

6 September 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to refer to the Notification concerning the convening of the nineteenth meeting (by correspondence) 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) which was circulated to Member States and other participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on 18 August 2023.

In accordance with the modalities of the nineteenth meeting as outlined in the above-mentioned Notification, I hereby declare, in my capacity as the Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process, the nineteenth meeting (by correspondence) of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole open as of today.

I would like to express my appreciation to all delegations for participating in this meeting.

*Adoption of the agenda*

Regarding the adoption of the agenda, I note that the provisional agenda and the annotated provisional agenda of the nineteenth meeting (by correspondence) of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole have been posted on the website of the Regular Process at: <https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/adhoc>. The provisional agenda is also annexed to this letter.

I propose that the nineteenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole decide to adopt the provisional agenda as contained in Annex I to this letter. This proposal is hereby placed under a silence procedure **until 5.00 p.m. (New York time) on Wednesday, 13 September 2023**.

Any objection to the above-mentioned proposal should be transmitted in a letter or a note verbale sent by email to the secretariat of the Regular Process ([doalos@un.org](mailto:doalos@un.org); [temnova@un.org](mailto:temnova@un.org)).

*Adoption of recommendations to the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly.*

In accordance with the modalities of the meeting as outlined in the Notification concerning


in Annex II to this letter. This proposal is hereby placed under a silence procedure **until 5.00 p.m. (New York time) on Monday, 18 September 2023.**

*Information to be taken note of by the meeting*

Also, in accordance with the modalities of the meeting as outlined in the Notification concerning the convening of the nineteenth meeting (by correspondence), and subject to the adoption of the agenda, the meeting will take note of the information provided under agenda items, “Report of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole” and “Information from the Group of Experts regarding implementation of the preliminary timetable and implementation plan for the third cycle of the Regular Process.”

The documents for the above-mentioned agenda items have been made available at:  
<https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/adhoc>.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly Louis', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and includes a large 'K' at the beginning.

Kimberly Louis

Permanent Missions of Member States and  
Permanent Observer Missions  
to the United Nations  
Delegation of the European Union  
Specialized agencies, funds, programmes and bodies  
of the United Nations  
Intergovernmental organizations  
Relevant nongovernmental organizations

## **Annex I**

### **Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the General Assembly**

#### **The Nineteenth Meeting (by correspondence)**

#### **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.
4. Information from the Group of Experts regarding implementation of the preliminary timetable and implementation plan for the third cycle of the Regular Process.
5. Adoption of recommendations to the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly.

**Annex II**

**Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the General Assembly**

**The Nineteenth Meeting (by correspondence)**

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

Also welcomes the designation of focal points for relevant intergovernmental organizations, and invites the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions that have not yet done so to designate focal points to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process and beyond;

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

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

Welcomes the constitution of the Group of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process, which currently consists of 21 members, and notes with appreciation the work being carried out by the members of the Group of Experts in the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle;

Recalls that the Group of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process shall comprise a maximum of 25 experts, with no more than five experts per regional group, and encourages regional groups that have appointed fewer than five experts to continue to appoint experts to the Group of Experts, taking into account the need to ensure adequate expertise, gender balance and geographical distribution;

Endorses the documents developed by the Group of Experts to support the development of the third World Ocean Assessment adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its eighteenth meeting;

Encourages the appointment of experts to the Pool of Experts in accordance with the mechanism, and requests the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to provide oversight of the establishment of the Pool of Experts;

Welcomes the regional workshops in support of the third cycle of the Regular Process, held in Santos,