



- Participants attending (66): Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Poland, Republic of Türkiye, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United States of America, Uruguay.
  - Summary of discussions: [https://www.un.org/regularprocess/sites/www.un.org.regularprocess/files/1\\_summary\\_of\\_discussions\\_rp\\_workshop\\_2nd\\_round\\_brazil\\_mb\\_goe\\_bra\\_for\\_circulation.pdf](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/sites/www.un.org.regularprocess/files/1_summary_of_discussions_rp_workshop_2nd_round_brazil_mb_goe_bra_for_circulation.pdf)
2. Kingston Jamaica, 12-14 June 2023. Regional focus: North and South Pacific regions and the Wider Caribbean area.
- Participants attending (23): Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Hong Kong SAR, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam.
  - Summary of discussions: <https://www.un.org/regularprocess/file/8427>
3. Male, Seychelles, 2-4 August 2023. Regional focus: Indian Ocean (including the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden, the

and sub-chapters of the third World Ocean Assessment (including formatting specifics,



At present planning for this meeting is underway as part of planning for the final regional workshop, pending confirmation

**2. *Meetings between the Secretariat, Group of Experts coordination team and the co-chair of Working Group II of the sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change***

Two meetings have been held between the Secretariat, the Group of Experts coordination team and the co-chair of Working Group II of the sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

The meetings were identified as useful for all in better understanding structures and operational aspects of both processes and in association, what might be the steps involved in strengthening the exchange of information between the two processes. The meetings reaffirmed the necessity of acknowledging WOA as a key resource in the IPCC assessment process and keeping WOA and IPCC independent from each other to ensure the uniqueness and visibility of each entity.

Potential mechanisms that could better link the two processes included exploring government contacts who could bridge the gap between the Regular Process and IPCC. These contacts would serve as focal points, helping to raise the WOA's profile at IPCC plenaries, and vice versa. Approaches for collaboration, such as presentations at COP side events, could also be explored. Even though these events are not part of the IPCC's official assessment process, they can play a key role in fostering a cooperative atmosphere and promoting the WOA's work.

DOALOS is one of the 37 UN bodies registered at IPCC as observers and therefore may attend sessions of the IPCC and may invite experts to review draft IPCC reports. Utilising this observer status, DOALOS and the Group of Experts will prepare observer statements to be submitted to the IPCC 60th Plenary session (currently expected to occur early 2024) and the UNFCCC COP-28 (Dubai, 30 Nov-12 Dec 2023). These statements will focus on the contributions the Regular Process can make to IPCC deliverables under the seventh Assessment Report cycle.

**3. *Input into a presentation being provided by DOALOS, in support of the third cycle of the Regular process, to the 50<sup>th</sup> meeting of GESAMP***

In honour of celebrating the 50th anniversary session of the Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP), DOALOS will provide a presentation that highlights possible avenues to enhance synergies between the Regular Process and GESMAP. The aim of this presentation is to strengthen the sharing of knowledge on best practices for conducting integrated assessments and design of analytical frameworks that incorporate socioeconomic aspects between GESAMP and the Regular Process.

Members of the Group of Experts coordination team have been assisting the Secretariat in the development of this presentation.

**4. *Input into the planning of a side-event at the second conference of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development to be held in Barcelona, Spain, 10-12 April 2024***

The secretariat and the Group of Experts have identified that coordinating a side event at the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development conference, to be held in Barcelona, Spain 10-12 April 2024, could provide an important opportunity for supporting the strengthening of collaborations with other ocean-related assessments and processes and in particular the IOC-UNESCO and other UN bodies taking part in the conference. The secretariat has registered interest in organising a satellite event on behalf of the Regular

Process, with the next steps involving the drafting of a concept note for submission by 30 October 2023. Coordination of the drafting of this concept note will be facilitated by the secretariat and will begin in September with the Group of Experts providing substantive input on the design of the side event. The aim of the side event is to highlight the role of the World Ocean Assessments in providing a regular review of the state of marine environment and in doing so providing science-based information for decision-making. It will also provide an opportunity to present the new framing of the assessment to be produced in the third cycle in providing a more integrated approach to providing information on the ocean and including forward-looking pathways for action for sustainability.

### **Output III: Capacity building**

3. *Status of the Group of Experts membership*

Since the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AHWGW:

- Carmen Mifsud (Western European and Others Group) has been approved as Group of Expert member, replacing Alan Deidun who stepped down.
- Renison Ruwa (African Group) has informed the secretariat of his retirement and associated stepping down from the Group of Experts.
- Essam Yassin Mohammed (African Group) has informed the secretariat that he is stepping down from the Group of Experts, following his recent appointment as Director General of WorldFish.

This leaves the Group of Experts at 20 members with two vacancies in the African Group and three vacancies in the Eastern European Group.