

Third cycle of the Regular Process

Outcomes of the third cycle

- Assessment(s) will need to be produced. In determining the scope and focus of this/these assessment(s), the Group of Experts, the Bureau and the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, could consider the following questions in particular:
 - Should there be another global integrated assessment or should the next assessment(s) have a more limited focus, e.g. a thematic assessment(s)?
 - Can the outcomes of the third cycle be made more relevant to policy-makers by linking to global, regional, or sub-regional objectives, in particular the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs, in a more direct manner?
 - How will overlaps with e.g., the IPCC, IPBES and GEO assessments be avoided, and how can synergies among these processes be further strengthened?
 - How can approaches and lessons learned from the above-mentioned processes help inform the organization of the third cycle of the Regular Process?

- Technical abstracts of the second world ocean assessment – should these be produced as was done for WOA I or should another, briefer type of document for the benefit of policy-makers

ii) An outreach and engagement strategy

The outcome document from the Multi-

the third cycle, so there is a need to ensure coordination and synergies between the two processes. To ensure this, involving the IOC High-level Steering group for the Decade in the planning process for the third cycle would be important.

The 20th meeting of the Informal Consultative Process (10-14 June 2019), whose topic of focus was “Ocean Science and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development” presented another opportunity to raise the importance of decision-making based on the best available science and the important role of the Regular Process in that regard.

v) The Regular Process and other UN bodies and processes

During the third cycle, the Regular Process would also need to consider discussions held in other UN processes, including the following:

- The Intergovernmental Conference on 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 General Assembly;
- The UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea;
- The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;
- The 2020 High-Level UN Conference to Support the Implementation of SDG 14 to be held in Portugal and its outcomes.