



importance of electronic dissemination of data cannot be overemphasized. Open and transparent data availability strongly supports the Regular Process and advances capacity-building in marine sciences. When States share data and information, everyone benefits. Securing a better connection between existing databases is key. Also, capacity-development for using those existing databases and for facilitating access to those databases is important.

8. There is a need to promote synergies and opportunities for cooperation and coordination with respect to capacity-building initiatives. Enabling regional capacity- and capability-building partnerships, including through the UNEP regional seas conventions framework, is an important way forward to foster coordination and cooperation in marine science across geographical regions encompassing States of varying levels of development.

9. There is a need to develop communication strategies for different targeted audiences within the context of the Regular Process. Products and summaries that can be understood or interpreted by policy and decision-makers are particularly helpful, such as the technical abstracts of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment, and the IOC-UNESCO Ocean Literacy reports.

10. Human and institutional capacity to carry out integrated assessment need to be strengthened through existing and additional training opportunities including through cooperation projects amongst various stakeholders. The experiences of other organizations as well as the potential of the Regular Process Special Scholarship fund and capacity-building inventory to facilitate such projects should be fully utilized.

11. Regular multi-stakeholder dialogues at the global and regional levels should be promoted, including in the margins of meetings of various organizations that are carrying out integrated assessments. They should focus on

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