources, from the regular budget of the Organization, for the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process, as adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, in accordance with established procedures and within the respective purview of relevant bodies;

Urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund and to make other contributions to the Regular Process;

Also requests the Secretary-General 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.