



**United Nations
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**Technical Workshop on Selecting Indicators for
the State of Regional Seas
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Guidelines for the organisation of the break-out groups

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1. The four break-out groups will be organised during the break-out sessions. These groups will come up with two set of indicators: a core set of indicators and a supplementary set of indicators to assess the state of the marine and coastal environment and its changes. The core set of indicators are a group of indicators that should be adopted by the regional seas action plans and conventions which are willing to report them. The supplementary set of indicators are a group of indicators that could be relevant to specific regional seas and which may be adopted by regional seas programmes as those that indicate their regional state of the marine environment.
2. The four break-out groups will be focussed respectively on: (i) marine ecosystems, including fish and human impacts on them; (ii) pollution and its sources and water quality; (iii) impacts of climate change and variability and other global changes; (iv) social-economic indicators.
3. Each group will discuss, as appropriate, sets of indicators on: (i) status of marine and coastal environment and ecosystems; and (ii) pressure for the changes in the status. For these types of indicators, the group will recommend the indicator, the periodicity of measurement, scientific background (including any scientific background information), and possible global and regional data sources.
4. There will be two break-out sessions. After the first session, the group will report back to the plenary with a PowerPoint presentation. Based on the comments provided by the plenary, the same groups meet to finalise the recommended sets of indicators.
5. The following tables are proposed to be filled in by each Group.

A Core set of indicators

Indicators	State or pressure?	Periodicity of measuring	Scientific background	Possible data sources	Other remarks

A supplementary set of indicators

Indicators	State or pressure?	Periodicity of measuring	Scientific background	Possible data sources	regional applicability, and other remarks