

18 Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans

Brief on the second cycle of the Regular Process

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Presentation outline/ objective

- Brief update on the second cycle of Regular Process.
- What type of support will UNEP be providing for the second cycle.
- How UNEP can engage Regional Seas in a coordinated state of the coast (Environment) reporting



Second Cycle of Regular Process

- **WOA -2 has been launched since the beginning of 2016. (2016-2020)**
- **Duration of the second cycle**
- **Structure of the Second Cycle**



- **Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole**
- **Establishment of Group of Experts**
- **Secretariat –UNDOALOS**
- **Bureau**
- **Appointment and composition of pool of experts**
- **Appointment of National Focal Points**



Policy relevance and scope

- **Main Outputs**

- *Output I: First Global Integrated Marine Assessment Handbook(s) for Policy-Makers (January to May 2017)*
- *Output II: World Ocean Assessment(s) (January 2017 to December 2020)*

- **Activities**

- Establishment of Group of Experts
- Appointment and composition of pool of experts
- Preparation of outputs, including data sources and review process
- Meetings (Working Group, Bureau, Group of Experts and engagement of pool of experts)



First Cycle of the Regular Process

- UNEP's core mandate within the UN system
- Prior to this in 2005 the GA resolution 60/30 launched the start-up phase of the Regular Process, “the assessment of assessments”



UNEP support to the first cycle of Regular Process

- **Communication:**
- **Assessments:**
- **Capacity building:**
- **Resource mobilization:**



Capacity building Workshops

- Were prescribed during the first cycle of the Regular Process
- Inventory and evaluation of existing assessments and approaches to gaps in them
- Inputs to “Outline of First Global Integrated Marine Assessment” and “Guidance to Authors”
- Evaluation of existing assessment capacity and approaches to capacity-building to fill gaps
- Start to build capacity for integrated assessment
- To create awareness of the Regular Process in the regions.



UNEP Support to Capacity building Workshops

UNEP provided technical and financial support for six of the eight workshops:

1. **Santiago** in September 2011 (at the invitation of the Government of Chile)
2. **Sanya** in February 2012 (at the invitation of the Government of China),
3. **Miami** in November 2012 (at the invitation of the and with the support of Government of the United States of America)
4. **Maputo** in December 2012 (at the invitation of the Government of Mozambique),
5. **Brisbane** in February 2013 (at the invitation of the Government of Australia),
6. **Grand Bassam** in October 2013 (at the invitation of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire with EU support)



Follow up to Capacity building Workshops

Some Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans took this to the next level, recognizing the **need to be part of an on-going global process and in fulfillment of their own convention's commitment** to prepare periodic state of the coast report.



They have been assisted in preparing State of Marine Environment Reports. **Aligned to the outline of the WOA** in order to forge synergies between regional and global processes.



Regional Scientific and Technical
Capacity Building Workshop on
the World Ocean Assessment
Bangkok, Thailand 17-19 September 2012
Workshop report: South China Sea

While at the same time taking care of their own regional specificities such **as Governance, Policy and Scenarios**

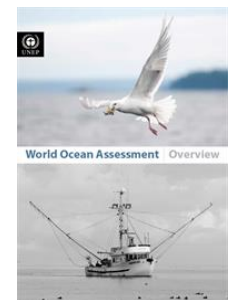
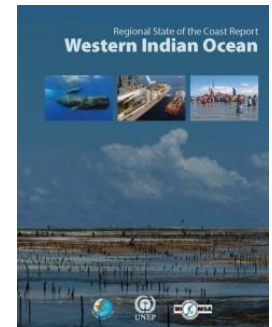


Follow up to Capacity building Workshops

In June 2015 **Nairobi Convention countries** launched their **Regional State of the Coast Report**, the **first integrated assessment report of the Western Indian Ocean**.

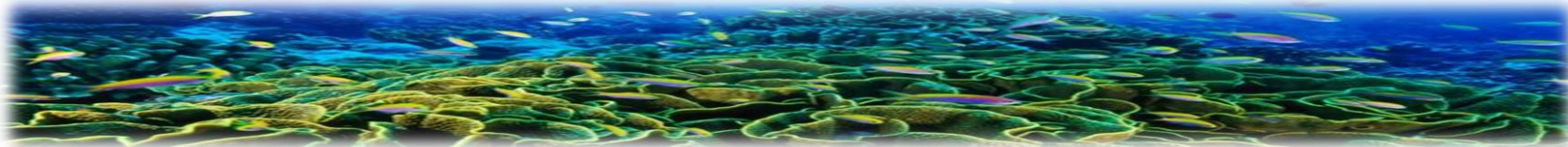
The **Caribbean Region** has organized the Regional Technical Workshop for the further development of the State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR) from the 15 to 17 August 2016 in Kingston, Jamaica. Similar initiatives are being undertaken by ROPME, NOWPAP, East Asian Seas, Abidjan Convention and SACEP.

The HELCOM, OSPAR and Mediterranean regions have been doing periodic assessments on a regular basis.



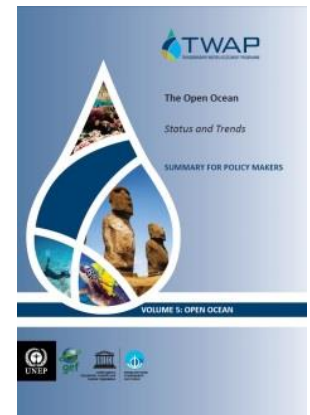
From regional assessments to global assessments

- According to **paragraph 36 (b) of JPOI** the Regular Process was meant to be *“building on existing regional assessments”*.
- The state of the coast reports of the Regional Seas Conventions which brings together UN member states will therefore be the fundamental building blocks for the next phase of the World Oceans Assessments.
- Although it may not be complete because they may **not cover global processes including climate change impacted issues such as acidification and others which need to be accounted for**.



Frequency and cost of assessments

- A **five year cycle** is being suggested, but how about costs?
- **Indicator-based assessment** will allow quantification of change over time.
- The **GEF TWAP** implemented by UNEP and IOC, has conducted an indicator based assessment of the world's Large Marine Ecosystems and Open Ocean areas.
- Associated data available on onesharedocean.org/open_ocean website well as www.geftwap.org



2030 IMPACT

- We have an opportunity with the **SDG on Oceans and Seas; Goal 14**: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
- Environment under review objective:
 - Governments and other stakeholders are empowered with quality assessments and open access data and information to deliver the environmental dimension of sustainable development.



Summary

- The RSP is developing a **core set of indicators aligned to the SDGs** to continue strengthening monitoring on the status of marine and coastal environment at the regional and global levels
- It is therefore important to **build capacity at both the national and regional level for countries** and the conventions to be able to undertake **integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment and to monitor future developments.**
- These will be **the fundamental building blocks for the next phase of the World Oceans Assessments.**



THANK YOU

