

G E B C O
GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS



Thirty Fourth Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC34)

16 – 17 November 2017, Busan, Republic of Korea

(Paragraph numbering is the same as the Agenda Item numbering and does not necessarily reflect the order in which matters were discussed.)

1. Opening

1.1 Opening Remarks and Introductions

The Chair, Shin Tani (Japan), welcomed attendees to the 34th meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) and thanked the Hydrographic Society of Korea (HSK) and the Korean Hydrographic and Oceanographic Agency (KHOA) for their excellent support in hosting the GEBCO meetings and the very successful GEBCO Symposium ‘Map the Gaps’. He thanked all participants for making the effort to attend, particularly those who had made long journeys. He also welcomed the representatives from the IHO and IOC Secretariats. He emphasized the number of past NF scholars participating, which he noted was very encouraging for the future. He also highlighted a number of exciting new projects such as Seabed 2030, which had been a major outcome of the Forum for Future Ocean Floor Mapping (F-FOFM) held in Monaco in June 2016.

All participants introduced themselves.

The Chair highlighted that in addition to the work on Seabed 2030 there are a number of other topics and issues which need to be addressed by the GGC.

1.2 Dr Chae Ho Lim welcomed all on behalf of the KHOA and hoped all had a productive and successful meeting.

1.3 Opening remarks by parent bodies (IHO and IOC)

Mustafa Iptes welcomed all participants on behalf of the IHO Secretariat. He noted the change of leadership in the IHO and he confirmed the new SG, Dr Mathias Jonas, was committed to supporting the GGC in its task of guiding and expanding the GEBCO project to take it forward towards the goal of achieving 100% global bathymetry coverage. He noted the importance of the direction and leadership provided by the GGC and the need for continued governance of the project.

Julian Barbière welcomed all and thanked the hosts for the excellent facilities provided. He highlighted the desire of the IOC member States to have increased engagement with the GEBCO project. He noted that 2017 had been a particularly successful year for the oceans, where a number of new initiatives had been started, including the appointment of an Ocean Ambassador by the UN SG, the UN Ocean Conference and the announcement of the IOC decade of the Oceans in addition to the start of the Seabed 2030. He highlighted the IOC Assembly decision to allocate funds to support the GEBCO project for the first time in many years.

1.4 Arrangements

Apologies were received from Patricio Carrasco (Chile) and Graham Allen (UK). Despite these absences and the resignation of Norhizam Hassan (Malaysia), the Secretary reported that the number of GGC voting members present constituted a quorum; the list of participants is at Annex A. The Chair urged all GGC members to note the GGC Terms of Reference (ToR) and make every effort to attend meetings, extraneous circumstances permitting.

1.5 Working and Administrative Arrangements

Eunmi Chang (EC) provided details of the arrangements for the GGC34 meeting days.

1.6 Adoption of the Agenda and approval of report from GGC33

No amendments, changes or additions were offered, the agenda as published was adopted, Annex B. The list of documents is at Annex C. The report for meeting GGC33 was approved (GGC33-12).

1.7 Review of Action Items from GGC34 (GGC34-1.7)

The Secretary went through the action list from GGC33, he highlighted a number of actions on which limited progress had been achieved, in addition a number of items were identified as being covered by agenda items. USA asked if the IOC has similar meetings to the IHO RHCs, it was agreed that the BODC could publish a list of future meetings at which GEBCO could be represented in a similar manner to the RHC. It was agreed that a standard presentation should be developed to ensure a consistent message is articulated. **Action IOC/BODC** The Secretary agreed to investigate whether the IOC regional meetings could be included in the IHO calendar to raise their visibility amongst the IHO member States and IHO subordinate bodies. **Action IHO**

1.8 Report from IRCC9 (GGC34-1.8.1 and GGC34-1.8.2)

The Chair reported on the IRCC9 meeting, he highlighted the outcomes relevant to the GGC and GEBCO. IHO reported on the outcomes of the IHO Council-1 with respect to the IRCC9 actions, he noted that the IHO CL had been published requesting member State approval for the withdrawal of B-7 – *GEBCO Guidelines*. The Secretary noted that the information not already included in the ToRs and B-11 – *GEBCO Cookbook* – should be included; the Secretary noted a Word version copy was available to extract the necessary information. The Chair requested the Chair of TSCOM to extract the relevant information for review by the GGC. **Action Secretary/Chair TSCOM** The Chair of TSCOM was requested to provide a draft for circulation to the GGC for comment, input and feedback. **Action Secretary/Chair TSCOM**

Post meeting note: The Chair of TSCOM has reviewed the draft version of B-7 and identified that the relevant items/information are available on the GEBCO website, which is the most appropriate place to ensure their currency. Additionally she noted that the GEBCO website could point to the particular chapters in the B-11 - *GEBCO Cook Book* - that demonstrate the steps involved in using the IHO DCDB. Further, as new chapters may be contributed to the B-11 that articulate instructions for contributing data to Seabed 2030, identifying where gaps are, and other relevant topics to Seabed 2030; the GEBCO website can point to these chapters as well. The Secretary to forward marked-up copy of B-7 to BODC to ensure all items/information are captured on the GEBCO website and maintained. **Action Secretary/BODC**

2. Reports from Parent Organizations and GGC Subordinate Bodies.

2.1 IHO update

IHO provided an update on activities since the GGC33 meeting. He highlighted the outcomes of the first Assembly, the new leadership team at the IHO Secretariat, the revised governance processes and the establishment of the IHO Council. He noted the conferences and meetings at which the IHO had highlighted the work of GEBCO and the lack of worldwide bathymetric coverage and the programmes and efforts to address the situation.

2.2 IOC update

IOC provided a presentation covering the significant events and highlights of the past 12 months. He noted the outcomes of the IOC Assembly as well as the participation at the UN Ocean Conference, engagement in the 2030 Agenda and the voluntary commitments under SDG 14 framework. He highlighted the first Global Ocean Science Report. He noted the establishment of the IOC Working Group on User Requirements and Contributions to GEBCO Products and the members of the WG and the expected outcomes of their discussions. He noted the IOC contribution to conservation and sustainable use of the Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ). He highlighted the International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 (<https://en.unesco.org/ocean-decade>), which will be led by the IOC and had been endorsed by the UN; he highlighted that one of the objects was to achieve full mapping of the sea floor

2.3 Financial update, including funds status report (GGC34-2.3)

The Secretary reported on the state of the GEBCO funds, he highlighted the lack of spending of the allocations to various groups and the negative balance in the Nippon Foundation (NF) Special Projects Funds. The current procedures were endorsed and the report was accepted. It was agreed the negative balance in the NF Special Projects Funds should be covered from the post Forum funds, which will be run down to zero over time, after which the fund should be closed. **Action IHO**

2.4 Digital Atlas Manager (GGC34-2.4)

Digital Atlas Manager from BODC provided a brief update on activities since GGC33. She highlighted the new datasets which have been added and the preparations for release of the GEBCO 2018 grid. She noted the on-going work to update the website and the increase in the number of downloads. She noted the number of hits on the GEBCO website and an analysis of the activities of those accessing the site. Questions were asked on what was the output from this analysis, was it the information the GGC required and what actions could be initiated by the GGC as a result?

2.5 DCDB update, including relevant CSBWG and ASMIWG issues (GGC34-2.5)

DCDB and the Secretary provided an update on DCDB activities, progress on development of the DCDB, CSBWG activities and the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance (AORA) progress towards identifying suitable pilot project areas in the North Atlantic region. This generated a number of questions and wide ranging comments. There was wide ranging discussion on the role and function of the IHO DCDB alongside the Seabed2030 structure, see paragraph 7.1 below.

2.6 SCUFN (GGC34-2.6.1 and GGS34-2.6.2)

The Chair of SCUFN provided a report on the activities and meeting outcomes of SCUFN30. He highlighted the membership issues, which need to be addressed; in particular he noted that the SCUFN was seeking 8 new members in 2018. He proposed amendments to the SCUFN ToRs for consideration and approval by the GGC. IHO highlighted the participation of the IHO Secretariat in the recent UN Committee for Geographical Names meeting and the proposal for participation in SCUFN meetings in the future. This generated a number of comments and questions. The IHO confirmed that a CL had been published seeking nominations for the forthcoming identified vacancies; the IOC agreed that this needed to be addressed and

confirmed that they could align their process with that of the IHO. The Chair requested that the IHO and IOC liaise to ensure the geographical spread of nominations is achieved as much as possible. It was noted that often the nominations may limit the ability of the IOC and IHO to achieve this spread. **Action IHO/IOC** The GGC discussed the proposed amendments to the ToRs; after considerable discussion the amendments were not agreed; the Chair of SCUFN was requested to report to the next SCUFN meeting that the SC should continue to operate under its current terms.

The vice-Chair GGC proposed that any bathymetric data, as part of a naming proposal, should be provided to the GEBCO project as part of the process. The Chair of SCUFN highlighted that this new process could require an amendment to the B-6 – *Gazetteer of Geographical Names of Undersea Features*, which would require formal IHO member State endorsement. He also noted that there were a number of challenges on obtaining the raw data from many coastal states and this could have an impact on the proposal process; he suggested that SCUFN needed to investigate the proposal and develop an appropriate procedure in liaison with the IHO, the vice-Chair agreed to assist in this task. It was agreed the proposal should be presented to the next GGC meeting, GGC35. **Action Chair SCUFN**

2.7 TSCOM (GGC34-2.7)

The Chair of TSCOM reported on the TSCOM meeting, highlighting the significant outcomes and activities since the GGC33. She highlighted the membership and the need to recruit new members. She reported that three people asked to become new TSCOM members during the Joint TSCOM/SCRUM meeting. The relevant IHO resolutions were presented and it was noted that input from the CSBWG and Seabed 2030 was required before the final versions could be presented to IRCC for endorsement. She highlighted the update to the B-11, which was completed in December 2016. She noted the highly successful GEBCO Symposium. She reported goals from the Support of Seabed 2030 break-out sessions: instructive Cook Book chapter on using public tools to find and investigate gaps, set up email/discussion board methods of communicating, and consideration of whether a Metadata Working Group is needed to support Seabed 2030, which should liaise with the IHO S-100WG and the HSSC Project Team on Standards for Hydrographic Surveys (HSPT). She suggested the Chair or vice-Chair contact the Scripps Research Institute to discuss the use of SRTM30_Plus V11 to replace SRTM30_Plus V5 in the GEBCO grid; this generated a number of comments and questions. The vice-Chair agreed to approach Scripps and to restate the invitation for them to participate with GEBCO. **Action vice-Chair** Robin Falconer (RF) proposed that the GGC should record its thanks to the conveners for the highly successful GEBCO Symposium, this proposal was enthusiastically and unanimously endorsed by the GGC. It was suggested that new participants at the TSCOM, SCRUM and Symposium should be invited to join the `gebc_folk` email contact list to maintain their engagement and keep them informed of GEBCO activities. **Action Chairs TSCOM-SCRUM/Symposium conveners**

2.8 SCRUM (GGC34-2.8)

The Chair of SCRUM provided an update on recent SCRUM activities and outcomes from the SCRUM meeting. She highlighted a number of events and conferences at which GEBCO was represented. The vice-Chair suggested that additional funds could be included to support travel to attend regional meetings, it was agreed this would be considered during the funding discussions. The continued existence of the SCRUM alongside Seabed2030 was discussed at length, it was agreed that, at present, there remained a role for SCRUM.

2.9 Outreach WG (GGC34-2.9)

The Chair of Outreach WG (OWG) provided an update on the activities and presented the draft ToRs for endorsement by the GGC. She provided details of the outreach strategy and where focus could be directed. She highlighted the work on the questionnaire to raise awareness of GEBCO and follow-on products to achieve the desired levels of public awareness. This generated a number of comments and questions. It was suggested that the allocated budget was insufficient to support printing activities. Questions were asked why 'print on demand' was not utilised, it was highlighted that physically printed maps were an important resource at events to raise awareness and a take-away product; however it was agreed that the printing of maps was not a current priority. IHO recommended commissioning the creation of additional videos for use at events; RF noted that a number of videos were already in existence. The vice-Chair described the

proposed outreach activities under the Seabed 2030 project. IOC noted that outreach was a key element to raising awareness of GEBCO; he also suggested that better and more robust use of social media should be considered. The Chair asked whether the GGC could approve the draft ToRs and whether the GEBCO Symposium should be the responsibility of the OWG, he also asked the GGC to consider whether the OWG should be a more permanent body.

3. **Nippon Foundation Related Programmes (GGC34-3)**

RF provided a brief on the NF support to GEBCO; he highlighted the recent activities, in particular the XPRIZE, which has been a major success for the NF alumni. He noted the Ocean mapping programme at UNH, of which all but two past students have remained in contact; he explained that the programme has been funded for a two year period rather than current annual bids. He noted that a review of the structure of the programme and course content would be undertaken in 2018 as well as the activities of the NF alumni ambassadors to promote the GEBCO project internationally. He noted that the membership of the Nippon Foundation Programme Management Committee (NFPMC) needed to be reviewed and refreshed to reflect the changed circumstances of the relationship between the GEBCO project and the NF. USA asked that clarification on the relationship and governance between the NF, GGC, IOC and IHO needed to be articulated and documented, in particular he requested amplification on the connections and activities between the GEBCO, the NF funded programme and CCOM and whether the students were NF Alumni, GEBCO Alumni or CCOM graduates with an Ocean Mapping certificate? **Action Chair** The GGC highlighted the outstanding support provided by the NF to the GEBCO Project and hoped the relationship would continue to grow.

The GGC expressed its great gratitude to The Nippon Foundation for the support of GEBCO project over the last 14 years and looked forward to a continuing relationship, including: the UNH programme and the associated alumni, the systems developed in XPRIZE Round 1 and their development for Seabed 2030 and ocean mapping, and the long-term Nippon Foundation – GEBCO Seabed 2030 initiative. The IHO suggested a letter of thanks be sent to the NF indicating the thanks of the GGC. **Action Chair**

4. **GEBCO Engagement with External Bodies**

4.1 Participation at IHO RHC meetings (GGC34-4.1)

The Secretary presented the list of RHC meetings for 2018 and 2019 and highlighted the meetings on which focus could be directed. Participants were requested to inform the Chair of SCRUM at which meetings they could represent the GEBCO project. **Action All/Chair SCRUM** The list would be regularly updated on the BODC GEBCO website. **Action Secretary/BODC** IOC agreed to provide details of appropriate regional meetings at which GEBCO should be represented for uploading to the BODC GEBCO website. **Action IOC/BODC** It was highlighted that an outline presentation had been developed and was available for use at regional meetings; the Secretary agreed to provide the most recent version to the BODC for general use. **Action Secretary/BODC** The IOC confirmed it would provide additional material of relevance to IOC meetings for inclusion in a generic GEBCO presentation. **Action IOC** The USA highlighted that a RHC proposal had been generated which specifically calls for member State support to GEBCO and the Seabed 2030 initiative. It was suggested any presentation will need to be coordinated with a proposal to the RHCs for an action to be taken; this can include, but not be limited to data support, directly or indirectly via the RENC as the detailed in document GGC34-7.1 – *Proposal to support Seabed 2030 Project*.

4.2 GEBCO Engagement with External Bodies (GGC34-4.2)

The Secretary highlighted some of the meetings, conferences and organizations with which GEBCO has some engagement. It was suggested that others could be identified and that a brief comment on attendance could be provided to the BODC to keep the community informed of the awareness actions/activities being undertaken. **Action All/BODC**

5. **Documents and Publications**

5.1 Document Review and status (GGC34-5.1)

It was noted that there were no updates required to the GEBCO Bathymetric publications; it particularly noted that the B-11 was well maintained and updated by the Chair of TSCOM. The Secretary agreed to provide the draft version of B-7 to the Chair of TSCOM to enable any relevant material to be extracted for inclusion into the B-11. **Action Secretary** The Chair of TSCOM would circulate the proposed items for inclusion in the B-11 for comment and input from the GGC. **Action Chair TSCOM/All**

5.2 Review of ToRs and RoPs (GGC34-5.2)

No amendments to the ToRs were considered necessary.

5.3 Relevant IHO Resolutions (GGC34-5.3)

After the initial revision of the relevant IHO resolutions by the Chairs of TSCOM-SCRUM, it was identified that input was required from the CSBWG and the Seabed 2030 project. The Secretary agreed to present the document to the CSBWG5 meeting in Monaco 5-6 December 2017 and provide comment and feedback to the Chairs of TSCOM-SCRUM for further consideration. **Action Secretary**

6. Seabed 2030 (GGC34-6.1)

The vice-Chair provided an extensive briefing on the activities to prepare for the formal establishment and set-up of the Seabed 2030 project. He detailed the proposed organisation to manage the project under the GGC. A number of questions were raised on the financial aspects and governance of the project and the relationship between the NF, GGC, IHO, IOC and the Seabed 2030. There was a need to identify and clarify the relationship with and the governance of the DBDC. A number of questions were raised on the role and responsibilities of the Review Panel and the difference between the Review Panel and the Advisory Group. The vice-Chair suggested three issues needed to be addressed and completed by the GGC:

- a. decide position of Review Panel within the structure;
- b. decide if the Review Panel is made up of external appointments, internal GGC appointments or a mix of both; and
- c. draft and agree ToRs for Review Panel.

Regarding point a) the Review Panel's place was decided within the structure and with respect to b) it was decided that the Review Panel should be made up of external appointments. He further described the roles and responsibilities of the RDACCs and GDACC in relation to the Seabed 2030 and the GGC and its subordinate bodies. He highlighted the anticipated targets for the release of the GEBCO_2018_15 arc second, GEBCO_2018_30 arc second and GEBCO_2018_1 arc minute grids and every year thereafter. The Chair of TSCOM suggested naming the grids for the coming year to ensure currency for at least 12 months.

He detailed the current funding state for the various elements of the project and the anticipated full year funding, which will commence at Year2. The NF has indicated it will remain an annual funding process, which it was noted would create certain constraints on the project management. CAN asked whether the final three years would be funded by the NF or whether external funding would need to be investigated. It was confirmed that all Seabed 2030 personnel would be employees of their host organizations and therefore the additional costs would be the responsibility of the host organizations.

USA highlighted that the GGC had only authorized the creation of the Establishment Team with a list of tasks. There was a need for the GGC to disband the Establishment Team and approve the establishment of the Seabed 2030 project and its structure, after which the IHO and IOC member states should be informed of the formal establishment of the Seabed 2030 Project. **Action Chair**

The GGC decided to formally establish the Seabed 2030 project and the GGC endorsed the proposed governance structure as amended during the meeting. Further the GGC agreed the Establishment Team should continue to operate and oversee the Seabed 2030 project until a Project Director had been recruited and was in place, which was anticipated to be early 2018, thereafter the Establishment Team would be disbanded. **Action Establishment Team**

7. GEBCO Future

7.1 Seabed 2030 (GGC34-6)

The vice-Chair provided details on the data discovery and processing in relation to the RDACCs, GDACC and DCDB. He highlighted that current projects, initiatives and organization would be approached to be partners in support of the Seabed 2030 project; he noted that there would be no attempt or effort to duplicate or subsume any existing entity or project. Further questions and comments were made regarding the governance issues, particularly with respect to the DCDB. He noted that the initial task would be gap analysis and data discovery before identifying priority areas for survey activities. He noted that the target was to publish an updated grid each year if possible. He also noted that it was not advisable to insist all data was channelled through the DCDB as a number of organizations had expressed reservations on putting their raw data into the public domain but they would provide datasets to be included directly into the compilations. The vice-Chair felt that polygons could be displayed in the DCDB with metadata on where the raw data could be obtained. USA suggested the regional centres should develop and publish generic guidance and policies on data storage, processing, usage and recognition as experience has shown, without clear and reasonable control, quality management cannot be accomplished.

The vice-Chair briefed on the challenge of at what resolution should be the realistic target for the global coverage. He highlighted the technical issues which will drive the initial efforts due to the limitations of current systems and technology; it was felt that resolution would vary depending on location and general depth. It was calculated that about 74% of the oceans could be covered with 1°x1° 12Khz systems, however there were insufficient systems available and use of 2°x2° 12KHz systems would only achieve to about 1500m depth. He suggested a scale of resolution with decreased resolution with depth. The Secretary suggested in addition to obtaining continental shelf data, it should be a focus to obtain the continental shelf extension surveys once applications have been approved. MR suggested a sentence could be included in the draft UN Omnibus resolution being developed to include a request to support GEBCO Seabed 2030 with the provision of data from coastal states, see Annex F. IHO and IOC confirmed that work would be undertaken to highlight the support to GEBCO within the UN and its subordinate bodies.

The Chair of SCRUM ran a number of videos which had been created to support the GEBCO project. She indicated that each video was aimed at a different target audience and could be used as an introduction for presentations at various conferences and events.

The Chair of SCRUM introduced potential structure and interaction between OWG and Seabed 2030 to ensure roles were complementary and supported each strategy. She suggested the Symposium could be part of the OWG effort as it was a major outreach event. There was general agreement that the proposed structure was the most appropriate, although it was suggested that a major revision of the OWG ToRs should be conducted in light of the Seabed 2030 Project and other activities to strengthen the position of the OWG to ensure that the OWG is in a position to coordinate the outreach strategy. The Chair noted that Seabed 2030 is better known than GEBCO, which could create a difficulty in the future, he suggested that GEBCO needs to develop the correct communications strategy and messages to raise the profile and awareness of the GEBCO project. It was identified that the message and strategy needs to be formulated, which should be a task for the OWG. **Action Chair OWG** IHO suggested that straplines/taglines should be created and highlighted on the GEBCO website and associated with other activities. It was suggested that the proposed IOC funds could be used to support the development of the GEBCO website. IOC suggested that there was a pressing need for a GEBCO communications strategy, which needs to be developed to cover the expanding activities of the GEBCO project; IOC offered to assist in this development and support the task. **Action Chair OWG/IOC** Fugro suggested that outreach was currently the most important aspect for the GEBCO project and it needed to be initiated as soon as possible and he suggested that it might be time to engage professional assistance to help develop the various aspects which would be required. It was suggested that the GGC regenerate the OWG as a SC with robust ToRs, tasking and resources, for which tasking could be led by the current OWG chair and included the chairs of TSCOM, SCRUM, SCUFN and the Director Seabed 2030 Project (to be filled by the Establishment Team – MR). **Action Chair OWG** IHO suggested that a WG should be considered, RF and GGC felt that a SC was more appropriate as it was seen as a long term task at the centre of the entire GEBCO Project. The Chair suggested creating this interim group to take the

task forward, it was noted that the action needed to be included in the GGC reports to IRCC10 and the IOC EC51. **Action Outreach Project Team**

The Chair of SCRUM briefed on discussions of the Outreach Project Team, which included the make-up of the team, the tasks, potential names, whether it should be a SC or WG. She highlighted developing the website as a key initial task. The membership was suggested to be: Symposium convener, Director Seabed 2030 Project, Director NF-UNH training programme and representatives from GDACC, RDACC, SCUFN, TSCOM, SCRUM, Education representative, XPRIZE, a GEBCO member and Industry representative. The group identified immediate priorities as: branding clarity, web page design, web page implementation, social media strategy/implementation/engagement and outreach strategy. **Action Outreach Project Team**

IOC highlighted that the communications strategy was the overall priority and he recommended that a short strategy document be developed to provide guidance of how to take forward the identified tasks. **Action Outreach Project Team** The Outreach Project Team was tasked to delivery their report, including a final name, the ToRs and RoPs. Although it was noted that a WG was less formal, it was recognised that outreach was a long term task/commitment which was at the centre of the future of the GEBCO project. It was noted that the chair of the SC would have a vote, which was considered appropriate. It was agreed a SC would be formed, the ToRs and RoPs would be developed by current Chair of OWG, Chair of SCRUM and the Secretary. **Action Chairs SCRUM-OWR/Secretary** It was noted that this development needed to be included in the Chair reports to IRCC10 and IOC EC51. **Action Chair**

The vice-Chair presented a brief on the anticipated development process for the future Seabed 2030 project strategy, which was endorsed by the GGC. He noted this would be a key aspect of the role of the Director of the Seabed 2030 project. He suggested that there should be flexibility to bring in additional people and organizations to fill knowledge gaps as necessary to develop the strategy. He noted that an important aspect of the Seabed 2030 project would be to engage with existing projects. He confirmed that DCDB and SCRUM would be central to the strategy development. It was agreed that there needed to be clarity of the role of the DCDB within the Seabed 2030 governance and operational structure. **Action Directors RDACCs/GDACC/DCDB**

7.2 GGC Subordinate Bodies Funding (GGC34-7.2.1, GGC34-7.2.2, GGC34-7.2.3 and GGC34-7.2.4)

The Secretary displayed the current funding bids, which were adjusted to cover priority tasks. The Chair of SCUFN indicated that the updating of B-8 was a time limited task and he anticipated it would not be required for many more years of work. The DCDB provided background on situation within NOAA-NCEI with respect to the overall funding of IT infrastructure; the Chair of SCUFN provided details of conditions on which NCEI was able to continue to host the web service for the Gazetteer. USA (NGA) stated it was able to fund the costs of this task for next year; however there remained a need to investigate long term funding to ensure the maintenance and availability of this web service. It was agreed that the IHO and IOC Secretariats would discuss the management and transfer of IOC funds to support individual tasks as identified by the GGC. **Action IHO/IOC** It was suggested that direct support to enhance the BODC GEBCO website would be an appropriate task to support, particularly some of the items identified during the IOC consultation exercise. **Action IOC/BODC** It was noted that it would have the advantage that the IOC Secretariat could demonstrate to IOC member States where their funds had been used and the visible impact, as it was hoped that this would encourage addition voluntary funding contributions.

8. Secretary Responsibilities (GGC34-8)

8.1 The Secretary's role and responsibilities were confirmed.

9. GGC Membership (GGC34-9)

9.1 The Secretary displayed the current membership status and highlighted the forthcoming vacancies which will happen in 2018. The IOC and IHO agreed to commence the nomination process ahead of the actual vacancies to assist in continuity. RF indicated he would stand down prior to GCC35 and therefore a confirmed vacancy would be created. The Chair was requested to clarify the future of the IHO members who were finishing their initial 5 year term in 2018. **Action Chair/IOC/IHO** It was also agreed to invite

the Head of IOC Project Office for IODE to become an ex-officio member of the GGC. **Action Chair/IOC**
It was acknowledged that this would result in an amendment of the GGC ToR, which would need to be presented to and approved by the IOC and IHO member States in due course. John Hall indicated he would donate \$5,000 per year to support GEBCO activities, he confirmed he would investigate an appropriate process with UNH to transfer the funds to the IHO Secretariat; the Chair expressed his gratitude on behalf of the GEBCO project.

10 Next Meeting

10.1 Dates and venue for GGC35

Johnathan Kool (JK) offered, on behalf of Geoscience Australia, to host GGC35 in Canberra 5-9 November 2018 and he provided some details of the location. **Action Secretary/JK**

CAN indicated that Canada was investigating hosting GGC36 and hoped to provide more details later in 2018. **Action CAN**

10.2 Draft Agenda for GGC35 (GGC34.10.2)

The Secretary requested participants look at the draft agenda for GGC35 and propose any amendments or changes, Annex N.

11. Any Other Business (GGC34-7.1)

The vice-Chair highlighted the 'Oceans in a two degree warmer world' symposium to raise awareness of the issues and encouraged GEBCO members to participate.

The USA submitted the proposal from the RENCs and a number of IHO member States to encourage coastal producers of ENC's to provide x,y,z point data from their ENC's to support the GEBCO project (GGC34/7/1). He proved the background to the submission and highlighted the limited success achieved to date resulting from the IHO CLs. He suggested the reasons why member States may not be acting on the request. He highlighted that the two RENCs had agreed to co-develop software to undertake the extraction once the relevant member State had provided the necessary permissions. He noted the process was still being developed and he requested support from the GEBCO to encourage coastal producer states to allow the data to be extracted. He suggested it could be included in the outreach strategy plan and potentially a letter could be sent from the GGC to encourage coastal producer states to support this initiative. **Action Chair**

12. Review of Actions

The List of Actions generated from the meeting were reviewed and agreed.

All Action Items are marked in this report and are collated together at Annex D. An updated list of the Action Items will be maintained on the GGC35 document web page and all those who have actions to complete should keep the Chair, vice-Chair and the Secretary informed of progress. **Action All**

It was agreed that the Secretary would circulate a draft meeting report to all attendees by 24 November. **Action Secretary** Attendees were requested to provide any comments and input by 8 December. **Action All** It was intended the final meeting report would be published by 15 December. **Action Secretary**

The Secretary and the Chair would prepare the final report to IRCC10 and IOC Executive Council 51 using the format required by IRCC and the IOC Executive Council. It was noted the report to IRCC10 needs to be submitted by 20 April 2018 and that to the IOC Executive Council 51 by 25 May 2018. **Action Secretary/Chair**

13. Closure of the Meeting

The chair expressed his appreciation to all those who attended the meeting and noted that he was especially grateful to all HSK and KHOA staff for hosting the meeting and for the excellent venue and support that they have provided.

The following Annexes are attached:

- A. GGC34 – List of Participants.
- B. GGC34 – Agenda
- C. GGC34 – List of Documents
- D. GGC34 – List of Actions
- E. UN draft resolution
- F. SCRUM Work Plan and Budget – Final version
- G. SCUFN Work Plan and Budget – Final version
- H. TSCOM Work Plan and Budget – Final version
- I. OWG Work Plan and Budget – Final version
- J. Consolidated GEBCO Work Plan and Budget – Final version
- K. Consolidated Funding Plan – Final version
- L. List of GGC Members
- M. Draft agenda for GGC35

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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G E B C O
GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

Thirty Fourth Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC34)

Busan, Republic of Korea

16 – 17 November 2017

Agenda

Version 4.0; 31 octobre 2017

1 OPENING REMARKS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS – 30 minutes

- .1 Opening Remarks and Introductions – **Chair**
- .2 Welcoming Remarks by Host – **HSK/KHOA**
- .3 Opening remarks by parent bodies – **IHO and IOC Secretariats**
- .4 Working Arrangements – **Secretary/Hosts**
- .5 Administrative Arrangements – **Secretary/Hosts**
- .6 Adoption of the Agenda and approval of report from GGC33 – **Chair**
- .7 Review of Action Items from GGC33 – **Secretary**
- .8 Report from IRCC9 – **Chair**

GEBCO TODAY

2 REPORTS FROM PARENTAL AND SUBORDINATE BODIES – 120 minutes

Brief reports (5 minutes) will be received, highlighting only significant events, achievements, outcomes, outputs/deliverables and matters requiring GGC action, full reports can be downloaded from the GGC website:

- .1 IHO update – **Iptes**
- .2 IOC update – **Barbière**
- .3 Financial update, including funds status report – **Secretary**
- .4 Digital Atlas Manager – **BODC**
- .5 DCDB update, including relevant CSBWG and ASMIWG issues – **DCDB Director**
- .6 SCUFN – **Chair SCUFN**
- .7 TSCOM – **Chair TSCOM**
- .8 SCRUM – **Chair SCRUM**
- .9 Outreach WG – **Chair Outreach WG**

3 NIPPON FOUNDATION – 30 minutes

Brief reports (5 minutes) will be received highlighting significant events, outcomes and matters requiring GGC action, full reports can be downloaded from the GGC website:

- .1 NF Programme Management Committee (NFPMC) report – **Chair NFPMC**
- .2 UNH training programme update – **Course Manager**
- .3 Nippon Foundation Ambassador programme – **Chair NFPMC**
- .4 NF funds – **Chair NFPMC**
- .5 NFPMC membership – **Chair NFPMC**

4 GEBCO ENGAGEMENT WITH EXTERNAL BODIES – 60 minutes

- .1 Participation at IHO RHC meetings – **Chair/Secretary**
- .2 With which international programmes has GEBCO engaged, why and outcomes? – **Chair/All**
ICSU WDS, IODE, POGO, IRSO, WRI, GEOSS, IIOE2, Atlantos, EMODNet, etc
- .3 Update on who are the users of GEBCO products and datasets? Which methods are appropriate for discovering the users and uses of GEBCO products and datasets – **Head BODC/Director DCDB**

5 DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS – 30 minutes

- .1 Document Review Status – **Chair/Secretary**

Title	IHO Number	IOC Number	Edition/date
<i>Standardization of undersea feature names</i>	B-6	-	Edition 4.1.0 September 2013; new Edition 4.2.0 in preparation
<i>Gazetteer</i>	B-8	-	V1.1.1
<i>GEBCO digital atlas</i>	B-9	-	08 Grid March 2015
<i>The history of GEBCO</i>	B10	-	April 2003
<i>GEBCO Cookbook</i>	B-11	Manuals and Guides 63	December 2016

- .2 ToRs and RoPs review – **Chair/Secretary**
- .3 Relevant IHO Resolutions – **Chair/Secretary**

3/1929 as amended (*Centralization of oceanic soundings*) - TSCOM;
 3/1932 as amended (*Collecting oceanic soundings*) - TSCOM;
 4/1932 as amended (*Metadata for oceanic soundings*) - TSCOM/SCRUM;
 2/1962 as amended (*Oceanographic observations*) - SCRUM/TSCOM; and
 8/1962 as amended (*Oceanographic information*) - SCRUM/TSCOM.

6 SEABED 2030 – 60 minutes

Progress brief on development of Seabed 2030 Project, including bid proposal, Road Map, Business Plan, outcomes from IOC Assembly 29, discussions with Secretariat and new S-G IHO:

- .1 Report on progress and update brief – **Establishment Team**

GEBCO TOMORROW**7 GEBCO FUTURE****.1 Seabed 2030 - 120 minutes**

The GGC will be appraised of outcomes and actions arising from the Workshops, seminars and events pursuing the Seabed 2030 Project and vision, in particular:

- .1 Next phases – **Establishment Team**
- .2 Integration with existing GEBCO structure – **Chair/Establishment Team**
- .3 Future actions and action plan – **Chair/Establishment Team**

.2 GGC Subordinate bodies' Work Plans 2018-2019 – 120 minutes

- .1 Approve funding requests and Work Plans of Subordinate bodies, including outputs/deliverables for next period – **Chair/Secretary**

Chairs will present draft funding requests and Work Plans for their Sub-Committee or Working Group; identifying outputs, deliverables and appropriate milestones for consideration and approval of the GGC.

- .1 SCUFN – **Chair SCUFN**;
- .2 TSCOM – **Chair TSCOM**;
- .3 SCRUM – **Chair SCRUM**; and
- .4 Outreach WG – **Chair Outreach WG**

- .2 Review of GEBCO Education and Outreach strategy – **Chair Outreach WG/Chair /Secretary**

.3 GGC Work Plan 2018-2019 – 60 minutes

- .1 Approve GGC funding requests and Work Plans including outputs/deliverables for next period – **Chair/Secretary**

8 SECRETARY RESPONSIBILITIES – 15 minutes

- .1 Confirm responsibilities – **Chair**

9 GGC MEMBERSHIP – 30 minutes

- .1 Identification of individuals, whose terms are due to complete within the next two years – **Secretary**
- .2 Details of nominations to fill vacancies – **Chair/Secretary**
- .3 Consideration for the Head of IOC Project Office for IODE to join GGC as an Ex-officio member – **Chair/Secretary**

10 NEXT MEETING – 15 minutes

- .1 Dates and venue for GGC35 – **Secretary/Australia**
- .2 Draft Agenda for GGC35 – **Secretary**

- 11 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – Chair/Secretary – 30 minutes
- 12 **Review of Action Items from GGC34** – Secretary – 30 minutes
- 13 **CLOSURE OF THE MEETING** – Chair – 15 minutes

GGC34 - List of Documents

Document No	Document Title	Date uploaded
GEBCO 2017 Letter	Invitation Letter	17 May 2017
GEBCO 2017 Letter Annex A	Registration Form (Word version)	17 May 2017
GEBCO 2017 Letter Annex B	Logistic Information	17 May 2017
GEBCO 2017	Outline Week Programme v4.0	12 November 2017
GEBCO Symposium 2017	Programme v6.0	12 November 2017
GEBCO 2017	Document Template (Word version)	18 October 2016
GEBCO 2017	Presentation Template (PowerPoint version)	7 April 2017
GEBCO 2017	List of Participants	12 November 2017
GGC34-1.6.1	Draft Agenda v4.0	31 October 2017
GGC34-1.6.2	GGC33 Meeting Report	4 July 2017
GGC34-1.7	GGC33 List of Actions - updated 7 November 2017	7 November 2017
GGC34-1.8.1	GEBCO Report to IRCC9	31 October 2017
GGC34-1.8.2	IRCC9 Outcomes	31 October 2017
GGC34-2.1	IHO Report	
GGC34-2.2	IOC Report (See Presentations.zip)	
GGC34-2.3	Financial Report	3 November 2017
GGC34-2.4	Digital Atlas Manager Report	30 October 2017
GGC34-2.5	DCDB update	15 November 2017
GGC34-2.6.1	SCUFN Report	16 November 2017
GGC34.2.6.2	SCUFN ToRs - Proposed amendments	3 October 2017
GGC34-2.7	TSCOM Report	16 November 2017
GGC34-2.8	SCRUM Report	16 November 2017
GGC34-2.9	Outreach WG Report	17 November 2017
GGC34-2.9	Outreach WG ToRs - Draft	7 April 2017
GGC34-3	NF Related Programmes Report	9 November 2017
GGC34-4.1	Regional Hydrographic Commission meeting programme	31 October 2017
GGC34-4.2	GEBCO Engagement with International programmes	31 October 2017
GGC34-5.1	GEBCO Cookbook Report	15 November 2017
GGC34-5.2	GGC ToRs and RoPs	4 July 2017

GGC34-5.3	Relevant IHO Resolutions - Proposed amendments	2 November 2017
GGC34-6.1	GEBCO Seabed2030 Establishment Phase Report	18 October 2017
GGC34-6.1 - Appendix 2	Establishment Team ToRs	18 October 2017
GGC34-6.1 - Appendix 3	Seabed2030 Project Director Position Description	18 October 2017
GGC34-6.1 - Appendix 4	Seabed2030 Project Kick-off Meeting Agenda	18 October 2017
GGC34-7.1	Proposal for RENCs and IHO Member States to support Seabed 2030	6 November 2017
GGC34-7.2.1.1	SCUFN Work Plan and Budget	15 November 2017
GGC34-7.2.1.2	TSCOM Work Plan and Budget v2.0	16 November 2017
GGC34-7.2.1.3	SCRUM Work Plan and Budget	16 November 2017
GGC34-7.2.1.4	Outreach WG Work Plan and Budget	22 November 2017
GGC34-7.2.2	GEBCO Education and Outreach Strategy (see presentations)	
GGC34-7.3.1	GGC Work Plan and Budget	22 November 2017
GGC34-8	Secretary role and responsibilities	4 July 2017
GGC34-9	GGC membership list	4 July 2017
GGC34-10.2	Draft agenda GGC35	7 November 2017
GGC34-12	GGC34 List of Actions	22 November 2017
GGC34	Presentations .zip	22 November 2017

LIST OF ACTIONS – Updated 15 December 2017

Agenda Item	Subject	Status/Date	Comments	Action
Continuous				
-	NF Programme Management Report	On going	Inform IHO and IOC secretariats as soon as the date for accepting UNH applications is known	Manager NF-UNH Programme
-	Participation at IHO RHC meetings	On going	Published and maintain list of RHC meetings on the GEBCO website	Secretary/BODC
-	Participation at IHO RHC meetings	On going	Attendees representing GEBCO at meetings to provide short report for publication on GEBCO website	All/BODC
GGC34				
1.7	GGC33 List of Actions	On going	IOC to provide and maintain list of regional IOC meetings for consideration of GEBCO representation	IOC/BODC
1.7	GGC33 List of Actions	GGC35	Investigate whether IOC regional meetings can be included in IHO calendar	Secretary
1.7	GGC33 List of Actions	31 Dec	Develop standard GEBCO presentation for use at IOC regional meetings	IOC/BODC
4.8	IRCC9 Report	GGC35 Complete	Provide Word version of latest draft B-7 to the Chair of TSCOM	Secretary
4.8	IRCC9 Report	GGC35 Complete	Extract relevant sections from former B-7 for inclusion in B-11	Chair TSCOM/Secretary
4.8	IRCC9 Report	GGC35 Complete	Circulate proposed items for comment and feedback from GGC	Secretary
1.8	IRCC9 Report	GGC35	Provide marked-up copy of B-7 for BODC to ensure all items/information are captured on the GEBCO website	Secretary/BODC
2.3	Finance Report	29 Dec	Clear negative balance in NF Special Projects Fund from Forum Fund	IHO
2.6	SCUFN Report	On going	Initiate search for member state nominations to fill future vacancies in GGC and SCFUN to ensure continuity and liaise to achieve the best possible geographical spread of appointees	IHO/IOC
2.6	SCUFN Report	29 Dec	Investigate the proposal to provide supporting	Chair SCUFN

			bathymetry for naming proposals and develop an appropriate procedure in liaison with the IHO and vice-Chair	
2.7	TSCOM Report	GGC35	Approach Scripps to invite them to participate with GEBCO	Vice-Chair
2.7	TSCOM Report	On going	Invited new participants to join the gebco_folk email contact list to maintain their engagement and keep them informed of GEBCO activities	Chairs TSCOM-SCRUM/Symposium conveners
3	NF Programmes	GGC35	Clarify relationship between IHO-IOC GEBCO and NF and status of Ocean Mapping programme graduates	Chair
3	NF Programmes	29 Dec	Send Thank You letter to NF to express thanks for their on-going support to the GEBCO Project	Chair
4.1	IHO RHC meetings	On going	Inform Chair SCRUM of ability to represent GEBCO at RHC meetings to update list	All/Chair SCRUM
4.1	IHO RHC meetings	On going	Maintain list on BODC GEBCO website	Secretary/BODC
4.1	IHO RHC meetings	On going	Provide list of appropriate regional meetings at which GEBCO should be represented (See 1.7 above)	IOC/BODC
4.1	IHO RHC meetings	On going	Make most recent generic GEBCO presentation available for general use	Secretary/BODC
4.1	IHO RHC meetings	On going	Provide suitable material for inclusion in generic GEBCO presentation	IOC
4.2	GEBCO engagement	On going	Identify organizations and conferences at which GEBCO should be represented; provide brief comments on attendance to the BODC to keep the community informed of the awareness actions/activities being undertaken	All/BODC
5.1	IHO Publications	GGC35 Complete	Provide draft version of former B-7 to Chair of TSCOM	Secretary
5.1	IHO Publications	GGC35 Complete	Circulate proposed items for inclusion in B-11 for comment and feedback (See 1.8 above)	Chair TSCOM/All
5.3	IHO Resolutions	GGC35	Provide draft IHO resolutions to CSBWG for comment and feedback to the Chairs of TSCOM-SCRUM for further consideration	Secretary
6	Seabed 2030	IRCC10/IOC EC51	Inform IHO and IOC of formal establishment of the Seabed 2030 Project	Chair

6	Seabed 2030	27 Apr	Manage Seabed 2030 Project until Project Director formally employed	Establishment Team
7.1	Seabed 2030	27 Apr	Develop the correct communications strategy and messages to raise the profile and awareness of the GEBCO project	Chair OWG
7.1	Seabed 2030	27 Apr	Develop GEBCO communications strategy	Chair OWG/IOC
7.1	Seabed 2030	27 Apr	Develop tasks and associated resources to support expanded GEBCO communications requirements	Chair OWG
7.1	Seabed 2030	29 Dec	Develop strategy, tasks and initial members of a new SC to oversee communications activities	Outreach Project Team
7.1	Seabed 2030	27 Apr	Develop identified immediate outreach/communication priorities	Outreach Project Team
7.1	Seabed 2030	2 Mar	Develop short strategy document to provide guidance of how to take forward the identified tasks	Outreach Project Team
7.1	Seabed 2030	29 Dec	Develop the ToRs and RoPs for new SC	Chairs SCRUM-OWG/Secretary
7.1	Seabed 2030	29 Dec	Clarify role of DCDB in Seabed 2030 governance and operational structure	RDACCs/GDACC/DCDB Director
7.2	Work Plans and Funding	GGC35	Discuss the management and transfer of IOC funds to support individual tasks as identified by the GGC	IHO/IOC
7.2	Work Plans and Funding	GGC35	Support the enhancement of the BODC GEBCO website, particularly items identified during the IOC consultation exercise	IOC/BODC
7.2	Work Plans and Budgets	24 Nov Complete	Provide Word versions of Work Plans and Budgets to Chairs TSCOM/SCRUM/SCUFN/OutreachWG for revision, reflecting discussions and decisions of GGC34	Secretary
7.2	Work Plans and Budgets	15 Dec Complete	Provide revised Work Plans and Budgets and spread sheet for inclusion in final GGC34 meeting report	Chairs TSCOM/SCRUM/SCUFN/OutreachWG
9.1	GGC Membership	29 Dec	Clarify future of IHO members whose initial terms end in 2018	Chair
9.1	GGC Membership	GGC35	Invite the Head of IOC Project Office for IODE to	Chair/IOC

			become an ex-officio member of the GGC	
10.1	GGC35	6 Apr	Circulate an initial letter of invitation and post on the website.	JK/Secretary
10.1	GGC36	27 Apr	Investigate hosting and advise Sec of proposed dates for circulation to GGC	CAN/Secretary
11	AOB	29 Dec	Send letter from the GGC to encourage coastal states to give RENCs permission to extract x,y,z point data from ENC's to support the GEBCO Project	Chair
12	Action List	GGC34	Keep IHO and the Chair and vice-Chair informed of progress with allocated actions	All
12	GGC34 Draft Report	24 Nov Complete	Draft to be circulated for comment	Secretary
12	GGC34 Draft Report	8 Dec Complete	All to provide comments on draft report	All
12	GGC34 Final Report	15 Dec Complete	Publish final report	Secretary
12	Report to IRCC10/IOC EC51	6 Apr/4 May	Draft report for review and amendment.	Chair/vice-Chair/Sec



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 15 November 2017

WK 13196/2017 INIT

LIMITE

COMAR

WORKING PAPER

INFORMATION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on the Law of the Sea
Subject:	Oceans and the law of the sea: draft omnibus resolution - 14Nov2017

Dear Colleagues,

Please find attached a message from DOALOS.

Kind regards,

COMAR Secretariat

From: Vladimir Jares [<mailto:jares@un.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 6:58 PM

Subject: Oceans and the law of the sea: draft omnibus resolution - 14Nov2017

Importance: High

Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of Mr. Thembile Joyini (South Africa), Coordinator of the informal consultations on the draft omnibus resolution on oceans and the law of the sea for the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, we are pleased to transmit, ahead of the second round of the informal consultations, a text representing the outcome of the first round, with factual inputs by the secretariat in the following paragraphs: OP 3, OP48 (footnote only), OP 49, OP 50, OP 100, and OP 336.

A few additional reminders:

Schedule for informal consultations

Please note that according to the schedule, the second round of the informal consultations will be held as from tomorrow, Wednesday, 15 November to Tuesday, 21 November 2017 (5 days). The meetings will be held in Conference Room 6.

Proposals from Delegations

Delegations are reminded to continue to transmit the amendments to the text that they may propose during the second round to the Coordinator through the secretariat (to: lika.diouf@un.org, cc: jares@un.org, fernando.cabrera@un.org, bingzhuo.li@un.org, valenzuela2@un.org).

As in the past, proposals from delegations received during the intersessional period will be incorporated into the draft after they will have been introduced by their proponents during the second round of consultations. However, the texts of proposals received so far have already been circulated electronically to all delegations.

Participation in the informal consultations and the contact list

The informal consultations are closed meetings open only to the representatives of Member States. Member States are kindly requested to transmit any changes as to the names of their representatives, together with contact information (email and, as appropriate, phone numbers), to the secretariat (to: valenzuela2@un.org, cc: jares@un.org, fernando.cabrera@un.org, lika.diouf@un.org, bingzhuo.li@un.org). Delegations may wish to note that while the secretariat will be circulating proposals and stands ready to circulate, as appropriate, other communications emanating from delegations, it will not be in a position to release this contact list.

Paperless meeting and documentation

The second round of informal consultations will be conducted as paperless meetings. All texts and proposals will be circulated by email. The texts of previous resolutions adopted under the agenda item Oceans and the Law of the Sea are available on the web site of the Division:

http://www.un.org/Depts/los/general_assembly/general_assembly_resolutions.htm

Other parliamentary documents, such as the Secretary-General's reports on oceans and the law of the sea, are also available on the web site of the Division:

<http://www.un.org/Depts/los> or on the official documents system of the United Nations ods.un.org or through undocs.org/[document symbol] . The Advance and unedited reporting material (English only) and information provided by DOALOS as referenced in that material are available at

http://www.un.org/Depts/los/general_assembly/general_assembly_reports.htm.

DOALOS team providing support to the Coordinator during the second round of the informal consultations:

Mrs. Gabriele Goettsche-Wanli, Director;
Mr. Vladimir Jares, Deputy Director, Secretary;
Mr. Fernando Cabrera, Legal Officer;
Ms. Lika Diouf, Associate Legal Officer;
Mr. Bingzhuo Li, Junior Professional Officer
Ms. Ruth Valenzuela, Senior Legal Assistant.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Vladimir Jares

Draft Resolution

Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

PP1. *Recalling* its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 71/257 of 23 December 2016, as well as other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),¹

PP2. *Recalling also*, in this regard, resolution 69/292 of 19 June 2015 on the development of an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, *(PP2, OP241, OP242 to be revisited)*

PP3. *Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General² and the reports on the work 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 (the Regular Process),³ and of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (the Informal Consultative Process) at its eighteenth meeting,⁴ and on the twenty-seventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,⁵ as well as the report of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,⁶ *(Possibly relevant to small group coordinated by SGP)*

PP4. *Recognizing* the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

PP5. *Emphasizing* the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,⁷

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

² A/71/74 and Add.1.

³ A/71/362.

⁴ A/71/204.

⁵ SPLOS/293 and SPLOS/303.

⁶ [A/CONF.230/4](#).

⁷ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.1.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

PP6. *Noting with satisfaction* that, in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,⁸ as endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, States recognized that oceans, seas and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth’s ecosystem and are critical to sustaining it, and that international law, as reflected in the Convention, provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources, and stressed the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development, including through their contributions to poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, food security and creation of sustainable livelihoods and decent work, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the impacts of climate change,

PP7. *Recalling* that, in “The future we want”, States underscored that broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings were essential to the promotion of sustainable development and that sustainable development required the meaningful involvement and active participation of regional, national and subnational legislatures and judiciaries, and all major groups, and, in this regard, that they agreed to work more closely with major groups and other stakeholders and encouraged their active participation, as appropriate, in processes that contribute to decision-making, planning and implementation of policies and programmes for sustainable development at all levels,

PP8. *Welcoming* the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the outcome document,

PP9. *Recognizing* the important contribution of [\[conservation and\] \(SGP proposal\)](#) sustainable [\[development and management of the resources and uses of the oceans and seas\]\(SGP proposal to delete\)](#) [\[use of oceans, seas, and marine resources\]\(SGP proposal\)](#) to the achievement of [\[international\]\(EU proposal to delete\)](#) [\[sustainable\]\(EU proposal\)](#) development goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

PP10. *Recalling* its [\[resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017 \[entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action”\]\]](#); [\[endorsing the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action” adopted by\] decision to convene](#) the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held from 5 to 9 June 2017, [\[coinciding with World Oceans Day\] \[on 8 June\]](#), [\[to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,](#)⁹ [\] as well as its resolution 70/303 of 9 September 2016 on modalities for the Conference,\] \[and in this regard affirming the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas](#)

⁸ Resolution 66/288, annex.

⁹ Resolution 70/226.

and marine resources for sustainable development.] (Small group with PP10bis, OP181bis – Coordinated by SGP)

[PP10bis. Recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the Conference to the effective and timely implementation of SDG 14;](Small group with PP10, OP181bis – Coordinated by SGP)

PP11. *Recognizing* paragraphs 64 and 65 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the Conference, which was held from 13 to 16 July 2015,¹⁰

PP12. *Welcoming* the outcomes of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, especially the resolutions on oceans and seas,¹¹ marine plastic litter and microplastics,¹² sustainable coral reefs management¹³ and the role, functions and modalities for United Nations Environment Programme implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,¹⁴

PP13. *Conscious* that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

PP14. *Reiterating* the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues, while recognizing the need to also address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries,

PP15. *Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

PP16. *Recalling* that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving

¹⁰ Resolution 69/313, annex.

¹¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex, resolution 2/10.

¹² *Ibid.*, resolution 2/11.

¹³ *Ibid.*, resolution 2/12.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, resolution 2/4.

knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

PP17. *Reiterating its deep concern* at the serious adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems and their physical and biogenic structure, including coral reefs, cold water habitats, hydrothermal vents and seamounts, of certain human activities,

PP18. *Emphasizing* the need for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships,

PP19. *Expressing deep concern* at the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the physical alteration and destruction of marine habitats that may result from land-based and coastal development activities, in particular those land reclamation activities that are carried out in a manner that has a detrimental impact on the marine environment,

PP20. *Reiterating its serious concern* at the current and projected adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, and emphasizing the urgency of addressing these issues,

PP21. *Noting with concern*, in this regard, the findings by the World Meteorological Organization, in its annual *Greenhouse gas bulletin*, that, for the first time in 2015, carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere were 400 parts per million, on average across the year as a whole,

PP22. *Expressing concern* that climate change continues to increase the severity and incidence of coral bleaching throughout tropical seas and weakens the ability of reefs to withstand ocean acidification, which could have serious and irreversible negative effects on marine organisms, particularly corals, as well as to withstand other pressures, including overfishing and pollution,

PP23. *Reiterating its deep concern* at the vulnerability of the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the polar regions, including the Arctic Ocean and the Arctic ice cap, particularly affected by the projected adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification,

PP24. *Recognizing* the need for a more integrated and ecosystem-based approach to, further study of and the promotion of measures for enhanced cooperation, coordination and collaboration relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction,

PP25. *Recognizing also* that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

PP26. *Recognizing further* that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and encouraging further efforts towards electronic charting, which not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection, and noting that, under the International Convention for

the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,¹⁵ ships on international voyages are required to carry an electronic chart display and information system, in accordance with the implementation schedule as set out in that Convention,

PP27. *Recognizing* that ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law are critical for improving understanding of weather, climate and ecosystems, and that certain types of ocean data buoys contribute to saving lives by detecting tsunamis, and reiterating its serious concern at intentional and unintentional damage to such buoys,

PP28. *Emphasizing* that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercraft, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

PP29. *Recognizing* the duty of States under article 303, paragraph 1, of the Convention to protect objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea and to cooperate for this purpose,

PP30. *Expressing concern*, in this regard, at various threats posed to such objects, including their destruction as well as the illicit trafficking in such objects,

PP31. *Recognizing* that illicit trafficking in wildlife is, in some cases, committed by transnational organized criminal groups using maritime routes, contributes to damage to ecosystems and livelihoods and requires enhanced regional and global cooperation and coordination in response, in accordance with international law,

PP32. *Noting with concern* the continuing problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

PP33. *Reiterating* the importance of the fair treatment of crew members and its influence on maritime safety,

PP34. *Recognizing* that fibre-optic submarine cables transmit most of the world's data and communications and hence are vitally important to the global economy and the national security of all States, conscious that these cables are susceptible to intentional and accidental damage from shipping and other activities and that the maintenance, including the repair, of these cables is important, noting that these matters have been brought to the attention of States at various workshops and seminars, and conscious of the need for States to adopt national laws and regulations to protect submarine cables and render their wilful damage or damage by culpable negligence punishable offences,

PP35. *Noting* the importance of the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that it is in the broader interest of the international community that coastal States with a continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submit information on the outer limits of the continental shelf

¹⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1184, No. 18961.

beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission), and welcoming the submissions to the Commission by a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention on the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, that the Commission has continued to fulfil its role, including of making recommendations to coastal States, and that the summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available,¹⁶

PP36. *Noting also* that many coastal States Parties have submitted preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, as provided for in the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission and the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a),¹⁷

PP37. *Noting further* that some coastal States may continue to face particular challenges in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission,

PP38. *Noting* that financial and technical assistance may be sought by developing countries for activities in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission, including through the voluntary trust fund established by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, as well as other accessible international assistance,

PP39. *Recognizing* the importance of the trust funds established pursuant to resolution 55/7 in facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission and in fulfilling the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, noting with appreciation the recent contributions made to them, while observing with concern that the lack of funds in the voluntary trust fund for the purpose of defraying the cost of the participation in its meetings of the members of the Commission from developing States may prevent the Commission from implementing the decision of the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties that requested the Commission to meet for up to 26 weeks, and may preclude the Commission from advancing its work as a result of the potential lack of quorum at the 2018 sessions, and in this regard urging States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to contribute to the trust fund,

PP40. *Reaffirming* the importance of the work of the Commission for coastal States and for the international community,

PP41. *Recognizing* that practical difficulties can arise when there is a considerable delay between the preparation of submissions and their consideration by the Commission, including in retaining expertise up to and during the consideration of the submissions by the Commission,

¹⁶ Available from the web page of the Commission maintained by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

¹⁷ SPLOS/183.

PP42. *Recognizing also* the significant workload of the Commission in view of the large number of submissions already received and a number of submissions yet to be received, which places additional demands and challenges on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division), and welcoming the decision of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission,¹⁸

PP43. *Noting with concern* the projected timetable of the work of the Commission on the submissions already received by it and those yet to be received, and in this regard noting the decision of the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to renew the request made by the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and to request the Commission to consider, in coordination with the Secretariat, as from 16 June 2017, within the existing resources made available to the Secretariat, that the Commission, and its subcommissions meeting simultaneously as far as possible, meet at United Nations Headquarters for up to 26 weeks but not less than an intended minimum of 21 weeks a year for a period of five years, distributed in such a way that the Commission determines to be the most effective, and that no two sessions be sequential, and to request the Commission to prepare a plan of sessions to be held in 2017 on the basis of that request,¹⁹

PP44. *Recognizing* the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise,

PP45. *Expressing concern* about the implications of the workload of the Commission for the conditions of service of its members,

PP46. *Recalling*, in this regard, the decisions of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,²⁰

PP47. *Recalling also* its decision, in resolutions 57/141 of 12 December 2002 and 58/240 of 23 December 2003, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,²¹ and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

PP48. *Recalling further* its decisions, in resolution 65/37 A of 7 December 2010, resolution 66/231 of 24 December 2011, resolution 70/235 of 23 December 2015, and resolution 71/257 regarding the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations and accountable to the General Assembly,

PP49. *Recalling* that the Division was designated to provide secretariat support to the Regular Process, including its established institutions,

¹⁸ SPLOS/229.

¹⁹ See SPLOS/303.

²⁰ SPLOS/286 and SPLOS/303.

²¹ See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

PP50. *Recognizing* the importance and the contribution of the work of the Informal Consultative Process established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the Assembly,

PP51. *Noting* the continuously growing responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33, 65/37 A, 65/37 B of 4 April 2011, 66/231, 67/78 of 11 December 2012, 68/70 of 9 December 2013, 69/245 of 29 December 2014, 69/292, 70/235, and 71/257 and in this context the unprecedented substantial increase in activities of the Division, in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, the need for enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and the role of the Division in carrying out the functions in resolution 69/292, as the secretariat of the Regular Process, in relation to the functions as focal point for UN-Oceans, and in relation to support for the implementation by Member States of the oceans-related Sustainable Development Goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, *[OP may require updating]*

PP52. *Reaffirming* the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority (the Authority) in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the Part XI Agreement),²²

PP53. *Reaffirming also* the importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (the Tribunal) in accordance with the Convention,

I

Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Reaffirms* its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 71/257, and other relevant resolutions concerning the Convention;¹

2. *Also reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;

3. ~~*Welcomes the recent accession to the Convention, and calls*~~ *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to fully achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;²²

4. *Calls upon* States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Fish Stocks Agreement);²³

5. *Calls upon* States to harmonize their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure

²² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

²³ *Ibid.*, vol. 2167, No. 37924.

also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;

6. *Calls upon* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention, preferably using the generally accepted and most recent geodetic datums;

7. *Notes*, in this regard, the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the existing geographic information system for the deposit by States of charts and geographical coordinates concerning maritime zones, including lines of delimitation, submitted pursuant to the Convention, and to give due publicity thereto, as requested in paragraph 6 of resolution 59/24 of 17 November 2004, as well as the ongoing cooperation with the International Hydrographic Organization to develop the technical standards for the collection, storage and dissemination of the information deposited, in order to ensure compatibility among geographic information systems, electronic nautical charts and other systems, and re-emphasizes the importance of the prompt completion of these efforts;

8. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention, and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

9. *Acknowledges* the recent deposit of instruments of ratification and acceptance of the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,²⁴ calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Convention, and notes in particular the rules annexed to that Convention, which address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among Parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

II

Capacity-building

10. *Emphasizes* that capacity-building is essential to ensure that States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able to fully implement the Convention, benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas and participate fully in global and regional forums on ocean affairs and the law of the sea;

11. *Also emphasizes* the need to address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries through capacity-building;

12. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in “The future we want”,⁸ States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit

²⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 2562, No. 45694.

from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-second session, in 2003;

13. *Emphasizes* the need for international cooperation for capacity-building, including cross-sectoral cooperation, at national, regional and global levels, to address, in particular, gaps in capacity-building in ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including marine science;

14. *Calls for* capacity-building initiatives to take into account the needs of developing countries, and calls upon States, international organizations and donor agencies to make efforts to ensure the sustainability of such initiatives;

15. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

16. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve aids to navigation and search and rescue services, hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

17. *Calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to continue to support and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

18. *Also calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to support and strengthen capacity-building activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to promote effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law;

19. *Further calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to develop and strengthen capacity-building activities in and to transfer to developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, on mutually agreed terms, and taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology,

environmentally sound technologies to study and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification;

[19bis. Welcomes progress made by the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network in building global scientific capacity for ocean acidification monitoring, research and experimentation, including through the Peer2Peer scientific mentorship program, and in fostering international collaboration;](USA proposal)

20. *Emphasizes* the need to focus on strengthening South-South cooperation as an additional way to build capacity and as a cooperative mechanism to further enable countries to set their own priorities and needs and to foster actions to implement such cooperation;

21. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to capacity-building in the field of the law of the sea by the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, a cooperative undertaking by the Center for Oceans Law and Policy of the University of Virginia School of Law, the Aegean Institute of the Law of the Sea and Maritime Law, the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea of Utrecht University and the Centre for International Law of the National University of Singapore that offers a prominent three-week summer course annually in Rhodes, Greece, and has graduated 900 students from more than 120 countries;

22. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to capacity-building in the field of the law of the sea by the Summer Academy of the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;

22bis. *Also recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the Korea Maritime Institute to the trust fund to support the internship programmes at the Tribunal since 2011 and its continued efforts to provide education and training for capacity-building of developing countries through the Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea programme;

23. *Takes note* of the holding of three sessions of the Summer Academy on the Continental Shelf in 2014, 2015 and 2016 in the Faroe Islands, organized by the University of the Faroe Islands;

24. *Recognizes* the importance of the work of the Malta-based International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization, as a centre of education and training of specialists in maritime law, including government legal advisers and other high-level officials, mainly from developing States, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of international maritime law, shipping law and marine environmental law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute which runs annually;

25. *Also recognizes* the importance of the World Maritime University of the International Maritime Organization as a centre of excellence for maritime education and research, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of maritime transportation, policy, administration, management, safety, security and environmental protection, as well as its role in the international exchange and transfer of knowledge, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and other bodies to make voluntary financial contributions to the University's newly established Endowment Fund;

26. *Welcomes* ongoing activities for capacity-building so as to address maritime security and protection of the marine environment of developing States, and encourages States and international financial institutions to provide additional funding for capacity-building programmes, including for transfer of technology, including through the International Maritime Organization and other competent international organizations;

27. *Recognizes* the ongoing activities of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in coordinating capacity-building efforts to support developing States in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in marine and coastal areas, in particular through the Sustainable Ocean Initiative;²⁵

28. *Also recognizes* the considerable need to provide sustained capacity-building assistance, including on financial and technical aspects, by relevant international organizations and donors to developing States, with a view to further strengthening their capacity to take effective measures against the multiple facets of international criminal activities at sea, in line with the relevant international instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;²⁶

29. *Further recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of and support the implementation of improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities and marine debris and nutrient pollution;²⁷

30. *Recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the trust funds, as referred to in resolutions 55/7, 57/141 and 64/71 of 4 December 2009, established for this purpose, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;²⁸

31. *Acknowledges* the importance of capacity-building for developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, for the protection of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources;

32. *Recognizes* that promoting the voluntary transfer of technology is an essential aspect of building capacity in marine science;

33. *Encourages* States to use the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, and

²⁵ See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I, and CBD COP decision XII/23, paras. 19–22.

²⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

²⁷ See 2012 Guidelines for the Development of a Regional Reception Facilities Plan, International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.221(63).

²⁸ See A/70/74/Add.1, para. 137.

recalls the important role of the secretariat of that Commission in the implementation and promotion of the Criteria and Guidelines;

34. *Also encourages* States to consider additional opportunities for capacity-building at the regional level;

35. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Tribunal in holding regional workshops;

36. ~~[Recalls the decision by the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to~~Notes the launch of the Global Ocean Science Report by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;^{29]}

[36alt. Takes note [with satisfaction](MEX proposal) [Welcomes](NOR proposal) of the publication of the first edition of Global Ocean Science Report by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and the decision by the IOC Assembly to integrate the global reporting on the implementation of SDG target 14.a [and its related indicator agreed by the UN Statistical Commission, as part of future editions of the Global Ocean Science Report];](EU proposal)

37. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the new Capacity Development Strategy (2015–2021), which takes into account that capacity development is a fundamental tenet of the mission of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

38. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to capacity-building through its Ocean Teacher Academy training system, which has provided training in ocean data and information management, and notes the setting up of the Ocean Teacher Global Academy, operating through a network of regional training centres, which builds capacity and promotes expertise available in developing countries;

[38bis. Welcomes the establishment by the twenty-ninth Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development;](EU proposal)

39. *Welcomes* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, reiterated by member States at its fourteenth session, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, to continue to assist developing countries, upon request, in enhancing the sustainability and climate resilience of their transport systems and infrastructure, including coastal transport infrastructure;

40. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts of the Division to compile information on capacity-building initiatives, requests the Secretary-General to continue to regularly update such information provided by States, international organizations and donor agencies and include it in his annual report to the General Assembly, invites States, international organizations and donor agencies to submit such information to the Secretary-General for this purpose, and requests the Division to post the information on capacity-building initiatives from the annual report of the Secretary-General on the website of the Division in an easily accessible manner so as to facilitate the matching of capacity-building needs with opportunities;

41. *Calls upon* States to continue to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal

²⁹ The report is available at <http://en.unesco.org/gosr>

African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, multilateral levels, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State, and recalls that coastal States can make requests to the Commission for scientific and technical advice in the preparation of data for their submissions, in accordance with article 3 of annex II to the Convention;

42. *Recognizes* the importance of the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, and of providing assistance to developing States to meet the travel and daily subsistence allowance costs associated with meeting with the Commission when their submissions are being examined and upon the invitation of the Commission, in accordance with paragraph 31 of the terms of reference, guidelines and rules of the trust fund;³⁰

43. *Calls upon* the Division to continue to disseminate information on relevant procedures related to the trust fund established for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to continue its dialogue with potential beneficiaries with a view to providing financial support to developing countries for activities to facilitate their submissions in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure³¹ and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission³² and to defray the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance for delegates to participate in meetings with the Commission upon its invitation;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue to support training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation and presentation of their submissions to the Commission;

45. *Recognizes with appreciation* the contribution of the Division to capacity-building activities at the national and regional levels, in particular the work of the Division in promoting wider appreciation of the Convention and in assisting with its implementation, through the provision of information, advice and assistance to States and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizes in particular the continued delivery of a programme of assistance to the Government of Somalia under a project funded by the Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, including two strategic fellowships, as well as the Division's support for Member State implementation of the relevant parts of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;³³

46. *Notes* the partnership between the Division and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on a training programme on marine scientific research under the Convention, and encourages States, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the initiative;

³⁰ Resolution 55/7, annex II, resolution 58/240, annex, and resolution 70/235, annex.

³¹ CLCS/40/Rev.1.

³² CLCS/11 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

³³ Resolution 70/1.

47. *Invites* States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including by making earmarked voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;

48. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to the capacity-building of developing countries and the promotion of the law of the sea made by the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which was established by the General Assembly in 1981 in honour of the first President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and which, relying on its network of 17 host institutions, has awarded to date 301 fellowships to individuals from 26 Member States, ~~expresses its concern that an award in 2016 was not possible owing to a lack of funding,~~ and recalls in this regard the provisions of its resolutions on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law;³⁴

49. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund for the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, notes that there are insufficient funds available to grant a regular award for placement of a fellow in the Division ~~in 2019, as well as in an academic institution for a period of six months, authorizes the Secretary-General, on an exceptional basis, to grant a modified award for 2017 with the available funding providing for the placement of a fellow only in the Division,~~ expresses its commitment to further promote the importance of the Fellowship, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make voluntary financial contributions in support of the Fellowship so that a regular award may be granted for ~~2018-2019~~ and beyond;

50. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme, which has awarded ~~130-142~~ fellowships to individuals from ~~75-76~~ Member States since 2004, to human resources development for developing Member States in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea and related disciplines, as well as the fostering of global interlinkages and continuing capacity development through the alumni programme, ~~which held an Alumni Meeting in parallel with the Extraordinary Summit of the African Union on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, in Lomé, from 10 to 16 October 2016, and an Alumni Meeting on Maritime Southeast Asia and South Asia: Mapping Opportunities and Challenges, in Bali, Indonesia, from 28 November to 1 December 2016,~~ which held an Alumni Meeting in 2017 in New York in conjunction with the High-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and also recognizes with appreciation the provision of a fellowship under the Strategic Award of the United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme in 2016⁷;

³⁴Resolutions 69/117, para. 8, 70/116, para. 4, ~~and~~ 71/139, para. 7, and 72/... [A/C.6/72/L.19] paras. 7 and 8.

51. MOVED TO OP22bis

52. *Encourages* competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme and international financial institutions and funds to consider expanding their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and to coordinate their efforts, and recognizes the funding available from the Global Environment Facility, as well as other funds allocated for projects relating to oceans;

III

Meeting of States Parties

53. *Welcomes* the report of the twenty-seventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;⁵

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the twenty-eighth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention from [...] to [...] 2018, with full conference services, including documentation, as required;

IV

Peaceful settlement of disputes

55. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;

56. *Pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

57. *Notes* that States parties to an international agreement relating to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and also notes the possibility, provided for in the Statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

58. *Encourages* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration, choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

V

The Area

59. *Reiterates* the importance of the ongoing elaboration and standardization by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, for, inter alia, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area and for the prevention of damage to the flora and fauna of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

60. Notes that, as at ~~[31 July 2016]~~ [10 August 2017], the Authority had approved ~~[28] [29]~~ plans of work for exploration for marine mineral resources in the Area~~]~~ and had entered into 15-year contracts with 16 contractors for exploration for polymetallic nodules, 5 contractors for polymetallic sulphides and 4 contractors for the exploration of cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts; ~~(JAM proposal to delete)(ROK proposal to keep but update)~~

61. Notes with appreciation the decision taken by the Council of the Authority at its twenty-~~second~~ [third] session~~]~~ to approve ~~the~~ [a further] [an/one](MEX proposal) application for extension of an approved plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules, pursuant to section 1, paragraph 9, of the annex to the Part XI Agreement~~, of six of its current contractors~~,³⁵ ~~(JAM proposal)~~

62. Welcomes the [continued] progress ~~[of [in]]~~ the work of the Authority on ~~the~~ [draft regulations for] exploitation ~~regulations, in particular the delivery of the initial working draft of the exploitation regulations during the twenty-second session of the Authority, while taking note that all States Parties and other stakeholders had been invited to provide input on the draft] [of marine minerals in the Area [and the development of a road map for adoption and approval of the regulations](CHN proposal to delete)], and encourages the Authority to continue its work on the [exploitation] [draft] regulations as a matter of priority ~~and in accordance with the list of priority deliverables endorsed by the Council of the Authority]~~, while providing sufficient opportunities and time for substantive consideration and discussion of successive drafts by Member States~~(AUS proposal)~~;³⁶~~

~~62bis. Takes note that all States parties and other stakeholders are invited to provide input on the draft regulations by 17 November 2017, and no later than 31 December 2017;~~³⁷ ~~(JAM proposal)~~

63. Recalls the relevance of the advisory opinion on the responsibilities and obligations of States sponsoring persons and entities with respect to activities in the Area, issued by the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the Tribunal on 1 February 2011;³⁸

64. Recognizes the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment in the Area, respectively;

65. ~~[Recalls]~~ [Welcomes] the decision of the Assembly~~, at the twenty-third session]~~ of the Authority ~~[to undertake], [in approving the final report on the first periodic review of the international regime of the Area]~~ pursuant to article 154 of the Convention~~, a general and systematic review of the manner in which the international regime of the Area has operated in practice,~~³⁹ and notes in this regard the progress made so far, including the submission and consideration at the twenty-second session of the Assembly of an interim report on the progress of the review;

³⁵ ~~[Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (ISBA/22/C/21); Yuzhmorgeologiya (ISBA/22/C/22); Government of the Republic of Korea (ISBA/22/C/23); China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association (ISBA/22/C/24); Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd. (ISBA/22/C/25); and Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (ISBA/22/C/26)]~~ [See ISBA/23/C/15.]

³⁶ See [ISBA/21/C/20] [ISBA/23/C/18].

³⁷ See [ISBA/23/C/12].

³⁸ See ISBA/17/A/9.

³⁹ [ISBA/21/A/9/Rev.1.]

and the further opportunity for States Parties, observers and stakeholders to provide written observations on the interim report, and looks forward to the submission of the final report on the review, together with any recommendations designed to improve the operation of the regime, to States Parties and observers before 15 April 2017];⁴⁰ (*JAM proposal*)

[65bis. Welcomes the decision of the Assembly, in the context of the first periodic review of the international regime of the Area pursuant to article 154 of the Convention, to request the Secretary-General of the Authority, in view of the importance of a long-term plan defining the strategic direction and aims of the Authority, to submit a draft strategic plan to the Assembly for consideration at its twenty-fourth session in 2018, and to regularly inform member States on progress with respect to this plan;⁴¹] (*JAM proposal*)

[65ter. Encourages the Authority to continue its work towards the standardization of marine bathymetric information collected in the Area, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, including the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the International Hydrographic Organization, particularly under the “Seabed 2030” Project;⁴²] (*JAM proposal*)

[65quarter. Further encourages the Authority to make progress on the development of environmental management plans in other international seabed area zones, in particular where there are currently exploration contracts, recalling paragraph 60 of General Assembly resolution 70/235 of 23 December 2015; and in this regard, notes that a workshop dedicated to the review of the status of implementation of the environmental management plan for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone, will be held during the first half of 2018;] (*JAM proposal*)

[66. Also recalls that the environmental management plan for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone, including the designation, on a provisional basis, of a network of areas of particular environmental interest, was approved in 2012, to be implemented over an initial three-year period so that it may be improved as more scientific, technical and environmental baseline and resource assessment data become available and that, for that purpose, the conduct of marine scientific research in those areas and the supply of available results to the Authority was encouraged;⁴³ and in this regard notes the request by the Council of the Authority that a workshop be held before the twenty-second session of the Authority to review the implementation of the plan and that that workshop will now be convened before the twenty-third session;⁴⁴] (*JAM proposal to delete*)

[67. Notes with appreciation the decision of the Legal and Technical Commission to consider holding a scientific workshop, together with marine reserve/management specialists, to determine the suitability or need for amendment of the areas of particular environmental interest, and its decision to consider holding a workshop on impact reference zones and preservation reference zones, and encourages the secretariat of the Authority to work closely with that Commission to

⁴⁰ [ISBA/22/A/11][ISBA/23/A/13].

⁴¹ See ISBA/23/A/13.

⁴² ISBA/23/A/2, and <https://seabed2030.gebco.net/>

⁴³ See ISBA/18/C/22.]

⁴⁴ ISBA/22/C/28, para. 9.]

~~determine a suitable timing for those workshops and to ensure the broadest participation of all States Parties concerned;⁴⁵ (JAM proposal to delete)~~

68. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to the decision of the Authority at its eighth session⁴⁶ for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Legal and Technical Commission from developing countries and the members of the Finance Committee from developing countries in the meetings of the Commission and of the Committee, and to States that have made contributions to the endowment fund for marine scientific research in the Area established by the Authority at its twelfth session,⁴⁷ for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the Area, and encourages States to make additional contributions to these funds;

69. DELETED;

VI

Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

70. *Commends* the progress in the work of the Authority;

71. *Also commends* the work of the Tribunal since its establishment;

72. DELETED;

73. [*Appeals* to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States Parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay]; (*EU proposal to address ISA and ITLOS separately*)

~~[73bis. *Expresses serious concern* about the number of States parties in arrears of their assessed contributions to the Authority and urges them to fulfil their obligations without delay, particularly those which have their exercise of voting rights suspended in virtue of article 184 of the Convention, and invites the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to recover arrears, including bilateral efforts;⁴⁸ (JAM proposal)~~

~~[74. *Encourages* the Authority to continue to explore ways to manage the workload resulting from the increasing number of contracts and applications, and notes the decision of the Council of the Authority at its twenty-second session, in which it requested the Secretary-General of the Authority to ensure that adequate time and resources continue to be made available to support the work of the Legal and Technical Commission, especially on priority issues;⁴⁹ (JAM proposal to delete)~~

75. *Expresses concern* about the low attendance at the annual sessions of the Assembly of the Authority, [*noting also the concerns expressed with regard to the scheduling of annual sessions of the Authority and taking into consideration the great strides made by the Authority in adopting regulations for the prospecting and exploration of minerals in the Area, and invites the Authority to consider measures*

⁴⁵ [Ibid., para. 10.](#)

⁴⁶ ISBA/8/A/11.

⁴⁷ ISBA/12/A/11.

⁴⁸ See [ISBA/23/A/8-ISBA/23/C/10.](#)

⁴⁹ [ISBA/22/C/28, para. 14.](#)

~~to improve the attendance at its annual sessions, including the holding of the sessions at an earlier time]~~ [notes that the Assembly has endorsed the revised schedule of meetings for 2018 and 2019, including two meetings of the Council to be held respectively in March and July 2018, and welcomes the decision of the Assembly to request the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary trust fund for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of members of the Council from developing States in its second annual meeting, and encourages member States, observers and other stakeholders to contribute financially to the voluntary trust fund;⁵⁰]; *(JAM proposal)*

76. *Recognizes* the ongoing efforts of the Authority to organize sensitization seminars to promote awareness of its work and notes, in this regard, the holding of the workshop on “Marine Mineral Resources of Africa’s Continental Shelf and Adjacent International Seabed Area – Prospects for Sustainable Development of Africa’s Maritime Domain, in support of Africa’s Blue Economy”, in Kampala from 2 to 4 May 2017, and calls upon other States and regions to consider inviting the Authority to organize such seminars in order to promote wider participation by the international community in the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in the Area;

77. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal⁵¹ and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;⁵²

78. *Emphasizes* the importance of the rules and staff regulations of the Tribunal in promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and welcomes the actions taken by the Tribunal in observance of those rules and regulations;

~~[78bis. *Calls upon* coastal States that have not yet done so, to deposit a copy of charts or lists of geographical coordinates showing the outer limit lines of the continental shelf with the Secretary-General of the Authority, as provided for in article 84(2) of the Convention;]~~*(JAM proposal)*

VII

The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

79. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 8, of the Convention, information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be submitted by the coastal State to the Commission set up under annex II to the Convention on the basis of equitable geographical representation, that the Commission shall make recommendations to coastal States on matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf, and that the limits of the shelf established by a coastal State on the basis of these recommendations shall be final and binding;

⁵⁰ See ISBA/23/A/13.

⁵¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, No. 37925.

⁵² *Ibid.*, vol. 2214, No. 39357.

80. *Also recalls* that, in accordance with article 77, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation;

81. *Notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a);

82. *Also notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted to the Secretary-General, pursuant to the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,⁵³ preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission, and notes with satisfaction that additional submissions referred to in preliminary information have been filed with the Commission;

83. *Further notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission⁵⁴ and that it is giving current consideration to a number of submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles;

84. *Takes note* of the 29 recommendations made by the Commission on the submissions of a number of coastal States, and welcomes the fact that summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available in accordance with paragraph 11.3 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission;

85. *Notes* that the consideration by the Commission of submissions by coastal States in accordance with article 76 of and annex II to the Convention is without prejudice to the application of other parts of the Convention by States Parties;

86. *Also notes* the considerable number of submissions yet to be considered by the Commission and the demands that this places on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Division, and emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

87. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Commission at its forty-fourth session to continue to extend the duration of its sessions for 2018 to three sessions of seven weeks each, including plenary meetings,⁵⁵ and further notes the decision of the Commission to establish new subcommissions so that nine subcommissions would actively consider submissions;⁵⁶

88. *Notes* that the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in its decisions regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,⁵⁷

⁵³ See SPLOS/183.

⁵⁴ See [CLCS/98](#) and [CLCS/100](#). *(to be updated)*

⁵⁵ See CLCS/95.

⁵⁶ See CLCS/80 and Corr.1 and CLCS/83 and Corr.1.

⁵⁷ SPLOS/276 and SPLOS/286.

reaffirmed the obligation of States under the Convention whose experts were serving on the Commission to defray the expenses of the experts they had nominated while the experts are in performance of Commission duties, including the provision of medical coverage, and urged those States to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

89. *Also notes* the decision of the twenty-seventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to continue the consideration of the conditions of service of the members of the Commission within the open-ended working group established by the twenty-third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;¹⁹

90. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures, within overall existing resource levels, to further strengthen the capacity of the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, in order to ensure enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and its subcommissions in their consideration of submissions, as required by paragraph 9 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, in particular its human resources, taking into account the need for simultaneous work on several submissions;

91. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary secretariat services to the Commission in accordance with article 2, paragraph 5, of annex II to the Convention;

92. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate and timely measures to ensure secretariat services for the Commission and its subcommissions for the extended duration of time requested in the decisions of the twenty-first¹⁸ and twenty-sixth¹⁹ Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

93. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, consequently, to continue to allocate appropriate and sufficient resources to the Division to provide adequate services and assistance to the Commission in view of the number of its working weeks;

94. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission,³⁰ and encourages States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to this fund;

95. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission,³⁰ expresses its serious concern at the critical lack of funds in this trust fund, urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to it, and authorizes the use, as appropriate, of the trust fund, and in accordance with the purpose of its terms of reference, to defray the cost of the participation of the Chair of the Commission [when] nominated by a developing country in the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

96. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, as an interim measure and subject to the availability of funds in the trust fund referred to in paragraph 95 above, following the allocation of the required funds to cover the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance of the members of the Commission from developing States for the sessions of the Commission in 2018, to reimburse those members for the

costs of medical travel insurance from that trust fund on a session-by-session basis and subject to a reasonable limit that the Secretary-General shall determine, based on the information regarding medical travel insurance available to him;

97. *Takes note* of the written information, provided by the Secretary-General in response to the request in paragraph 81 of resolution 69/245, on options for mechanisms to provide medical insurance coverage to members of the Commission, including costs, and expresses its intention to continue to consider these and other options and, if necessary, to further review the terms of reference for the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission; *(New text to be provided by Co-Coordinator of the WG of MSP)*

98. DELETED

99. *Emphasizes* the continued need for members of the Commission to have suitable working space for their work at the sessions of the Commission and its subcommissions, recognizes, with regard to the long-term accommodation discussions, that, owing to its exceptional character, the Commission has special requirements for its working space, including the need for fit-for-purpose working space, adequate technical equipment and climate control, and needs to remain located within the same premises as the Division, and emphasizes that, in the context of any relocation of the Division or any change in its working space, full regard will be paid to these special requirements of the Commission;

100. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the forty-sixth, forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions of the Commission, in New York, from 29 January to 16 March 2018, from ~~23-16~~ July to ~~7-September~~ 31 August 2018 and from 15 October to 30 November 2018, respectively, with full conference services, including documentation, for the plenary parts of these sessions,⁵⁸ as well as any resumed sessions as may be required by the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet these requirements within overall existing resources; *(amended in view of the schedule of the IGC- BBNJ)*

101. *Welcomes* the convening of a half-day open meeting of the Commission on 10 March 2017, during its forty-third session, to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of its establishment;⁵⁵

102. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention as well as in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, including with respect to the participation of coastal States in relevant proceedings concerning their submissions, and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between coastal States and the Commission;

103. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have exchanged views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating the preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission, and encourages States to continue to exchange views;

⁵⁸ From 5 to 9 February and from 5 to 9 March 2018 during the forty-sixth session, and from 6 to 10 August and from 27 to 31 August 2018 during the forty-seventh session.

104. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, to continue to support workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the need to strengthen capacity-building for developing countries in preparing their submissions;

VIII

Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

105. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, as well as maritime labour, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention and other relevant international instruments aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements, and emphasizes the need for capacity-building for and assistance to developing States;

106. *Recognizes* that the legal regimes governing maritime safety and maritime security may have common and mutually reinforcing objectives that may be interrelated and could benefit from synergies, and encourages States to take this into account in their implementation;

107. *Emphasizes* the need for further efforts to promote a culture of safety and security in the shipping industry and to address the shortage of adequately trained personnel, and urges the establishment of more centres to provide the required education and training;

108. *Also emphasizes* that safety and security measures should be implemented in support of and with minimal negative effects on seafarers and fishers, especially in relation to their working conditions, and welcomes the ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization in relation to decent work and employment in fisheries and aquaculture and on child labour in fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the work that has been conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Labour Organization on the issue of trafficking in persons and forced labour on fishing vessels;

109. *Welcomes* the consideration by the International Maritime Organization of the fair treatment of seafarers, and recalls the adoption by the Organization on 4 December 2013 of resolution A.1090(28) on the fair treatment of crew members in respect of shore leave and access to shore-side facilities;

110. *Notes* the theme for the 2017 World Maritime Day, “Connecting ships, ports and people”;

111. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,⁵⁹ as amended, and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995;

112. ~~*Invites States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Maritime Labour Convention, as amended, Welcomes the entry into force of and also invites States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the*~~ Work in Fishing

⁵⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1361, No. 23001.

Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185),⁶⁰ and the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930,^(USA Proposal) of the International Labour Organization, invites States that have not yet done so to become parties to them as well as to the Maritime Labour Convention, as amended; and ^(USA proposal to delete) ~~invites~~ ^(USA proposal to delete) ~~calls upon~~ ^(USA proposal) States to effectively implement ^(USA proposal to delete) ~~all~~ ^(USA proposal to delete) ~~their obligations under~~ ^(USA proposal) those ^(USA proposal to delete) ~~Conventions~~ ^(USA proposal) ~~instruments~~ ^(USA proposal), and emphasizes the need to provide to States, at their request, technical cooperation and assistance in this regard;

113. *Invites* States to ratify or accede to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

114. *Welcomes* ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization relating to the safety of fishers and fishing vessels, and underlines the urgent need for continued work in that area;

115. *Notes* the adoption by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization of resolution A.1078(28) of 4 December 2013 ^(USA proposal to delete) ~~extending~~ ^(SGP proposal to delete) ~~which revised~~ ^(SGP proposal) the International Maritime Organization ship identification number scheme to ^(USA proposal to delete) ~~allow its voluntary application to~~ ^(SGP proposal) seagoing ships of 100 gross tonnage and above, including fishing vessels;

116. *Recalls* that all actions taken to combat threats to maritime security must be in accordance with international law, including the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention;

117. *Recognizes* the crucial role of international cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels in combating, in accordance with international law, threats to maritime security, including piracy, armed robbery against ships at sea and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats, the enhanced sharing of information among States relevant to the detection, prevention and suppression of such threats, and the prosecution of offenders with due regard to national legislation, and the need for sustained capacity-building to support such objectives, and in this regard welcomes the Work Plan for Maritime Security 2015–2017, which was reaffirmed at the twenty-fourth Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, held in Manila on 7 August 2017;

118. *Welcomes* the adoption by the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, of the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

119. *Acknowledges* the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in promoting international cooperation and strengthening capacity to combat the problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea;

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, vol. 2304, No. 41069.

120. *Notes* that piracy and armed robbery at sea affect a wide range of vessels engaged in maritime activities;

121. *Emphasizes* the importance of promptly reporting incidents to enable accurate information on the scope of the problem of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea and, in the case of armed robbery against ships at sea, by affected vessels to the coastal State, underlines the importance of effective information-sharing with States potentially affected by incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea, and notes with appreciation the important role of the International Maritime Organization and the important contribution of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, [which marked its tenth anniversary in 2016 and which](#) ~~aspires~~ to be recognized as a Centre of Excellence within its purpose and mandate, [the Maritime Domain Awareness Trade – Gulf of Guinea \(MDAT – GoG\) mechanism and the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations \(UKMTO\) covering the High Risk Area \(HRA\)\]\(EU proposal\)](#);

122. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to actively combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, by bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as by providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

123. *Encourages* States to ensure effective implementation of international law applicable to combating piracy, as reflected in the Convention, calls upon States to take appropriate steps under their national law to facilitate, in accordance with international law, the apprehension and prosecution of those who are alleged to have committed acts of piracy, including the financing or facilitation of such acts, also taking into account other relevant instruments that are consistent with the Convention, and encourages States to cooperate, as appropriate, with a view to developing their national legislation in this regard;

124. *Expresses grave concern* at the threats posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea to the safety and welfare of seafarers and other persons;

125. *Invites* all States, the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant international organizations and agencies to adopt or recommend, as appropriate, measures to protect the interest and welfare of seafarers and fishers who are victims of pirates, after their release from captivity, including their post-incident care and reintegration into society;

126. *Notes* the ongoing cooperation between the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Division with respect to the compilation of national legislation on piracy, also notes that copies of national legislation received by the Secretariat have been placed on the website of the Division, and encourages the aforementioned bodies to further cooperate with the view to assisting Member States, upon request, in developing their national laws on piracy;

127. *Recognizes* continued national, bilateral and trilateral initiatives, as well as regional cooperative mechanisms, in accordance with international law, to address piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery at sea, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting,

concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level on combating piracy and armed robbery against ships;

128. *Expresses serious concern* at the inhuman conditions hostages taken at sea face in captivity and also the adverse impact on their families, calls for the immediate release of all hostages taken at sea, and stresses the importance of cooperation among Member States on the issue of hostage-taking at sea;

129. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Hostage Support Programme, funded by the Board of the Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, in securing the release of seafarers held hostage off the coast of Somalia;⁶¹

130. *Also welcomes* the recent achievements against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia resulting from efforts at the global and regional levels [and the significant decrease in reported incidents of piracy off the coast of Somalia, which are at the lowest level since 2006], in that regard continues to be gravely concerned by the ongoing threat that piracy and armed robbery at sea continue to pose in the region off the coast of Somalia, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2316 (2016) of 9 November 2016, as well as the statements by the President of the Council of 25 August 2010⁶² and of 19 November 2012,⁶³ also notes that the authorization in resolution 2316 (2016) and relevant resolutions⁶⁴ apply only with respect to the situation in Somalia and shall not affect the rights, obligations or responsibilities of Member States under international law, including any rights or obligations under the Convention, with respect to any other situation, and underscores, in particular, that they shall not be considered as establishing customary international law; *(To be reviewed during the second round of consultations)*

131. *Notes* the continued efforts within the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1851 (2008) of 16 December 2008, and commends the contributions of all States in the efforts to fight piracy off the coast of Somalia;

132. *Recognizes* the primary role of the Federal Government of Somalia in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia, acknowledges the importance of a comprehensive and sustainable settlement of the situation in Somalia, and emphasizes the need to address the underlying causes of piracy and to assist Somalia and States in the region in strengthening institutional capacity to fight piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia and to bring to justice those involved in such acts;

133. *Notes* the International Maritime Organization guidelines to assist in the investigation of the crimes of piracy and armed robbery against ships, revised interim guidance to shipowners, ship operators and shipmasters on the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised interim recommendations for flag States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised

⁶¹ See S/2013/623, paras. 11–13, and S/2014/740, para. 10.

⁶² S/PRST/2010/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2010–31 July 2011*.

⁶³ S/PRST/2012/24; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2012–31 July 2013*.

⁶⁴ See Security Council resolution 2316 (2016), first preambular paragraph.

interim recommendations for port and coastal States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, interim guidance to private maritime security companies providing privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, and interim guidance for flag States on measures to prevent and mitigate Somalia-based piracy;

134. *Encourages* States to ensure that ships flying their flag apply ship security measures approved in accordance with national and international law;

135. *Notes* the efforts made by the shipping industry to cooperate with the efforts by States regarding piracy off the coast of Somalia, in particular in assisting ships that navigate in that area, and recalls the adoption on 30 November 2011 by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization of resolution A.1044(27) on piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia;

136. *Also notes* the continued implementation of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden (Djibouti Code of Conduct), adopted on 29 January 2009 under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, in the four thematic areas of information-sharing, training, national legislation and capacity-building, and notes the adoption, in January 2017, of the "Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct";

137. *Expresses its deep concern* at the continuing incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, in particular violence against innocent crew members of vessels, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 2018 (2011) of 31 October 2011 and 2039 (2012) of 29 February 2012 and the statement by the President of the Council of 25 April 2016,⁶⁵ supports the recent efforts to address this problem at the global and regional levels, recalls the primary role of States in the region to counter the threat and address the underlying causes of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, welcomes the adoption in Yaoundé on 25 June 2013 of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery against Ships, and Illegal Maritime Activity in West and Central Africa, and calls upon States in the region to implement the Code of Conduct as soon as possible and consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

138. *Urges* States to ensure the full implementation of resolution A.1069(28) of the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on prevention and suppression of piracy, armed robbery against ships and illicit maritime activity in the Gulf of Guinea;

139. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation⁶⁶ and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,⁶⁶ invites States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation⁶⁷ and the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental

⁶⁵ S/PRST/2016/4.

⁶⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1678, No. 29004.

⁶⁷ International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21.

Shelf,⁶⁸ and urges States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

140. *Calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,⁶⁹ and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

141. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

142. *Emphasizes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the efforts of littoral States, on the enhancement of safety, security and environmental protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and the effective functioning of the Cooperative Mechanism on Safety of Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (the Cooperative Mechanism) to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industries and other stakeholders in line with article 43 of the Convention, notes with appreciation the convening of the tenth Cooperation Forum, in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, on 2 and 3 October 2017, the tenth Project Coordination Committee Meeting, in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, on 4 October 2017, the forty-second Tripartite Technical Experts Group Meeting, in Jakarta, on 5 and 6 October 2017, and the eighteenth and nineteenth Aids to Navigation Fund Committee Meetings, in Singapore, on 11 and 12 April 2017 and 14 and 15 September 2017, respectively, the events being key pillars of the Cooperative Mechanism, also notes with appreciation the important role of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

143. *Recognizes* that some transnational organized criminal activities threaten legitimate uses of the oceans and endanger the lives of people at sea, as well as the livelihoods and security of coastal communities;

144. *Notes* that transnational organized criminal activities are diverse and may be interrelated in some cases and that criminal organizations are adaptive and take advantage of the vulnerabilities of States, in particular coastal and small island developing States in transit areas, and calls upon States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to increase cooperation and coordination at all levels to detect and suppress the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, in accordance with international law;

145. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing international cooperation at all levels to fight transnational organized criminal activities, including illicit traffic in

⁶⁸ International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22.

⁶⁹ International Maritime Organization, documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and 34, and document MSC 81/25/Add.1, annex 2, resolution MSC.202(81), introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system.

narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, within the scope of the United Nations instruments against illicit drug trafficking, as well as the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms and criminal activities at sea falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;⁷⁰

146. *Encourages* States to cooperate at the bilateral, regional and global levels to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora where such trafficking occurs via maritime routes, through, inter alia, the use of applicable international legal instruments as appropriate, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the United Nations Convention against Corruption⁷¹ and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;⁷²

[146bis. *Calls upon* Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora a serious crime, in accordance with their national legislation and as defined in article 2, paragraph (b) and article 3.1, paragraph (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in order to ensure that, where the offence is transnational in nature and involves an organized criminal group, effective international cooperation can be afforded under the Convention to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;](AUS proposal) (Small group – Coordinated by AUS)

147. *Notes with grave concern* the recent proliferation of, and endangerment of lives through, the smuggling of migrants by sea, underscores the necessity to address such situations in accordance with applicable international law, and encourages States, acting nationally or through relevant global or regional organizations, as appropriate, to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to flag, port and coastal States, upon request, to enhance their capabilities to prevent smuggling of migrants and human trafficking by sea;

148. *Calls upon* States, in that context, to take measures in accordance with relevant international obligations to prevent and combat all forms of trafficking in persons, to identify victims of human trafficking, including among migrant flows, and to provide trafficking victims with appropriate protection and assistance, according to their national law and policy;

[148bis. *Calls upon* States to also take measures in accordance with relevant international obligations to prevent and combat all forms of smuggling of migrants by sea;](CAN proposal)

149. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁷³ the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁷⁴ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and

⁷⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

⁷² *Ibid.*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁷⁵ and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

150. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation, the safety of navigation and the rights of transit passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

151. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon that Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation to keep such straits safe, secure and environmentally protected and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

152. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits used for international navigation to continue to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships, and welcomes developments in this regard;

153. *Calls upon* States that have accepted the amendments to regulation XI-1/6 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,⁷⁶ to implement the Code of International Standards and Recommended Practices for a Safety Investigation into a Marine Casualty or Marine Incident,⁷⁷ which took effect on 1 January 2010, and, in particular, to comply with the mandatory submission of a marine safety investigation report to the International Maritime Organization for every marine safety investigation conducted into a very serious marine casualty to identify trends and develop knowledge and risk-based recommendations;⁷⁷

154. *Notes* the adoption by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization at its twenty-eighth session of the resolution on guidelines on the preservation and collection of evidence following an allegation of a serious crime having taken place on board a ship or following a report of a missing person from a ship, and pastoral and medical care of persons affected;⁷⁸

155. *Recognizes* the important work [\[and support\]\(MEX proposal\) \[it provides to States\]\(EU proposal\) \[of\]\(BRB proposal to delete\) \[offered by\]\(BRB proposal\)](#) the International Hydrographic Organization, calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming members of that Organization, encourages all its members to actively consider, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures, applications of States that wish to become members of that Organization, and urges all States to work with [\[each other and with\]\(SGP proposal\)](#) that Organization [\[and its members\]\(MEX proposal\)](#) to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, particularly through the production and use of accurate electronic navigational charts, especially in areas used for international navigation, in ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

⁷⁵ Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

⁷⁶ International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.257(84).

⁷⁷ International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 1, resolution MSC.255(84).

⁷⁸ International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.1091(28).

156. *Also recognizes* the importance of navigational warning services based on marine meteorological data for the safety of ships and lives at sea and the optimization of navigation routes, and notes the collaboration between the World Meteorological Organization and the International Maritime Organization for the enhancement of these services and their extension to the Arctic region;

157. *Encourages* States to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004;

158. *Notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;

159. *Acknowledges*, in the context of paragraph 158 above, the potential environmental and economic impacts of maritime incidents and accidents on coastal States, in particular those related to the transport of radioactive materials, and emphasizes the importance of effective liability regimes in that regard;

160. *Encourages* States to draw up plans and to establish procedures to implement the Guidelines on Places of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance adopted by the International Maritime Organization on 5 December 2003;⁷⁹

161. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007;⁸⁰

162. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

163. *Calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments⁸¹ to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all measures necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue⁸² and to the International Convention for the Safety of

⁷⁹ International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.949(23).

⁸⁰ International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.16/19.

⁸¹ Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944, annex 12, International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, and International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

⁸² International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

Life at Sea⁸³ relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;⁸⁴

164. *Recognizes* that all States must fulfil their search and rescue responsibilities in accordance with international law, including the Convention, reaffirms the ongoing need for the International Maritime Organization and other relevant organizations to assist, in particular, developing States both to increase and improve their search and rescue capabilities, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of additional rescue coordination centres and regional sub-centres, and to take effective action to address, to the extent feasible, the issue of unseaworthy ships and small craft within their national jurisdiction, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of cooperation for these purposes, including within the framework of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979;⁸⁵

165. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant actors in relation to disembarkation of persons rescued at sea, notes in this regard the need to implement all relevant and applicable international instruments and the importance of cooperation among States as provided for in those instruments, and underlines in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement in accordance with applicable international law;

166. *Invites* States to implement the Revised Guidelines on the Prevention of Access by Stowaways and the Allocation of Responsibilities to Seek the Successful Resolution of Stowaway Cases adopted by the International Maritime Organization on 2 December 2010;⁸⁶

167. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate in developing comprehensive approaches to international migration and development, including through dialogue on all their aspects;

168. *Also calls upon* States to take measures to protect fibre-optic submarine cables and to fully address issues relating to these cables, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

169. *Encourages* greater dialogue and cooperation among States and the relevant regional and global organizations through workshops and seminars on the protection and maintenance of fibre-optic submarine cables to promote the security of such critical communications infrastructure;

170. *Also encourages* the adoption by States of laws and regulations addressing the breaking or injury of submarine cables or pipelines beneath the high seas done wilfully or through culpable negligence by a ship flying its flag or by a person subject to its jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

171. *Affirms* the importance of maintenance, including the repair, of submarine cables, undertaken in conformity with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

⁸³ International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).

⁸⁴ International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.2, annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).

⁸⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1405, No. 23489.

⁸⁶ International Maritime Organization, document MSC 88/26/Add.1, annex 6, resolution MSC.312(88).

172. *Reaffirms* that flag, port and coastal States all bear responsibility for ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement of international instruments relating to maritime security and safety, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention, and that flag States have primary responsibility that requires further strengthening, including through increased transparency of ownership of vessels and the monitoring of organizations authorized to carry out surveys and issue certificates on their behalf, taking into account the entry into force of the Code for Recognized Organizations on 1 January 2015;⁸⁷

173. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law, in particular the Convention, and, until such action is taken, to consider declining the granting of the right to fly their flag to new vessels, suspending their registry or not opening a registry, and calls upon flag and port States to take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

174. *Recognizes* that international shipping rules and standards adopted by the International Maritime Organization in respect of maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution, complemented by best practices of the shipping industry, have led to a significant reduction in maritime accidents and pollution incidents;

175. *Notes* that audits of Member States under the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme became mandatory in January 2016 under nine mandatory International Maritime Organization instruments and are to be carried out in accordance with the Framework and the Procedures for the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme and using the International Maritime Organization Instruments Implementation Code (III Code);⁸⁸

176. *Welcomes* the adoption by the International Maritime Organization of the International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code), under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended,⁸⁹ and encourages States and competent international organizations and bodies to support the effective implementation of the requirements of the Polar Code, which entered into force on 1 January 2017;⁹⁰

177. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization on matters related to passenger ship safety in light of recent accidents, and encourages States and competent international organizations and bodies to support continued efforts, including technical cooperation activities, to improve passenger ship safety;

178. *Recognizes* that maritime safety can also be improved through effective port State control, the strengthening of regional arrangements and increased

⁸⁷ International Maritime Organization, resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65).

⁸⁸ See International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolutions A.1018(26), A.1067(28), A.1068(28) and A.1070(28).

⁸⁹ International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

⁹⁰ International Maritime Organization resolutions MSC.385(94) and MEPC.264(68) and related amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (resolution MSC.386(94)) and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (resolution MEPC.265(68)).

coordination and cooperation among them and increased transparency and information-sharing, making ample use of information systems, such as the International Maritime Organization Global Integrated Shipping Information System,⁹¹ including among safety and security sectors;

179. *Encourages* flag States to take appropriate measures sufficient to achieve or maintain recognition by intergovernmental arrangements that recognize satisfactory flag State performance, including, as appropriate, satisfactory port State control examination results on a sustained basis, with a view to improving quality shipping and furthering flag State implementation of relevant instruments under the International Maritime Organization as well as relevant goals and objectives of the present resolution;

IX

Marine environment and marine resources

180. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

181. *Calls upon* States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” as adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recalls that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

[181bis. *Reiterates, in this regard, the call made in the declaration “Our ocean, our future: call for action” for action to be taken on an urgent basis to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.*](SGP proposal) (Small group with PP10, OP10bis – Coordinated by SGP)

182. *Recalls* that in “The future we want”, States noted with concern that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, from a number of marine and land-based sources, including shipping and land run-off, and that States committed to take action to reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems, including through the effective implementation of relevant conventions adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization, and the follow-up of relevant initiatives such as the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,⁹² as well as the adoption of coordinated strategies to this end, and that they further committed to take action, by 2025, based on collected scientific data, to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

⁹¹ International Maritime Organization, resolutions A.1029(26) and A.1074(28).

⁹² A/51/116, annex II.

183. *Encourages* States, in accordance with the commitment expressed in “The future we want” and based on collected scientific data, to take action by 2025 to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

184. *Notes* the discussions at the seventeenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, which focused on the theme “Marine debris, plastics and microplastics” and which, inter alia, highlighted that the size of the problem had increased exponentially since the topic of marine debris was addressed at the sixth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in 2005, noted that marine debris in general, and plastics in particular, were some of the greatest environmental concerns of our time, along with climate change, ocean acidification and loss of biodiversity, discussed prevention and emphasized the need to address the issue, both downstream, through improved mechanisms for waste management, disposal and recycling, and upstream, by addressing consumption and production patterns, including through awareness-raising campaigns;

[184bis. *Notes also the discussions at the eighteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, which focused on the theme “The effects of climate change on oceans”⁹⁴ which, inter alia, highlighted the urgent need to address the effects of climate change on oceans; the need for international cooperation and coordination, including concerted action to combat the effects of climate change on the oceans, as well as the need for continued coordinated international focus, in particular in view of the grave implications for countries with low-lying coasts, whose very existence was under threat.](EU proposal)*

[184ter. *Notes with concern, in this regard, the environmental, social and economic impacts of anthropogenic climate change affecting the oceans on all States, in particular, developing countries, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, and also notes the imperative of immediate action to address such impacts and recognizes that owing to the interconnected nature of the oceans, ensuing environmental, social and economic impacts could not be overcome by any single State.](EU proposal)*

185. *Notes* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, notes with concern its findings on the acidification of the oceans and the substantial risks to marine ecosystems, especially polar ecosystems, coral reefs, plankton and other organisms which have a calcareous exoskeleton, or a shell, like crustaceans, and the potentially detrimental consequences for fisheries and livelihoods, as well as the findings of the World Meteorological Organization contained in its annual *Greenhouse Gas Bulletin*, and notes its decision to foster collaboration with organizations and institutions that address the carbon budget of the ocean,⁹³ and in this regard encourages States and competent international organizations and other relevant institutions, individually and in cooperation, to urgently pursue further research on ocean acidification, especially programmes of observation and measurement, noting in particular the continued work under the Convention on Biological Diversity⁹⁴ and paragraphs 6 to 10 of decision XII/23 on marine and coastal biodiversity, adopted at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea,

⁹³ World Meteorological Organization, Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress, Geneva, 25 May–12 June 2015, resolution 46 (Cg-17).

⁹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

from 6 to 17 October 2014,⁹⁵ and to increase national, regional and global efforts to address levels of ocean acidity and the negative impact of such acidity on vulnerable marine ecosystems, particularly coral reefs; *(Text to be provided by the EU)*

186. *Notes with appreciation* that, at its forty-third session, held in Nairobi, from 11 to 13 April 2016, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change decided to prepare a special report on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere;⁹⁶

187. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States called for support for initiatives that address ocean acidification and the impacts of climate change on marine and coastal ecosystems and resources and in this regard reiterated the need to work collectively to prevent further ocean acidification, as well as to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems and of the communities whose livelihoods depend on them, and to support marine scientific research, monitoring and observation of ocean acidification and particularly vulnerable ecosystems, including through enhanced international cooperation in this regard;

188. *Notes*, in this regard, the report of the third International Workshop on the Socioeconomic Impacts of Ocean Acidification, on the theme “Bridging the gap between ocean acidification and economic valuation”, organized by the Scientific Centre of Monaco and the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and notes the holding of the next workshop, in Monaco, from 15 to 17 October 2017; *(MON to provide updates during the second round)*

189. *Notes with concern* the approximately 30 per cent increase in the acidity of ocean surface waters since the beginning of the industrial era⁹⁷ and the wide range of impacts associated with the continuing and alarming acidification of the world’s oceans, and urges States to make significant efforts to tackle the causes of ocean acidification, recognizing countries’ national circumstances and respective capabilities, and to further study and minimize its impacts, to enhance local, national, regional and global cooperation in this regard, including the sharing of relevant information and the development of worldwide capacity, including in developing countries, to measure ocean acidification, and to take steps to make marine ecosystems healthier and, as a result, more resilient, to the extent possible, to the impacts of ocean acidification;

190. *Recognizes* the attention paid to ocean acidification at the fourteenth [\[and eighteenth\]\(USA proposal\)](#) meeting[s][\(USA proposal\)](#) of the Informal Consultative Process, and commits itself to continue to pay attention to this important issue, including by taking into account the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment and the ongoing work of the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre [\[and the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network\]\(USA proposal\)](#);

191. *Encourages* States, individually or in collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to enhance their scientific activity to better understand the effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity [\[support continued coordination of scientific work to study and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification\]\(USA proposal\)](#) and develop ways and

⁹⁵ See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, Sect. I.

⁹⁶ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, decision IPCC/XXIII-6.

⁹⁷ As stated in the 2013 report of Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the physical science basis of climate change.

means of adaptation, taking into account, as appropriate, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches;

192. *Notes* the vital role that coastal blue carbon ecosystems, including mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses, play in climate adaptation and mitigation through carbon sequestration, and in increasing the resilience of coastal ecosystems to ocean acidification, and the range of other benefits that these ecosystems provide, including sustainable livelihoods, food security and biodiversity conservation, and coastal protection, and encourages States and relevant international institutions and organizations to work collaboratively to protect and restore coastal blue carbon ecosystems;

193. *Welcomes* the Paris Agreement⁹⁸ and its early entry into force on 4 November 2016, encourages all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁹⁹ that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible, and recognizes the importance of raising awareness of the adverse impact of climate change on the marine environment, marine biodiversity and sea level;

194. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the convening of the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the second part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement in Bonn, Germany, from 6 to 17 November 2017; *[OP may require updating]*

195. DELETED

196. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, including the dumping of wastes and other matter, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for preparedness for, response to and cooperation on pollution incidents and that include provisions on liability and compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with international law, including the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

197. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States noted the significant threat that alien invasive species pose to marine ecosystems and resources and committed to implement measures to prevent the introduction and manage the adverse environmental impacts of alien invasive species, including, as appropriate, those adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization;

198. *Notes with satisfaction* that the conditions for the entry into force of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,¹⁰⁰ have been fulfilled and that that Convention entered into

⁹⁸ See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

⁹⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

¹⁰⁰ International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.

force on 8 September 2017, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to it;

199. *Encourages* States, directly or through competent international organizations, to consider the further development and application, as appropriate and consistent with international law, including the Convention, of environmental impact assessment processes covering planned activities under their jurisdiction or control that may cause substantial pollution of or significant and harmful changes to the marine environment, and also encourages the communication of the reports of the results of such assessments to the competent international organizations in accordance with the Convention;

[199bis. *Further encourages* States, [directly or through competent international organizations,](JPN proposal to delete) in the development and application of such environmental impact assessment processes, to consider, as appropriate[, cumulative] impacts on the marine environment;](NZE proposal)

200. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to regional seas conventions and the protocols thereto addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

201. *Encourages* States, in accordance with international law, including the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

202. *Recognizes* the importance of improving understanding of the impact of climate change on oceans and seas, and recalls that in “The future we want”, States noted that sea-level rise and coastal erosion are serious threats for many coastal regions and islands, particularly in developing countries and in this regard called upon the international community to enhance its efforts to address these challenges;

203. *Notes with concern* the severe impacts on coastal communities of extreme weather events, such as tropical cyclones and associated storm surges, and encourages cooperative actions by relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, including the World Meteorological Organization, to assist States in improving forecasting of such events and its application in multi-hazard early warning systems and risk management;

204. *Notes with concern* that the health of the oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine debris, especially plastic, from land-based and marine sources, and notes that the “UNEP frontiers 2016 report” identifies microplastics as one of six key emerging environmental issues;

205. *Recognizes* the need for better understanding of the sources, amounts, pathways, distribution, trends, nature and impacts of marine debris, especially plastics and microplastics, and to examine possible measures and best available techniques and environmental practices to prevent its accumulation and minimize its levels in the marine environment, and welcomes in this regard the work conducted under the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, led by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and its report entitled “Sources, fate and effects of microplastics in the marine environment — a global assessment”, and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations

Environment Programme on marine plastic debris and microplastics, which reviews best-available knowledge and experiences in this regard and gives recommendations for further steps to reduce plastic litter and microplastic in the oceans;¹⁰¹

206. *Calls upon* States to implement resolution 2/11 on marine plastic litter and microplastics, adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its second session, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016;¹²

207. *Acknowledges* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly in paragraph 21 of its resolution 2/11 to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in close cooperation with other relevant bodies and organizations, to undertake an assessment of the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and subregional governance strategies and approaches to combat marine plastic litter and microplastics, taking into consideration the relevant international, regional and subregional regulatory frameworks and identifying possible gaps and options for addressing them, including through regional cooperation and coordination, and to submit the assessment at the next session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, within available resources for this purpose;

208. *Welcomes* the activities of relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization and other intergovernmental organizations, to address the sources and impacts of marine debris, including through the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, as well as actions relating to marine debris taken under the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹⁰² the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,¹⁰³ in particular the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to that Convention at its eleventh meeting of resolution 11.30 on management of marine debris, and notes the work of the International Whaling Commission on assessing the impacts of marine debris on cetaceans;

209. *Encourages* States to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the biological diversity, health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss, and [encourages](*NOR proposal to delete*) [to cooperate with industry, civil society and other] (*NOR proposal*) States [to cooperate] (*NOR proposal to delete*), as appropriate, [on environmentally sound and cost-effective measures] (*NOR proposal*) to [address](*NOR proposal to delete*) [prevent and reduce](*NOR proposal*) marine debris and microplastics in the marine environment[, including through strengthened cooperation under the Global Partnership on Marine Litter](*NOR proposal*);

210. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national and, as appropriate, regional strategies dealing with waste management, especially in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, to consider developing an integrated waste management infrastructure and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives with the aim of reducing marine debris to address this issue, including the development of cost-

¹⁰¹ UNEP/EA.2/5.

¹⁰² Decision XIII/10 (CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/10).

¹⁰³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 28395.

recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and support for measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from any source, including land-based sources, such as community-based coastal and waterway clean-up and monitoring activities, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to identify potential sources and coastal and oceanic locations where marine debris aggregates and to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris as well as to raise awareness of the issue of marine debris and the need to consider environmentally sound options for its removal;

211. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to prevent pollution from ships, including through the designation of Special Areas under the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended,¹⁰⁴ and encourages the International Maritime Organization to continue working on the prevention of pollution from ships;

212. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (annex VI - Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended;¹⁰⁵

213. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Protocol);

214. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization and the resolution on International Maritime Organization policies and practices related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships;¹⁰⁶

215. *Urges* States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in port waste reception facilities in accordance with the action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities developed by the International Maritime Organization;

216. *Recognizes* that most of the pollution load of the oceans emanates from land-based activities and affects the most productive areas of the marine environment, and calls upon States, as a matter of priority, to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and to take all appropriate measures to fulfil the commitments of the international community embodied in the Manila Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;¹⁰⁷

217. *Encourages* States to take part in the Fourth Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, to be held in Indonesia in 2017; [\(25 to 27 October 2017; to be updated during the second round\)](#)

¹⁰⁴ International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, annex IV (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by sewage from ships) and annex V (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships).

¹⁰⁵ International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

¹⁰⁶ International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.963(23).

¹⁰⁷ United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP(DEPI)/GPA/IGR.3/6, annex.

218. *Expresses its concern* regarding the spreading of hypoxic dead zones and harmful algal blooms in oceans as a result of eutrophication fuelled by riverine runoff of fertilizers, sewage outfall and reactive nitrogen resulting from the burning of fossil fuels and resulting in serious consequences for ecosystem functioning, and calls upon States to enhance their efforts to reduce eutrophication, particularly by reducing total nutrient pollution from land-based sources and, to this effect, to continue to cooperate within the framework of relevant international organizations, [\[through, inter alia, capacity building initiatives on harmful algal blooms and intense efforts to monitoring programs through an integrated observing system for developing countries, including adverse impacts on human health and research on both sargassum seaweed invasion and jellyfish blooms along coastal areas, and\]\(MEX proposal\)](#) in particular the Global Programme of Action and the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and Global Wastewater Initiative;

219. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that urban and coastal development projects and related land-reclamation activities are carried out in a responsible manner that protects the marine habitat and environment and mitigates the negative consequences of such activities;

220. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to take, as soon as possible, the domestic measures necessary to enable them to meet their obligations upon ratification and thereafter to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Minamata Convention on Mercury;¹⁰⁸ [\(Reference to its entry into force on 16 August 2017 to be added\)](#)

221. *Welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between fresh water, the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹⁰⁹ and of the time-bound targets in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),²¹ in particular the target on sanitation, and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;¹¹⁰

222. *Recalls* the resolution of the thirtieth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Convention) and the third Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 27 to 31 October 2008, on the regulation of ocean fertilization,¹¹¹ in which the Contracting Parties agreed, inter alia, that the scope of the London Convention and Protocol includes ocean fertilization activities and that, given the present state of knowledge, ocean fertilization activities other than for legitimate scientific research should not be allowed, and that scientific research proposals should be assessed on a case-by-case basis using an assessment framework to be developed by the scientific groups under the London Convention and Protocol, and also agreed that, to this end, such other activities should be considered as contrary to the aims of the London Convention and Protocol and should not currently qualify for any exemption from the definition

¹⁰⁸ United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4, annex II.

¹⁰⁹ Resolution 55/2.

¹¹⁰ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

¹¹¹ International Maritime Organization, document LC 30/16, annex 6, resolution LC-LP.1 (2008).

of dumping in article III, paragraph 1 (b), of the London Convention and article 1, paragraph 4.2, of the London Protocol;

223. *Also recalls* the resolution of the thirty-second Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Convention and the fifth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 11 to 15 October 2010, on the Assessment Framework for Scientific Research Involving Ocean Fertilization;¹¹²

224. *Notes* the continued work of the Contracting Parties to the London Convention and Protocol towards a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism for ocean fertilization activities and other activities that fall within the scope of the London Convention and Protocol and have the potential to cause harm to the marine environment, and notes the resolution adopted by the eighth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 14 to 18 October 2013, on the amendment to the London Protocol to regulate the placement of matter for ocean fertilization and other marine geoengineering activities;¹¹³

225. *Recalls* decision IX/16 C, adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008,¹¹⁴ in which the Conference of the Parties, inter alia, bearing in mind the ongoing scientific and legal analysis occurring under the auspices of the London Convention and Protocol, requested parties and urged other Governments, in accordance with the precautionary approach, to ensure that ocean fertilization activities were not carried out until there was an adequate scientific basis on which to justify such activities, including an assessment of associated risks, and that a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism was in place for those activities, with the exception of small-scale scientific research studies within coastal waters, and stated that such studies should be authorized only if justified by the need to gather specific scientific data, should be subject to a thorough prior assessment of the potential impacts of the research studies on the marine environment, should be strictly controlled and should not be used for generating and selling carbon offsets or for any other commercial purposes, and takes note of decision X/29, adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010,¹¹⁵ in which the Conference of the Parties requested parties to implement decision IX/16 C;

226. *Also recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States stressed their concern about the potential environmental impacts of ocean fertilization, recalled in this regard the decisions related to ocean fertilization adopted by the relevant intergovernmental bodies, and resolved to continue addressing ocean fertilization with utmost caution, consistent with the precautionary approach;

227. *Reaffirms* paragraph 119 of resolution 61/222 of 20 December 2006 regarding ecosystem approaches and oceans, including the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach, and in this regard:

¹¹² International Maritime Organization, document LC 32/15 and Corr.1, annex 5, resolution LC-LP.2 (2010).

¹¹³ International Maritime Organization, document LC 35/15, annex 4, resolution LP.4(8).

¹¹⁴ See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

¹¹⁵ See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

(a) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management actions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(b) Also notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and conserve marine biodiversity;

(c) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010, and in this context encourages States to enhance their efforts towards applying such an approach;

(d) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

228. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States committed themselves to protect and restore the health, productivity and resilience of oceans and marine ecosystems, to maintain their biodiversity, enabling their conservation and sustainable use for present and future generations, and to effectively apply an ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach in the management, in accordance with international law, of activities having an impact on the marine environment, to deliver on all three dimensions of sustainable development;

229. *Encourages* competent organizations and bodies that have not yet done so to incorporate an ecosystem approach into their mandates, as appropriate, in order to address impacts on marine ecosystems;

230. *Acknowledges* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, in paragraph 6 of its resolution 2/10, to the United Nations Environment Programme to step up its work, including through its Regional Seas Programme, on assisting countries and regions in the application of the ecosystem approach to managing the marine and coastal environment, including through enabling intersectoral cooperation in integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning.¹¹

231. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with and assistance to developing States, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

232. *Notes* the information compiled by the Secretariat¹¹⁶ in relation to the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans, as provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, and urges them to provide information for the annual report of the Secretary-General and for incorporation on the website of the Division;

233. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009¹¹⁷ to facilitate its entry into force;

234. *Encourages* continued cooperation between the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal¹¹⁸ and the International Maritime Organization on regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships;

235. *Notes* the role of the Basel Convention in protecting the marine environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes;

236. *Notes with concern* the potential for serious environmental consequences resulting from oil spill incidents or pollution incidents involving hazardous or noxious substances, urges States, consistent with international law, to cooperate, directly or through competent international organizations, and share best practices, in the fields of protection of the marine environment, human health and safety, prevention, emergency response and mitigation, and in this regard encourages the undertaking of and collaboration on scientific research, including marine scientific research, to better understand the consequences of marine oil spills or marine spills involving hazardous or noxious substances;

237. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990,¹¹⁹ and the Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000, of the International Maritime Organization, and in this regard to consider developing and joining regional arrangements to enhance international cooperation for combating major oil and hazardous substances pollution incidents;

238. *Encourages* States to consider becoming parties to the 2010 Protocol to the 1996 International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea;¹²⁰

X

Marine biodiversity

239. *Reaffirms* its central role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

¹¹⁶ A/63/342.

¹¹⁷ International Maritime Organization, document SR/CONF/45.

¹¹⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. 1891, No. 32194.

¹²⁰ International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.17/10.

240. *Notes* the work and contributions of States and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies in the context of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

241. *Recalls*, in this regard, its resolution 69/292, entitled “Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction”;

242. *Acknowledges* the rich discussions and exchange of views at the ~~first and second sessions of the Preparatory Committee established by resolution 69/292, held from 28 March to 8 April and from 26 August to 9 September 2016, respectively;~~~~(MEX proposal to delete)~~ ~~[four sessions of the Preparatory Committee established by resolution 69/292, held from 28 March to 8 April 2016, from 26 August to 9 September 2016, from 27 March to 7 April 2017, and from 10 to 21 July 2017, respectively.]~~~~(MEX proposal)~~ ~~[two sessions in 2016 and two sessions in 2017.]~~~~(ICL proposal)~~ ~~[four sessions which concluded on 21 July 2017.]~~~~(SGP proposal)~~ and ~~[notes in this regard that the third and fourth sessions of the Preparatory Committee are scheduled to be held in 2017.]~~~~(MEX proposal to delete)~~ ~~[[takes note of]~~~~(EU proposal to delete)~~ ~~[welcomes]~~~~(EU proposal)~~ the Report of the Preparatory Committee,¹²¹ and the recommendations contained therein~~(MEX proposal)~~;

243. DELETED

244. DELETED

245. *Recognizes* the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources and their value in terms of the benefits, goods and services they can provide;

246. *Also recognizes* the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

247. *Encourages* States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and partnerships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way to support, promote and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research, taking into account, in particular, the need to create greater taxonomic capabilities;

248. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity¹²² and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,¹²³ and, while reiterating the central role of the General Assembly relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, notes with appreciation the complementary technical and scientific work done by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

¹²¹ Available at http://www.un.org/Depts/los/biodiversity/prepcom_files/Procedural_report_of_BBNJ_PrepCom.pdf

¹²² See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

¹²³ United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

249. *Reaffirms* the need for States, individually or through competent international organizations, to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and the precautionary approach and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

250. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take further action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

251. *Calls upon* States to strengthen, in a manner consistent with international law, in particular the Convention, the [\[protection.\]\(MEX proposal\)](#) conservation and management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and national policies in relation to [\[area-based conservation measures, including\]\(CAN proposal\)](#) marine protected areas [\[and other area-based management tools\]\(JPN proposal\)](#) [\[and other effective conservation measures\]\(NZE proposal\)](#);

252. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States reaffirmed the importance of area-based conservation measures, including marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on best available scientific information, as a tool for conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, and noted decision X/2 of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, that by 2020, 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures;¹¹⁵

253. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to further progress towards the establishment of marine protected areas [\[and other effective area-based conservation measures\]\(JPN proposal\)](#), including representative networks, [\[regional and global initiatives.\]\(MEX proposal\)](#) and calls upon States to further consider options [\[or processes at the multilateral, regional and sectoral levels\]\(MEX proposal\)](#) to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas, consistent with international law and on the basis of the best available scientific information;

[\[253bis. Acknowledges that several States have already achieved the goal 11 enshrined in decision X/2 of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages other States to identify the measures to be taken in order to \[comply with\]\(AUS proposal to delete\) \[achieve the goal 11 in\]\(AUS proposal\) the aforementioned decision.\]\(MEX proposal\)](#)

254. *Reaffirms* the need for States to continue and intensify their efforts, directly and through competent international organizations, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas [\[and other effective area-based conservation measures\]\(CAN proposal\)](#), consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on the best scientific information available;

255. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification

[and prioritization](*MEX proposal*) of marine areas that may require protection, in the light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, such as ecosystem approaches and the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on scientific information, including representative networks;²¹

256. *Recalls* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its ninth meeting, adopted scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats and scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish a representative network of marine protected areas, including in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats,¹²⁴ and notes the ongoing work under the Convention on Biological Diversity on the application of the scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas through the organization of a series of regional workshops;

257. *Also recalls* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed guidance for the identification of vulnerable marine ecosystems through the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas, and notes its ongoing work to support application of the Guidelines by States and to maintain a database of vulnerable marine ecosystems;

258. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and notes in this regard the global dialogue with regional seas organizations and regional fisheries bodies on accelerating progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, held in Seoul, from 26 to 29 September 2016;

259. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to identify and designate as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas marine areas which are recognized for their significance in terms of ecological, socioeconomic or scientific criteria and are vulnerable to damage by international shipping activities;¹²⁵

260. *Acknowledges* the Micronesia Challenge, the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project, the Caribbean Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative, which, in particular, seek to create and link domestic marine protected areas to better facilitate ecosystem approaches [and connectivity](*MEX proposal*), and reaffirms the need for further international cooperation, coordination and collaboration in support of such initiatives;

261. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, notes the International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting, held in Paris from 2 to 4 November 2016, and supports the elaborated programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity; (*Meeting scheduled to be held from 7 to 9 December*)

262. *Recalls* that, in “The future we want”, States recognized the significant economic, social and environmental contributions of coral reefs, in particular to

¹²⁴ United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/20, annexes I and II.

¹²⁵ International Maritime Organization, Revised Guidelines for the Identification and Designation of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, Assembly resolution A.982(24).

islands and other coastal States, as well as the significant vulnerability of coral reefs and mangroves to impacts, including from climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, destructive fishing practices and pollution, and supported international cooperation with a view to conserving coral reef and mangrove ecosystems and realizing their social, economic and environmental benefits, as well as facilitating technical collaboration and voluntary information-sharing;

263. *Encourages* States and relevant international institutions to improve efforts to address coral bleaching by, inter alia, improving monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events, supporting and strengthening action taken during such events and improving strategies to manage reefs to support their natural resilience and enhance their ability to withstand other pressures, including ocean acidification, and in this regard also encourages States to implement the priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems, adopted by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;⁹⁵ *(EU will provide text)*

264. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

265. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

266. *Notes* that ocean noise has potential significant adverse impacts on living marine resources, affirms the importance of sound scientific studies in addressing this matter, encourages further research, studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on living marine resources, notes the work of States and competent international organizations in that regard, and requests the Division to continue to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and intergovernmental organizations pursuant to paragraph 107 of resolution 61/222 and, as appropriate, to make them, or references and links to them, available on its website;

267. *Notes* the approval by the International Maritime Organization of Guidelines for the Reduction of Underwater Noise from Commercial Shipping to Address Adverse Impacts on Marine Life, and invites the International Maritime Organization to promote and encourage their implementation for existing ships and new vessels, when appropriate, including by promoting measures that may reduce cavitation;¹²⁶

[267bis. Encourages further research into vessel quieting technologies in order to reduce the impact of underwater noise on marine life:] (EU proposal)

XI

Marine science

268. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with competent international organizations and bodies, to continue to strive to

¹²⁶ International Maritime Organization, document MEPC.1/Circ.833, annex.

improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

269. *Encourages*, in that regard, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the Endowment Fund of the International Seabed Authority in order to promote the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the international seabed area by supporting the participation of qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries in relevant programmes, initiatives and activities;

270. *Notes with concern* that human-related threats, such as marine debris, ship strikes, underwater noise, persistent contaminants, coastal development activities, oil spills and discarded fishing gear, together may severely impact marine life, including its higher trophic levels, and calls upon States and competent international organizations to cooperate and coordinate their research efforts in this regard so as to reduce these impacts and preserve the integrity of the whole marine ecosystem, while fully respecting the mandates of relevant international organizations;

271. *Welcomes* the programme entitled “Promote and facilitate the conduct of marine scientific research under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea” of the Division and the Korea Maritime Institute carried out in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission with the aim of assisting developing countries, especially small island developing States, to build their capacities in the field of marine scientific research, and notes with appreciation that the second course under the programme was developed with the cooperation of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and delivered in Castries, Saint Lucia, from 2 to 5 May 2017;

272. *Invites* all relevant organizations, funds, programmes and bodies within the United Nations system, in consultation with interested States, to coordinate relevant activities with regional and national marine scientific and technological centres in small island developing States, as appropriate, to ensure the more effective achievement of their objectives in accordance with relevant United Nations small island developing States development programmes and strategies;

273. *Welcomes* the resolution adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-eighth session, held in Paris from 18 to 25 June 2015, regarding the adoption of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition as an important catalyst project linking Indian Ocean processes to the global ocean and atmosphere, officially launched in Goa, India, on 4 December 2015 for an initial period of five years, invites States to participate in this initiative, and notes that two nodes of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition Joint Project Office have been established to coordinate operations of the expedition in Perth, Australia, and Hyderabad, India;

274. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, with the advice of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea, on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention;

275. *Also notes with appreciation* the work of the Advisory Body of Experts, including its work in cooperation with the Division, on the practice of member States related to marine scientific research and transfer of marine technology within

the framework of the Convention, and welcomes the decision of the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its forty-fifth session, held in Paris from 26 to 28 June 2012, that the Advisory Body will continue its work focused on priorities as tasked by Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission governing bodies in line with the terms of reference, mobilizing extrabudgetary resources when necessary;

276. *Recalls* the issuance of the revised publication entitled *Marine Scientific Research: A guide to the implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* in December 2010, and requests the Secretariat to continue to make efforts to publish the guide in all official languages of the United Nations;

[276bis. Notes that the depth of a significant percentage of the world's oceans, seas and waterways has yet to be measured directly and that bathymetric knowledge underpins the safe, sustainable and cost effective execution of almost every human activity in, on or under the sea;](USA proposal)

[276ter. Welcomes the work of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) Project under the International Hydrographic Organization and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and in particular the outcome of the Forum for Future Ocean Floor Mapping, held June 2016 in Monaco, and subsequent development by the GEBCO Guiding Committee of the Seabed 2030 proposal for improving bathymetry globally;](USA proposal)

[276quater. Encourages Member States to consider contributing to mechanisms that encourage the widest possible availability of all bathymetric data, so as to support the sustainable development, management and governance of the marine environment;](USA proposal)

277. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution to marine biodiversity research of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System, a free and open-access data holding and sharing facility, hosted by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

278. *Welcomes* the increasing attention being focused on oceans as a potential source of renewable energy, and notes in this regard the summary of discussions of the Informal Consultative Process at its thirteenth meeting;¹²⁷

279. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans-atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observing System, sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council for Science, particularly considering their role in monitoring and forecasting climate change and variability and in the establishment and operation of tsunami warning systems;

280. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment and operation of regional and national tsunami warning and mitigation systems, also welcomes the continued collaboration of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations in this effort, further welcomes the development and recent

¹²⁷ A/67/120], points 1 to 3, subsection b](MEX proposal).

dissemination of the new Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System and the development of Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions, which will assist countries in the Pacific and the Caribbean to assess tsunami threats and issue warnings, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters;

281. *Stresses* the need for continued efforts in developing mitigation and preparedness measures for natural disasters, particularly following tsunami events caused by earthquakes, such as the 11 March 2011 event in Japan;

282. *Urges* States to take necessary action and to cooperate in relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to address damage to ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law, including through education and outreach about the importance and purpose of these buoys, and by strengthening these buoys against such damage, and increasing reporting of such damage;

283. DELETED

[EU coordinating a small group on IOC input concerning the International (United Nations) Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development]

XII

Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

(The section has been updated to reflect the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole)

284. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the regular scientific assessment of the state of the marine environment in order to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking;

285. [DELETED]

[285alt. Reaffirms the importance of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment (“the first World Ocean Assessment”), as the outcome of the first cycle of the Regular Process;]

286. [DELETED]

[286alt. Recalls the importance of making Governments, United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community and the general public aware of the first World Ocean Assessment and the Regular Process, and recognizes with appreciation the activities undertaken in this regard during various intergovernmental meetings including the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held from 5 to 9 June 2017, in particular those of the secretariat of the Regular Process;]

287. [DELETED]

[287alt. *Recalls that, in the first cycle, the scope of the Regular Process focused on establishing a baseline, and decides that the scope of the second cycle would extend to evaluating trends and identifying gaps;]*

288. [DELETED]

[288alt. *Welcomes the holding of the eighth and ninth meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, from 17 to 18 April 2017 and 6 to 8 September 2017, respectively, in accordance with paragraph 317 of General Assembly resolution 71/257;]*

289. [DELETED]

[289alt. *Takes note of the recommendations and guidance adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its eighth meeting and endorses the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its ninth meeting;]*

290. [DELETED]

[290alt. *Takes note with appreciation of the Technical Abstracts of the first World Ocean Assessment” on “The Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction”; on “The Ocean and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”; and on “The Impacts of Climate Change and Related Changes in the Atmosphere on the Oceans” prepared in accordance with the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;]*

291. [DELETED]

[291alt. *Also notes with appreciation that advance unedited copies of the Abstracts were made available to the Preparatory Committee established by General Assembly resolution 69/292: Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, the eighteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, and to the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;]*

292. [DELETED]

[292alt. *Recognizes with appreciation the work of the members of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process with respect to the preparation of the Technical Abstracts, as well as the contribution of a number of members from the writing teams of the Pool of Experts of the first cycle of the Regular Process, in accordance with paragraph 309 of resolution 71/257, to this exercise;]*

293. [DELETED]

[293alt. *Recalls that the Regular Process shall be overseen and guided by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, and decides that the Working Group shall facilitate the delivery of the outputs of the second cycle as outlined in the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;]*

294. [DELETED]

[294alt. *Recognizes* with appreciation the important role of the Co-Chairs and the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in providing guidance during the intersessional periods, including in operationalizing the second cycle of the Regular Process;]

295. [DELETED]

[295alt. *Requests* the Bureau to continue to implement 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 period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;]

296. [DELETED]

[296alt. *Takes* note of the endorsement by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the Terms of reference and working methods of the Group of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process, prepared in accordance with paragraph 310 of resolution 71/257;^{128]}

297. [DELETED]

[297alt. *Takes* note of the mechanism for the establishment of the Pool of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process¹²⁹ developed by the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in accordance with paragraph 311 of resolution 71/257, and encourages the appointment of experts to the Pool of Experts in accordance with the mechanism;]

298. [DELETED]

[298alt. *Welcomes* the expressions of interest of individuals who served in the Pool of Experts during the first cycle of the Regular Process to serve in the Pool of Experts for the second cycle;]

299. [DELETED]

[299alt. *Takes* note of the Terms of reference for National Focal Points developed by the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;^{130]}

300. [DELETED]

[300alt. *Welcomes* the designation by States of National Focal Points pursuant to paragraph 312 of resolution 71/257 and urges States that have not yet done so to designate their National Focal Points as soon as possible;]

301. [DELETED]

[301alt. *Urges* regional groups that have not yet done so to appoint experts to the Group of Experts in accordance with paragraph 287 of resolution 71/257, taking into account the need to ensure geographical distribution and adequate expertise in socioeconomic disciplines;]

302. [DELETED]

[302alt. *Takes* note of the adoption by the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of Guidelines to assist the first round of workshops of the

¹²⁸ A/72/89, annex.

¹²⁹ A/72/[...], annex I.

¹³⁰ A/72/[...], annex II.

second cycle of the Regular Process¹³¹ finalized by the Group of Experts in consultation with the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole and secretariat of the Regular Process;]

303. [DELETED]

[303alt. Welcomes the holding of the workshops in support of the Regular Process in Lisbon, Portugal, in September 2017; in Auckland, New Zealand, in October 2017, in Camboriú, Brazil, in November 2017, in Bangkok, Thailand, in November 2017, and in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, in December;]

304. [DELETED]

[304alt. Takes note of the “Elements for discussion on the shape and structure of the assessment (or assessments)” to be carried out in the second cycle of the Regular Process prepared by the Group of Experts, in accordance with the programme of work and decides that in the elaboration of an outline, the Group of Experts should proceed on the basis of the preparation of a single comprehensive assessment;]

305. [DELETED]

[305alt. Recalls the crucial importance of the Regular Process for on-going ocean-related intergovernmental processes and its possible inputs, including for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction; the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the Informal Consultative Process, as outlined in the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;]

306. [DELETED]

[306alt. Recalls the importance of ensuring that assessments, such as those included in the *Global Sustainable Development Report* and those prepared under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Science - Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Regular Process, support one another and avoid unnecessary duplication, and also recalls the importance of compatibility and synergies between such assessments and assessments at the regional level;] (OP 293 of resolution 71/257)

307. [DELETED]

[307alt. Requests intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide information on recent and ongoing assessments and other processes at the regional and global levels relevant to the Regular Process in order for the secretariat to update the inventory of recent and ongoing assessments and other processes at the regional and global levels relevant to the Regular Process;]

308. [DELETED]

[308alt. Takes note of the “Guidance for Contributors – Part I” prepared by the Group of Experts pursuant to paragraph 310 of resolution 71/257;¹³²]

309. [DELETED]

¹³¹ A/72/[...], annex III.

¹³² See A/72/[...], annex IV.

[309alt. Takes note with appreciation of the work undertaken thus far by the secretariat in compiling a capacity-building inventory of needs and opportunities relevant for the Regular Process, in accordance with the programme of work, based on information contributed by relevant United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes and by relevant intergovernmental organizations;]

310. [DELETED]

[310alt. Invites States and non-governmental organizations, as well as intergovernmental organizations that have not already done so, to provide relevant information for inclusion in the capacity-building inventory of needs and opportunities relevant for the Regular Process being compiled and maintained by the secretariat;]

311. [DELETED]

[311alt. Recalls its invitation in paragraph 313 of resolution 71/257 to 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 second cycle of the Regular Process with regard to the following activities: awareness-raising, the identification of experts for the Pool of Experts, technical and scientific support for the Bureau and the Group of Experts, hosting workshops and meetings of the writing teams, capacity-building and the scoping process for the assessment;]

312. [DELETED]

[312alt. Welcomes the adoption, by the twenty-ninth Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, of Decision IOC-XXIX/8.2, in particular regarding the provision of technical and scientific support to the second cycle of the Regular Process in accordance with the guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;]

313. [DELETED]

[313alt. Recalls its invitation in paragraph 314 of resolution 71/257 to relevant intergovernmental organizations to contribute, as appropriate, to the activities of the second cycle;]

314. [DELETED]

[314alt. 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;¹³³]

315. [DELETED]

[315alt. Requests the Secretary-General to convene, in 2018, two meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of no more than four days total duration: one in the first half of 2018 to approve the outline of the assessment and another in the second half of 2018, with a view to providing recommendations to the

¹³³ See resolution 69/245, para. 278.

~~seventy-third session of the General Assembly on the preparation of the assessment to be carried out in the second cycle and on the implementation of the second cycle, and encourages the widest possible attendance of participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;] (Dates will need to be reflected)~~

316. [DELETED]

317. [DELETED]

XIII

Regional cooperation

~~[318. Notes that there have been a number of initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention, also notes in that context the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, notes once again the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;](NOR proposal to delete) (Small group with OP319, OP320, OP321, OP321bis, OP322, OP323bis, OP329bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)~~

319. Notes with appreciation efforts at the regional level to further the implementation of the Convention and respond, including through capacity-building, to issues related to maritime safety and security, the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity; (Small group with OP318, OP320, OP321, OP321bis, OP322, OP323bis, OP329bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)

~~[320. Welcomes the adoption of the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway⁴⁴ and the new modalities set forth for strengthened action on a range of small island developing States challenges and priorities, including challenges related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, and the preservation of the marine environment, and reaffirms its commitment to work with small island developing States towards full implementation of the Samoa Pathway to ensure its success;](NOR proposal to delete) (Small group with OP318, OP319, OP321, OP321bis, OP322, OP323bis, OP329bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)~~

321. Invites States and international organizations to enhance their cooperation to better protect the marine environment[, conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources, and enhance marine scientific research](NOR

⁴⁴Resolution 69/15, annex.

proposal); (Small group with OP318, OP319, OP320, OP321bis, OP322, OP323bis, OP329bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)

[321bis. Notes the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, notes once again the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;] (NOR proposal – formerly second part of 318) (Small group with OP318, OP319, OP320, OP321, OP322, OP323bis, OP329bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)

322. Notes, in this regard, at its seventy-[first](EU proposal to delete) [second](EU proposal) session, the [memorandum of understanding between the Mediterranean Action Plan under the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean and the memorandum of understanding between the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution and the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan](EU proposal to delete) [Memorandum of Understanding between the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS) and the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) to provide a framework of cooperation and understanding, and to facilitate collaboration between the Parties to further their shared goals and objectives in regard to the conservation of marine environment and ecosystems in their fields of competence](EU proposal); (Small group with OP318, OP319, OP320, OP321, OP321bis, OP323bis, OP329bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)

323. Recognizes the results of the International Polar Year, 2007–2008 with particular emphasis on new knowledge about the linkages between environmental change in the polar regions and global climate systems, and encourages States and scientific communities to strengthen their cooperation in this respect;

[323bis. Acknowledges the important contributions to scientific understanding of the marine environment and its resources, as well as the scientific advice for their sustainable use, provided by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) in their wide-ranging cooperation with organizations at the regional level under the 1964 ICES convention;](NOR proposal) (Small group with OP318, OP319, OP320, OP321, OP321bis, OP322, OP329bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)

324. Welcomes regional cooperation, and in this regard notes the Pacific Oceanscape Framework as an initiative to enhance cooperation among coastal States in the Pacific island region to foster marine conservation and sustainable development;

325. Notes with appreciation the various cooperative efforts displayed by States at the regional and subregional levels, and in this regard welcomes initiatives, such as the Integrated Assessment and Management of the Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem;

326. Acknowledges relevant cooperation among the members of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic;

327. *Recalls* the decision of the Assembly of the African Union in January 2015 to adopt Agenda 2063, also recalls that the African Union launched the Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015–2025), and notes that the African Day of the Seas and Oceans is to be celebrated annually on 25 July;

328. *Notes* the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 by the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,¹³⁵ following the comprehensive 10-year review of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,¹³⁶ and also notes the need for cooperation to address the development needs and challenges faced by landlocked developing countries associated with, inter alia, their lack of direct territorial access to the sea, remoteness and isolation from world markets, in line with the objectives of the Vienna Programme of Action;

329. *Also notes* the efforts of the Sargasso Sea Commission, led by the Government of Bermuda, to raise awareness of the ecological significance of the Sargasso Sea;

[329bis. *Notes* the adoption of the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation;](NOR proposal) (Small group with OP318, OP319, OP320, OP321, OP321bis, OP322, OP323bis, and OP329ter – Coordinated by NOR)

[329ter. *Notes* the cooperation between the Northeast Atlantic Organization (OSPAR) and the Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC);](NOR proposal) (Small group with OP318, OP319, OP320, OP321, OP321bis, OP322, OP323bis, and OP329bis – Coordinated by NOR)

XIV

Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

330. *Welcomes* the report of the Co-Chairs on the work of the Informal Consultative Process at its eighteenth meeting, which focused on the theme of the effects of climate change on oceans;⁴

331. *Recognizes* the role of the Informal Consultative Process as a unique forum for comprehensive discussions on issues related to oceans and the law of the sea, consistent with the framework provided by the Convention and chapter 17 of Agenda 21,⁷ and that the perspective of the three pillars of sustainable development should be further enhanced in the examination of the selected topics;

332. *Welcomes* the work of the Informal Consultative Process and its contribution to improving coordination and cooperation between States and

¹³⁵ Resolution 69/137, annex II.

¹³⁶ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.*

strengthening the annual debate of the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea by effectively drawing attention to key issues and current trends;

333. *Also welcomes* efforts to improve and focus the work of the Informal Consultative Process, and in that respect recognizes the primary role of the Informal Consultative Process in integrating knowledge, the exchange of opinions among multiple stakeholders and coordination among competent agencies, and enhancing awareness of topics, including emerging issues, while promoting the three pillars of sustainable development, and recommends that the Informal Consultative Process devise a transparent, objective and inclusive process for the selection of topics and panellists so as to facilitate the work of the General Assembly during informal consultations concerning the annual resolution on oceans and the law of the sea;

334. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Informal Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the Co-Chairs to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Informal Consultative Process;

335. *Also recalls* that a further review of the effectiveness and utility of the Informal Consultative Process will be undertaken by the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

336. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, the nineteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in New York from ~~15 to 19 May 2017~~ [...] to [...] June 2018, to provide it with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work, including documentation, and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate; (Language regarding documentation requirements added)

337. *Expresses its continued serious concern* regarding the lack of resources available in the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

338. *Decides* that those representatives from developing countries who are invited by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Governments, to make presentations during the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process shall receive priority consideration in the disbursement of funds from the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 in order to cover the costs of their travel, and shall also be eligible to receive daily subsistence allowance subject to the availability of funds after the travel costs of all other eligible representatives from those countries mentioned in paragraph 310 above have been covered;

339. *Also recalls* its decision that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, the Informal Consultative Process shall focus its discussions at its nineteenth meeting, in 2018, on the theme “Anthropogenic underwater noise”;

XV

Coordination and cooperation

340. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

341. *Expresses its concern* at the desecration of graves at sea and the looting of wrecks of ships constituting such graves, and calls upon States to cooperate, as appropriate, to prevent the looting and desecration of wrecks of ships constituting graves in order to ensure that proper respect is given to all human remains located in maritime waters, consistent with international law, including, as appropriate, the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, among parties thereto;

342. *Encourages* bodies established by the Convention to strengthen coordination and cooperation, as appropriate, in fulfilling their respective mandates;

343. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

344. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including, where appropriate, through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

345. *Recognizes* the work undertaken by UN-Oceans, in particular the inventory of mandates, under the revised terms of reference for the work of UN-Oceans, and with the United Nations Legal Counsel/Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea as the focal point of UN-Oceans, and, as an interim measure, in this regard invites States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial earmarked contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and authorizes the Secretary-General to disburse funds from such contributions to that trust fund for the purposes of the maintenance of an online searchable database for an inventory of the mandates of UN-Oceans members and priorities approved by the respective governing bodies of the participating organizations of UN-Oceans, with a view to identifying possible areas of collaboration and synergy, as well as for travel associated with the performance of the functions of the focal point; *[OP to be updated in light of the review of the terms of reference to be undertaken at this session of the General Assembly]*

346. *Reaffirms* its decision to review the terms of reference for the work of UN-Oceans at its seventy-second session in the light of the work of UN-Oceans; *[OP to be updated in light of the review of the terms of reference to be undertaken at this session of the General Assembly]*

XVI

**Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs
and the Law of the Sea**

347. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual report on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

348. *Notes with satisfaction* the ninth observance by the United Nations of World Oceans Day in 2017,¹³⁷ recognizes with appreciation the efforts deployed by the Division in organizing its celebration in the context of the commemorative event held during the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans and seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and invites the Division to continue to promote and facilitate international cooperation on the law of the sea and ocean affairs in the context of the future observance of World Oceans Day, as well as through its participation in other events;

349. *Recalls* the responsibilities and functions entrusted to the Secretary-General in the Convention and in the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, notes the increased number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings and in relation to the support to be provided by the Division as secretariat of the Regular Process during the second cycle of the Regular Process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization; *[OP may require updating]*

350. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication activities of the Division, in particular through the publication of *The Law of the Sea: A Select Bibliography* and the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*;

XVII

Seventy-third session of the General Assembly

351. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a [comprehensive] report for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-~~second~~-~~third~~ session on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and to prepare a separate ~~section of the~~ report on the topic that is the focus of the ~~eighteenth~~-~~nineteenth~~ meeting of the Informal Consultative Process;

352. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual report of the Secretary-General, which integrates information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitutes the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

¹³⁷ By its resolution 63/111, the General Assembly designated 8 June as World Oceans Day.

353. *Notes* that the reports referred to in paragraph 351 above will also be submitted to States Parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

354. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea, decides that the period of the informal consultations on that resolution should not exceed a maximum of two weeks in total and that the consultations should be scheduled in such a way that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report referred to in paragraph 351 above, requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and invites States to submit text proposals for inclusion in the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations at the earliest possible date;

355. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

1.1. IHO-IOC GEBCO Sub-Committee for Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) Work Plan 2018-19

1.1 SCUFN Tasks

- B Ensure conduct of SCUFN meeting in 2018 (IHO Task 3.6.1)
- E Maintain IHO bathymetric publications (IHO Task 3.6.6) including: B-6 and B-8
- J Update and enhance the GEBCO Gazetteer (B-8) for internet access (IHO Task 3.6.10) including providing the GEBCO Gazetteer as a web service via a geospatially enabled database (IHO Task 3.6. 10) and develop and make available public and management on-line interfaces to the Gazetteer (IHO Task 3.6.10) – Develop the integration of undersea feature concepts in the S-100 framework

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard/Comments	Funding Bid (€)	GGC Decision
B1	Ensure conduct of SCUFN meeting	H		2018	2018	P	Chair/Sec SCUFN			
B3	Renewal of SCUFN Membership	H	March 2018	Nov. 2017	SCUFN31	P	Sec SCUFN (+ IHO Sec and SCUFN Chair) and IOC Sec.	Chair/Vice-Chair to be elected at the end of SCUFN31		
E	Maintain IHO bathymetric publications	M H		Continuous 2016	Continuous 2019	O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair	B-6 - Standardization of undersea feature names (new Edition of B-6 in preparation, impact study to be carried out)		
J1	Update and enhance the GEBCO Gazetteer (B-8) database	H		Annual	Annual	O	Chair/Sec SCUFN	B-8 – Gazetteer (implement SCUFN meeting decisions in the database, monitor pending names, chase SCUFN actions with proposers, chase missing data) – Work carried out by contract.	15,000€/year	15,000

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard/Comments	Funding Bid (€)	GGC Decision
J2	Maintain the GEBCO Gazetteer as a web service via a geospatially enabled database	H		2016	Permanent	O	Chair SCUFN Director DCDB	B-8 – Gazetteer – Capture user requirements (incl. SCUFN Sec.), develop improvements and general maintenance. Transition plan to be develop if needed. Critical and complex task.	43,000€/year. (See Doc. SCUFN30-07.1B)	USA to cover for 2018
J3	Develop and make available public and management on-line interfaces to the Gazetteer	M		2014	2018	O	Chair SCUFN KHOA	B-8 - Gazetteer		
J4	Develop a S-100-based product specification (if confirmed) for Undersea Feature Names	M / L		2015	2019	O	Chair Project Team (Rowena Orok)	S-100, B-6 Harmonized definitions of generic terms across B-6, S-32, IHO GI Registry		
J5	Upgrade the quality of the geometry of major existing undersea features in the Gazetteer which are known as being inaccurate and ambiguous	M		2017	Permanent	P	SCUFN Members	B-8 - Gazetteer (Aim: 10 features / SCUFN Member / per year)		

1.2 SCUFN Meetings (IHO Task 3.6.1 refers)

Date	Location	Activity
16-20 June 2014	IHB, Monaco	27 th Meeting
12-16 October 2015	Niterói, Brazil	28 th Meeting

19-23 September 2016 Boulder, Colorado, USA 29th Meeting

2-6 October 2017 Genoa, Italy 30th Meeting

Chair: Hans-Werner Schenke Email: hwschenke@t-online.de
Vice-Chair: Yasuhiko Ohara Email: ohara@jodc.go.jp
Secretary: Yves Guillam Email: adcs@iho.int

1.1. IHO-IOC GEBCO Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM) Work Plan 2018-2019

1.1 TSCOM Tasks

- B Ensure conduct of TSCOM meeting in 2018 (IHO Task 3.6.1)
- C Ensure effective operation of IHO DCDB (IHO Task 3.6.2)
- D Encourage the contribution of bathymetric data to the IHO DCDB (IHO Task 3.6.3), identify priority areas for regional mapping and promote data contribution through GEBCO participation in RHCs meetings
- E Maintain IHO bathymetric publications (IHO Task 3.6.6) including: B-4, B-9, B-10 and B-11
- F Develop the on-line function of B-4 (Information concerning recent bathymetric data) (IHO Task 3.6.6)
- G Contribute to outreach and education about ocean mapping (IHO Task 3.6.7) by development of outreach and educational materials and printing of IHO-IOC GEBCO World Map
- H Ensuring IHO-IOC GEBCO Web site is kept current and updated regularly (IHO Task 3.6.8)
- I Develop short course and course material on compiling digital bathymetric models (DBMs) to be included in GEBCO from a heterogeneous bathymetric source database (IHO Task 3.6.9)
- K Provide technical support and advice to Seabed 2030 Project Director, RDACCs and GDACC

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	GGC Decision
B	Ensure conduct of TSCOM meeting	H		2018	2018	P	Chair TSCOM			
C	Ensure effective operation of IHO DCDB	H		Continuous		O	Director DCDB			
D1	Encourage the contribution of bathymetric data to the IHO DCDB	H		Continuous		O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair			

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	GGC Decision
D3	Promote data contribution through GEBCO participation in RHCs meetings	H		Continuous		O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair		See SCRUM WP	
E	Maintain IHO bathymetric publications	M M L M		Continuous		O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair	B-4 - Information concerning recent bathymetric data B-9 - GEBCO digital atlas B-10 - The history of GEBCO B-11 - GEBCO Cookbook	See SCRUM WP	
F	Develop the on-line function of B-4	M		Continuous		O	Director DCDB			
G3	Printing of IHO-IOC GEBCO World Map	M		2015	2018		Chair TSCOM + Chair SCRUM	B-9 - GEBCO digital atlas	2,000	0
H	Ensuring IHO-IOC GEBCO Web site is kept current and updated regularly	M		Continuous		O	BODC		5,000	5,000
			Add news items relating to GEBCO's activities	Continuous		O				
			Add documents relating to GEBCO's meetings and events	Continuous		O				

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	GGC Decision
I	Add instructive chapters in IHO-IOC GEBCO Cook Book related to Seabed 2030 as needed	M	Provide technical support	2018	2030	O	Chair TSCOM			
K	Support Seabed 2030	H	Provide scientific expertise and outreach	2018	2030	P	Chairs TSCOM, SCRUM, Outreach, SCUFN			

1.2 TSCOM Meetings (IHO Task 3.6.1 refers)

Date	Location	Activity
1-4 October 2012	IHB, Monaco	XXVIII th Meeting
7&9 October 2013	Venice, Italy	XXIX th Meeting
11-13 December 2014	Mountain View, California, USA	XXX th Meeting
5-7 October 2015	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	XXXII th Meeting
10-12 October 2016	Viña del Mar, Chile	XXXIII th Meeting
13-14 November 2017	Busan, Korea	XXXIV th Meeting
5-6 November 2018	Canberra, Australia	XXXV th Meeting

Chair: Karen Marks
Vice-Chair: Thierry Schmitt
Secretary: David Wyatt

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1.1. IHO-IOC GEBCO Sub-Committee for Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM) Work Plan 2018-2019

1.1 SCRUM Tasks

- B Ensure conduct of SCRUM meeting in 2018 (IHO Task 3.6.1)
- D Encourage the contribution of bathymetric data to the IHO DCDB (IHO Task 3.6.3), identify priority areas for regional mapping and promote data contribution through GEBCO participation in RHCs meetings
- E Maintain IHO bathymetric publications (IHO Task 3.6.6) including: B-4, B-9, B-10 and B-411
- K Provide scientific support and advice to Seabed 2030 Project Director, RDACCs and GDACC

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	GGC Decision
B	Ensure conduct of annual SCRUM meeting and one virtual meeting	H		2018	2018	P	Chair SCRUM			
D1	Encourage the contribution of bathymetric data to the IHO DCDB	H		Continuous		O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair			
D2	Identify priority areas for regional mapping and support the organization of regional mapping projects.	H		Continuous		O	Chair SCRUM			
D3	Promote data contribution through GEBCO participation in RHCs and IOC regional meetings	H	Identify GEBCO colleagues who are able to attend meetings in 2018 – 2019	Continuous		O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair		5,000	10,000
D4	Facilitate contribution of information about available data	H	Deploy web form for contributions of information about available data and contributors	2017	2018	P	Chair SCRUM			
D5	Support participation at Regional Mapping Meetings – Capacity Building	H	Provide partial support, as needed, for individuals to participate in regional mapping meetings	2018	2018	P	Chair SCRUM		5,000	10,000
E	Maintain IHO bathymetric publications	M	Update GEBCO global 30 arc-second grid with new compilations	Continuous	Continuous	O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair	B-4 - Information concerning recent bathymetric data		
		H		2016	2017	O	Chair SCRUM	B-9 - GEBCO digital atlas		
		M	Update GEBCO World Map to include updated versions of GEBCO grid and adopted undersea feature names from SCUFN.	2017	2018	O	Chairs SCRUM/SCUFN	B-6 – Standardization of undersea feature names B-8 - Gazetteer B-9 - GEBCO digital atlas		
		L						B-10 - The history of GEBCO		
		M						B-11 - GEBCO Cookbook		
J	Support SB2030 RDACCs	H	Provide scientific expertise, regional connections and outreach support	2018	2030	P	Chairs of TSCOM, SCRUM SCUFN, Outreach WG			

1.2 SCRUM Meetings (IHO Task 3.6.1 refers)

Date	Location	Activity
7&9 October 2013	Venice, Italy	1 st Meeting
11-13 December 2014	Mountain View, California, USA	2 nd Meeting
5-7 October 2015	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	3 rd Meeting
10-12 October 2016	Viña del Mar, Chile	4 th Meeting
13-14 November 2017	Busan, Korea	5 th Meeting
5-6 November 2018	Canberra, Australia	6 th Meeting

Chair: Vicki Ferrini Email: ferrini@ideo.columbia.edu
Vice-Chair: Pauline Weatherall Email: paw@bodc.ac.uk
Secretary: David Wyatt Email: adso@iho.int

IHO-IOC GEBCO Outreach WG Work Plan 2018-2019

1.1 Outreach Tasks

- G Contribute to outreach and education about ocean mapping (IHO Task 3.6.7) by development of outreach and educational materials and printing of IHO-IOC GEBCO World Map
- I Develop short course and course material on compiling digital bathymetric models (DBMs) to be included in GEBCO from a heterogeneous bathymetric source database (IHO Task 3.6.9)

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	GGC Decision
G1	Contribute to outreach and education about ocean mapping (GEBCO World Map printing)	H		Continuous		O	Chair Outreach WG		7,000	0
G2	Development of outreach and educational materials (Jigsaw puzzle for World Map and presentation files)	M		2015	2018	P	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair Outreach WG		2,000	2,000
G3	Development of webpage (for secondary school student etc.)	M		2015	2018	O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair Outreach WG		11,000	8,000

I1	Develop short course and supporting material on compiling digital bathymetric models	H		2019	2021	P	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair Outreach WG		0	0
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1.2 GGC Meetings (IHO Task 3.6.1 refers)

Date	Location	Activity
7-11 October 2013	Venice, Italy	1 st Meeting
13-15 June 2014	IHB, Monaco	2 nd Meeting
5-9 October 2015	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	3 rd Meeting
10-11 October 2016	Viña del Mar, Chile	4 th Meeting
13-14 November 2017	Busan, Korea	5 th Meeting
5-6 November 2018	Canberra, Australia	6 th Meeting

Chair: Hyo Hyun Sung Email: hhsung@ewha.ac.kr
 Vice-Chair: Email:
 Secretary: Email:

1.1. IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) Work Plan 2018-2019

1.1 GGC Tasks

- A Organise and conduct GGC XXXV meeting in 2018 (IHO Task 3.6.1)
- B Ensure conduct of TSCOM, SCRUM and SCUFN meetings in 2018 (IHO Tasks 3.6.1)
- C Ensure effective operation of IHO DCDB (IHO Task 3.6.2)
- D Encourage the contribution of bathymetric data to the IHO DCDB (IHO Task 3.6.3), identify priority areas for regional mapping (IHO Task 3.6.3) and promote data contribution through GEBCO participation in RHCs meetings (IHO Task 3.6.3)
- E Maintain IHO bathymetric publications (IHO Task 3.6.6) including: B-4, B-6, B-8, B-9, B-10 and B-411
- F Develop the on-line function of B-4 (Information concerning recent bathymetric data) (IHO Task 3.6.2)
- G Contribute to outreach and education about ocean mapping (IHO Task 3.6.7) by development of outreach and educational materials (IHO Task 3.6.7) and printing of IHO-IOC GEBCO World Map (IHO Task 3.6.7)
- H Ensuring IHO-IOC GEBCO Web site is kept current and updated regularly (IHO Task 3.6.8)
- I Develop short course and course material on compiling digital bathymetric models (DBMs) to be included in GEBCO from a heterogeneous bathymetric source database (IHO Task 3.6.9)
- J Update and enhance the GEBCO Gazetteer (B-8) for internet access (IHO Task 3.6.10) including providing the GEBCO Gazetteer as a web service via a geospatially enabled database (IHO Task 3.6.10), develop and make available public and management on-line interfaces to the Gazetteer (IHO Task 3.6.10) and develop the integration of undersea feature concepts in the S-100 framework
- K Liaise with and provide support to Seabed2030 project (IHO Task 3.6.5)

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	Approved Funding (€)
A	Organise and conduct GGC XXXV meeting	H		2018	2018	P	Chair GGC Sec			0
B1	Ensure conduct of TSCOM, SCRUM and SCUFN meetings	H		2018	2018	P	Chair GGC, Chair, TSCOM, Chair SCRUM and Chair SCUFN			0

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	Approved Funding (€)
B2	Oversee work of subordinate bodies – TSCOM, SCRUM, SCUFN and Outreach WG – for completion of directed tasks	H		Continuous	Continuous	O	Chair GGC			0
C	Ensure effective operation of IHO DCDB	H		Continuous		O	Director DCDB			0
D1	Encourage the contribution of bathymetric data to the IHO DCDB	H		Continuous		O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair			0
D2	Identify priority areas for regional mapping and support the organization of regional mapping projects.	H		Continuous		O	Chair SCRUM			0
D3	Promote data contribution through GEBCO participation in RHCs and IOC regional meetings	H	Identify GEBCO people who are able to attend for meetings in 2018 – 2019	Continuous		O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair		5,000	10,000

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	Approved Funding (€)
D4	Organize regional mapping meetings/workshops	H		Continuous		O	Chair SCRUM			0
	Support participation at regional mapping meetings	H	Provide partial support, as necessary, for individuals to participate in regional mapping meetings	Continuous		P	Chair SCRUM		5,000	10,000
D5	Facilitate contribution of information about available data	H	Deploy web form for contributions of information about available data and contributors	Continuous		P	Chair SCRUM			0

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	Approved Funding (€)
E	Maintain IHO bathymetric publications	M	Update GEBCO global 30 arc-second grid with new compilations	Continuous	Continuous	O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair	B-4 - Information concerning recent bathymetric data		0
		M		2016	2017	O	Chair SCRUM	B-9 - GEBCO digital atlas		0
		M	Update GEBCO World Map to include updated versions of GEBCO grid and adopted undersea feature names from SCUFN.	2017	20189	O	Chairs SCRUM/SCUFN	B-6 – Standardization of undersea feature names B-8 - Gazetteer B-9 - GEBCO digital atlas		0
		L M						B-10 - The history of GEBCO B-11 - GEBCO Cookbook		0 0
F	Develop the on-line function of B-4	M		2015	On going		Director DCDB			0
G1	Contribute to outreach and education about ocean mapping	H		Continuous		O	Chair Outreach WG	See G3 below	7,000	0
G2	Development of outreach and educational materials (jigsaw puzzle for World Map and presentation files)	H		2015	2018	P	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair Outreach WG		2,000	2,000
G3	Printing of IHO-IOC GEBCO World Map	M		2015	2018		Chair SCRUM	B-9 - GEBCO digital atlas	2,000	0

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	Approved Funding (€)
G4	Development of webpage (for secondary school student etc.)	M		2015	2018	O	All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair Outreach WG		11,000	8,000
H	Ensuring IHO-IOC GEBCO Web site is kept current and updated regularly	M		Continuous		O	BODC		5,000	5,000
I	Add instructive chapters in IHO-IOC GEBCO Cook Book related to Seabed 2030 as needed	M		2018	2030	O	Chair TSCOM/All members of GEBCO GC through the Chair Outreach WG	B-11 - GEBCO Cookbook	0	0
J1	Update and enhance the GEBCO Gazetteer (B-8) for internet access	H		Annual	Annual	O	Chair SCUFN	B-8 – Gazetteer	15,000/year	15,000
J2	Maintain the GEBCO Gazetteer as a web service via a geospatially enabled database	H		2016	Permanent	O	Chair SCUFN Director DCDB	B-8 – Gazetteer	43,000/year	USA to cover for 2018
J3	Develop and make available public and management on-line interfaces to the Gazetteer	M		2014	2018	O	Chair SCUFN KHOA	B-8 - Gazetteer		0

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard	Funding Bid (€)	Approved Funding (€)
J4	Develop a S-100-based product specification for Undersea Feature Names	M / L		2015	2019	O	Chair Project Team (Rowena Orok)	S-100, B-6 Harmonized definitions of generic terms across B-6, S-32, IHO GI Registry		0
J5	Upgrade the quality of the geometry of major existing undersea features in the Gazetteer which are known as being inaccurate and ambiguous	M	10 features/ SCUFN member per year	2017	Permanent	P	SCUFN Members	B-8 Gazetteer		0
K	Support Seabed2030	H	Provide scientific expertise and outreach	2018	2030	P	Chairs TSCOM, SCRUM, OutreachWG, SCUFN			0

1.2 GGC Meetings (IHO Task 3.8.1.1 refers)

Date	Location	Activity
1-4 October 2012	IHB, Monaco	XXIX th Meeting
7-11 October 2013	Venice, Italy	XXX th Meeting
13-15 June 2014	IHB, Monaco	XXXI th Meeting
5-9 October 2015	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	XXXII th Meeting
10-14 October 2016	Valparaíso, Chile	XXXIII th Meeting
13-17 November 2017	Busan, Korea	XXXIV th Meeting
5-9 November 2018	Canberra, Australia	XXXV th Meeting

Chair: Shin Tani

Email: soarhigh@mac.com

Vice-Chair: Martin Jakobsson
Secretary: David Wyatt

Email: Martin.Jakobsson@geo.su.se
Email: adso@iho.int

GGC34/12-Annex K

Requester	Task	Proposer Priority	Status	Deliverable/activity	Amount (euros)	Note	GGC Allocated	GGC Allocated in 2017	Expenditure in 2017
SCUFN	J1	H	O	Update B8 - Gazetteer	15,000		15,000	15,000	6,800
SCUFN	J2	H	O	Web Service for Gazetteer	43,000		0	0	0
SCUFN sub-total					58,000		15,000	15,000	6,800
TSCOM	G3	M	O	Printing of World Map	2,000		0	2,000	0
TSCOM	H	M	O	Maintaining GEBCO website	5,000		5,000	5,000	0
TSCOM sub-total					7,000		5,000	7,000	0
SCRUM	D3	H	O	Attendance at RHCs and IOC regional meetings	5,000	To include GEBCO representation at meetings	10,000	5,000	0
SCRUM	D5	H	P	Participation in regional mapping meetings	5,000	(part) Duplicate of D3?	10,000	0	0
SCRUM sub-total					10,000		20,000	5,000	0
Outreach	G1	H	O	Contribute to Outreach - World Map Printing	7,000	(part) Duplicate of G3?	0	0	0
Outreach	G2	M	P	Development of outreach material - jigsaw puzzle	2,000		2,000	2,500	0
Outreach	G3	M	O	Development of webpage (school children)	11,000		8,000	4,000	0
Outreach	I1	H	P	development of training short course on building maps		tbc	0	0	0
total					20,000		10,000	6,500	0
SCERC		H	P	External Relations and Communications	10,000		10,000		
SCERC sub-total					10,000		10,000	-	-
GGC	B2	H	O	Oversee subordinate body work. Per diem only for 6 days, 2 SCUFN members			0	0	0
GGC	D3	H	O	Attendance at RHCs		duplicate in SCRUM	0	0	0
GGC	E	M	O	Total for E = Maintain IHO Publications			0	0	0
GGC	H	M	O	Update GEBCO website		Duplicate of TSCOM H	0	0	0
GGC sub-total					0		0	0	0
TOTAL				Total subordinate body bids fro 2018	105,000	TOTAL GGC allocated for 2018	60,000	33,500	6,800

Balance	47,134
Projected 2018 income	16,500
IOC allocation	10,000
Maximum to allocate	73,634

**IHO-IOC GEBCO GUIDING COMMITTEE
(GGC)**

List of GGC members - 17 November 2017

- | 1. IHO Appointed Members: | Term Period: |
|--|---------------------|
| Mr Shin Tani (Japan) (<i>Chair</i>) | (2013-2018) |
| Rear Admiral Patricio Carrasco (Chile) | (2013-2018) |
| Dr Hyo Hyun Sung* (Republic of Korea) | (2014-2019) |
| Dr Graham Allen (United Kingdom) | (2015-2020) |
|
 | |
| 2. IOC Appointed Members: | |
| Dr Martin Jakobsson (Sweden)* (<i>Vice-chair</i>) | (2013-2018) |
| Dr Robin Falconer* (New Zealand) | (2013-2018) |
| Dr Marzia Rovere (Italy) | (2014-2019) |
| Dr Johnathon Kool (Australia) | (2016-2021) |
| Captain Leonid Shalnov (Russian Federation) | (2016-2021) |
|
 | |
| 3. Ex-officio Members: | |
| Dr Vicki Ferrini (USA) (<i>Chair of SCRUM</i>) | |
| Dr Karen Marks (USA) (<i>Chair of TSCOM</i>) | |
| Dr Hans-Werner Schenke (Germany) (<i>Chair of SCUFN</i>) | |
| Ms Jennifer Jencks (USA) (<i>Director of IHO-DCDB</i>) | |
|
 | |
| * Members serving a second 5-year term. | |
|
 | |
| 4. Secretary: | |
| Mr David Wyatt (IHO) | (2015) |

NOTE: Members of the Secretariats of the IHO and IOC are permanent non-voting Members in the Committee.

G E B C O

GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

Thirty Fifth Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC35)

Canberra, Australia

5 – 9 November 2018

Agenda

Version 1.0; 15 décembre 2017

1 OPENING REMARKS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS – 30 minutes

- .1 Opening Remarks and Introductions – **Chair**
- .2 Welcoming Remarks by Host – **GeoScience**
- .3 Opening remarks by parent bodies – **IHO and IOC Secretariats**
- .4 Working Arrangements – **Secretary/Hosts**
- .5 Administrative Arrangements – **Secretary/Hosts**
- .6 Adoption of the Agenda and approval of report from GGC34 – **Chair**
- .7 Review of Action Items from GGC34 – **Secretary**
- .8 Report from IRCC10 – **Chair**

GEBCO TODAY

2 REPORTS FROM PARENTAL AND SUBORDINATE BODIES – 120 minutes

Brief reports (5 minutes) will be received, highlighting only significant events, achievements, outcomes, outputs/deliverables and matters requiring GGC action, full reports can be downloaded from the GGC website:

- .1 IHO update – **Iptes**
- .2 IOC update – **Barbière**
- .3 Financial update, including funds status report – **Secretary**
- .4 Digital Atlas Manager – **BODC**
- .5 DCDB update, including relevant CSBWG and ASMIWG issues – **DCDB Director**
- .6 SCUFN – **Chair SCUFN**
- .7 TSCOM – **Chair TSCOM**
- .8 SCRUM – **Chair SCRUM**
- .9 Outreach WG – **Chair Outreach WG**

3 NIPPON FOUNDATION – 30 minutes

Brief reports (5 minutes) will be received highlighting significant events, outcomes and matters requiring GGC action, full reports can be downloaded from the GGC website:

- .1 NF Programme Management Committee (NFPMC) report – **Chair NFPMC**
- .2 UNH training programme update – **Course Manager**
- .3 Nippon Foundation Ambassador programme – **Chair NFPMC**
- .4 NF funds – **Chair NFPMC**
- .5 NFPMC membership – **Chair NFPMC**

4 GEBCO ENGAGEMENT WITH EXTERNAL BODIES – 60 minutes

- .1 Participation at IHO RHC meetings – **Chair/Secretary**
- .2 With which international programmes has GEBCO engaged, why and outcomes? – **Chair/All**
ICSU WDS, IODE, POGO, IRSO, WRI, GEOSS, IIOE2, Atlantos, EMODNet, etc
- .3 Update on who are the users of GEBCO products and datasets? Which methods are appropriate for discovering the users and uses of GEBCO products and datasets – **Head BODC/Director DCDB**

5 DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS – 15 minutes

- .1 Document Review Status – **Chair/Secretary**

Title	IHO Number	IOC Number	Edition/date
<i>Standardization of undersea feature names</i>	B-6	-	Edition 4.1.0 September 2013; new Edition 4.2.0 in preparation
<i>Gazetteer</i>	B-8	-	V1.1.1
<i>GEBCO digital atlas</i>	B-9	-	08 Grid March 2015
<i>The history of GEBCO</i>	B10	-	April 2003
<i>GEBCO Cookbook</i>	B-11	Manuals and Guides 63	December 2016

- .2 ToRs and RoPs review – **Chair/Secretary**
- .3 Relevant IHO Resolutions – **Chair/Secretary**

3/1929 as amended (*Centralization of oceanic soundings*) - TSCOM;
 3/1932 as amended (*Collecting oceanic soundings*) - TSCOM;
 4/1932 as amended (*Metadata for oceanic soundings*) - TSCOM/SCRUM;
 2/1962 as amended (*Oceanographic observations*) - SCRUM/TSCOM; and
 8/1962 as amended (*Oceanographic information*) - SCRUM/TSCOM.

6 SEABED 2030 – 60 minutes

Progress brief on activities of Seabed 2030 Project against agreed Business Plan, including funding state, RDACC and GDACC activities, outcomes from interaction with IOC and IHO Secretariats and endorsement of Work Plan 2019-2020:

- .1 Report on progress and update brief – **Project Director**

GEBCO TOMORROW**7 GEBCO FUTURE****.1 GGC Subordinate bodies' Work Plans 2019-2020 – 60 minutes**

- .1 Approve funding requests and Work Plans of Subordinate bodies, including outputs/deliverables for next period – **Chair/Secretary**

Chairs will present draft funding requests and Work Plans for their Sub-Committee or Working Group; identifying outputs, deliverables and appropriate milestones for consideration and approval of the GGC.

- .1 SCUFN – **Chair SCUFN**;
 .2 TSCOM – **Chair TSCOM**;
 .3 SCRUM – **Chair SCRUM**; and
 .4 Outreach WG – **Chair Outreach WG**

- .2 Review of GEBCO Education and Outreach strategy – **Chair Outreach WG/Chair /Secretary**

.2 Seabed 2030 - 120 minutes

The GGC will be appraised of outcomes and actions arising from the Workshops, seminars and events pursuing the Seabed 2030 Project and vision, in particular:

- .1 Future actions, key outputs, deliverables and milestones – **Project Director**
 .2 Update on integration with existing GEBCO bodies – **Chair/Project Director**
 .3 Work Plan and funding bids 2020-2021 – **Chair/Project Director**

.3 GGC Work Plan 2019-2020 – 60 minutes

- .1 Approve GGC funding requests and Work Plans including outputs/deliverables for next period – **Chair/Secretary**

8 SECRETARY RESPONSIBILITIES – 15 minutes

- .1 Confirm responsibilities – **Chair**

9 GGC MEMBERSHIP – 30 minutes

- .1 Identification of individuals, whose terms are due to complete within the next two years – **Secretary**
 .2 Details of nominations to fill vacancies – **Chair/Secretary**
 .3 Election of Chair and vice-Chair – **Secretary**

10 NEXT MEETING – 15 minutes

- .1 Dates and venue for GGC36 – **Secretary**
 .2 Draft Agenda for GGC36 – **Secretary**

- 11 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – *Chair/Secretary* – 30 minutes
- 12 **Election of Chair and vice-Chair** – *Secretary* – 15 minutes
 - .1 In accordance with article 2.1 of the RoPs
- 13 **Review of Action Items from GGC35** – *Secretary* – 30 minutes
- 14 **CLOSURE OF THE MEETING** – *Chair* – 15 minutes

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