



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

5th UN-Oceans Meeting
Paris, 21-22 May 2007
IOC Headquarters
Room 8.38

REPORT OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF UN-OCEANS
UNESCO Headquarters, Paris 21-22 May 2007

SUMMARY

The 5th Meeting of UN-Oceans was held in Paris at UNESCO on 21-22 May 2007. Representatives from FAO, IMO, UNESCO/IOC (Coordinator), ISA, UN/DESA (Deputy Coordinator), UN/OLA/DOALOS, UNEP/DEWA, UNEP/GPA, UNDP and WB attended the meeting. The meeting considered progress with thematic task forces, development of the UN Atlas of the Oceans, status of the global marine assessment (GRAME) project and the possible role of GESAMP, inputs from UN-Oceans into UN consultative processes, impacts and opportunities of UN reform, and future directions of the coordinating mechanism, including the renewal of the mandates of its officers. The meeting agreed on a series of actions in the short-term, summarized at the end of the report in table form (Annex I).

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

The meeting was opened on Monday, 21 May 2007, at 09:30, by the Coordinator of UN-Oceans, Mr. Patricio Bernal, Assistant Director-General of UNESCO and Executive Secretary of IOC, together with Ms. Anne Rogers, Senior Economist, UN/DESA, and Deputy Coordinator of UN-Oceans. Both Coordinators welcomed the Participants to UNESCO/IOC headquarters, and thanked them for their positive response to the invitation.

The list of participants is contained in Annex III. Three new items were added to the Agenda: 3.6 PROFISH, 3.7 GESAMP, and 4.2. Report to the ICP. Participants adopted the revised Agenda, included as Annex II to this report.

2. TOUR DE TABLE

The welcome was followed by the introductions of the participants and a brief update of the relevant work of each organization since the last meeting. The Coordinator mentioned that IAEA and CBD were contacted but could not attend the meeting, and that Mr Fauzi Mantoura, Director of IAEA's MEL in Monaco and Mr. Jo Mulongoy of CBD secretariat in Montreal had sent their regrets. The group stressed that given the importance that climate change work is acquiring at country level, efforts should be made to have the Secretariat of the UNFCCC rejoin UN-Oceans. Similar concerns were expressed about the continued participation of UNIDO and ILO. The coordinator agreed to renew these contacts and to inform them about this meeting.

3.1 POST-TSUNAMI RESPONSE

The IOC Executive Secretary, Patricio Bernal, introduced this item, updating the participants on the development of tsunami warning systems in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami. He circulated the Report of the Head of the IOC Tsunami Unit to the 24th IOC Assembly. He highlighted the fact that despite a successful implementation of early warning systems in the Indian Ocean, much still needs to be done, especially at the country level, where the seamless connection between the early warning system with the emergency response system is critical.

UNEP reported that the guidelines developed by UN-Oceans in Cairo, have been widely distributed and translated into several languages. From the discussions it transpired that, as a consequence of the complexity of the post-tsunami response and the number of NGOs and institutions involved in the reconstruction process, recommendations and guidelines were not always followed. For example, in certain cases the fast rebuilding of the small-scale fishery sector in affected countries may have created overcapacity in the sector, by increasing the number of boats and replacing old boats with modern, more efficient, ones with a net result of worsening the outlook for sustainable fisheries in the region. Since its immediate mandate has been fulfilled, this task force has been discontinued as part of UN-Oceans, although the issues will continue to be addressed.

Decisions and actions

- UN-Oceans organizations will share lessons learned from the experience of the post-tsunami response.

3.2 REGULAR PROCESS FOR GLOBAL REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS (GRAMÉ)

Ms Veerle Vandeweerd, Director of the Office of Coordination of the Global Programme of Action (UNEP/GPA) and Head of Regional Seas Unit, Mr Ivar Baste, Chief Scientific Assessment Branch, Division of Early Warning and Assessments (UNEP/DEWA) and Patricio Bernal, Executive Secretary of IOC introduced this item on behalf of the lead agencies, updating the participants on progress in implementing this process under direct oversight of the General Assembly.

In accordance with GA resolution 60/30 of November 2005, the President of the General Assembly designated an Ad Hoc Steering Group of country representatives, Co-Chaired by Dr. Elba Escobar (Mexico) and Mr Peter Harris (Australia). The Steering Group met in New York 7 to 9 of June 2006, further elaborated the Terms of Reference for the start-up phase, “The Assessment of Assessments,” and endorsed the budget and administrative plan. The representatives of UNEP and UNESCO/IOC stressed that work had started with less than 50% of the funding which is needed for carrying out the planned activities.

The lead agencies obtained approval from the Steering Group for the composition of the Group of Experts designated to conduct the start-up phase and convened their first meeting in Paris from 28 to 30 March 2007. Dr. Jackie Mac Glade (UK) and Dr Kwame Koranteng (Ghana) were elected co-chairs of the group. The experts, following the terms of reference, stressed that the main goal of this first phase is to develop the guidelines, methodologies, and to identify best practices for how such an assessment should be done, and not doing a global assessment of the status and trends itself. The group proposes the use of 21 different regions and elaborated an exhaustive checklist of requirements/and properties to be applied to each of them. The report of the First Meeting of the Group of Experts is available.

Members of UN-Oceans requested that general information about the GRAME Trust Fund should be widely disseminated among potential donors and raised at the coming ICP. It was pointed out that the GRAME is a process distinct from other similar initiatives, such as the reporting of the IPCC on climate change, and therefore a specific fund-raising is required. In this context the Coordinator stressed the fact that the General Assembly, although being at the right level to receive a global report on the status of the ocean and its resources, lacked a clear instrument of its own to implement policy corrections. He was of the opinion that the effectiveness of the final outcome of the process impinges upon the clear identification or development of such instruments, at the regional and global levels.

Decisions and actions

- IOC will send to UN/OLA/DOALOS the report of the First Meeting of the Group of Experts.

- The lead agencies in cooperation with UN/OLA/DOALOS will organize a second meeting of the Steering Group in New York, Friday 22 June 2007 back-to-back with the ICP.
- The lead agencies (UNEP and UNESCO/IOC) will report to the eighth meeting of ICP (item 4 of the provisional agenda) and will urge Member States to fulfill their responsibility to fund the GRAME process.
- UN-Oceans will seek guidance from the General Assembly on how it envisions the GRAME process becoming regular in the future, including socioeconomic aspects.

3.3 TASK FORCE ON BIODIVERSITY IN AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION

Mr Václav Mikulka, Director of the Division for Oceans Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN/OLA/DOALOS) introduced this item. He referred to resolution A/RES/61/222 in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene, in 2008, the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and to report, in consultation with all relevant international bodies, on these issues in the context of his report on oceans and the law of the sea. He reminded that the input of all relevant organizations to the report is expected by 30 May 2007. Furthermore, he proposed that the UN-Oceans, namely its Task force on Biodiversity which is under co-leadership of the Secretariat of the CBD and DOALOS, prepare a contribution to the report. In relation with the eight meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP), to be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in June 2007, which will focus on “Marine genetic resources” both within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, he reminded that under the item 4 of the Annotated agenda the UN-Oceans has been invited to comment on this matter. He proposed to convene the meeting of the Task Force on Biodiversity during the ICP meeting, in order to discuss both its future work, as well as the content of the UN-Oceans contributions to the report of the Secretary-General and to the discussion on “Marine genetic resources”. He offered to host such meeting in DOALOS premises.

Mr Satya Nandan, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, recalling all the activities that ISA has undertaken in connection to this topic under Article 145 of UNCLOS, and informed the group on regulations that ISBA has developed for the protection of flora and fauna around minerals deposits, in particular for polymetallic nodules, sulphides and cobalt-rich crust on sea-mounts. He also expressed his concern about the insufficient recognition of the role of the ISA, since in accordance with UNCLOS, ISA is the only Organization that is allowed to regulate mining activities in the seabed.

Since the status of activities conducted in the Area for general scientific purposes are under a regime of freedom of research but activities conducted as exploration or prospecting with view of future mining activities are subject to regulations setup under ISA, there is need to coordinate actions by different agencies, where UN-Oceans could play a role. The convenience of generating a common set of “Guidelines on good practices on Marine Scientific Research in the Seabed” was considered as a potential joint endeavor for UN-Oceans for further promotion and dissemination within the International Community. It was

finally pointed out the need to bridge UN-Oceans activities with the NGO community, especially the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) of The World Conservation Union (IUCN). The Group decided that UN-Oceans should report to the ICP on this matter.

Decisions and actions

- UN-Oceans members agreed to transmit their contributions to UN/OLA/DOALOS for the Report to ICP, to be regarded as an input of the Task-Force, by 31 May.
- UN/OLA/DOALOS and CBD, together with ISA, will send an invitation to other organizations to join the work of the Task Force and will convene a meeting of the Task Force during the eighth meeting of the ICP to advance the work.

3.4 GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

Ms. Veerle Vandeweerd introduced this item. She highlighted that the GPA has successfully worked at the international level. The main challenge in the immediate future is to incorporate recommendations and guidelines for the abatement of pollution from land-based sources into national development plans. She concluded by informing the group that after the Second Intergovernmental Review Meeting (IGR-2) in Beijing, 16-20 October 2006, there is no need to continue with the work of the task force on the GPA, which was established to provide UN-Oceans input to the IGR-2.

The group shared their views on the report and agreed that several issues could continue to be addressed by UN-Oceans, especially as a platform for the promotion of coastal management. Several participants recalled the importance of increasing the collaboration between UN-Water and UN-Oceans, possibly identifying joint activities in the context of Common Country Assessments and UNDAF's. It was further suggested that it would be a desirable goal to produce an inventory of all UN-Oceans projects and programmes that address GPA issues.

Finally there was agreement that there is an urgent need to carry out an economic valuation of the goods and services provided by oceans and coasts. If data on the value of services would be available, the implementation of the GPA will not be only seen as a cost but as an investment to conserve the environment, living conditions and safety on the coast. Several participants expressed their interest in participating in a coordinated effort on valuation of good and services.

Decisions and actions

- The Task Force on the GPA is discontinued.
- The inventory of activities by UN-Oceans members relevant to GPA will be based on a template that will be distributed and will be completed by each participating agency and program and made available on the UN Atlas of the Oceans website.

- The information generated by the GPA will be made available to all UN-Oceans Members.
- The WB will make available a study on low-cost treatment options recently completed.

3.5 UN ATLAS OF THE OCEANS

Mr Jorge Csirke, Director of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Division and Ms Tina Farmer, Communications and Publications officer of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department (FAO), introduced this item. They underlined that after several years of UN-Oceans acting as steering group for the project, the main goal at this point in time is to provide the UN Atlas with secured regular support. Although recent contributions from participating agencies (ISA, DESA, IMO), helped by a presentation made at the CEB/HLCP, have improved the situation, it is necessary to adopt a more strategic approach to funding. Both officers finally remarked on the need to review the current Memorandum of Understanding among participating partners, to see if they need renewal.

Several members participated in an open exchange of views. There was consensus that the Atlas was a very successful project of UN-Oceans and that it was a useful tool for capacity building particularly in education and awareness raising. Special mention was made to the dedicated effort of Serge Garcia, former Director of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Division of FAO, now retired. It was suggested that support, including in-kind support for the Atlas, should be of two types, core-funding coming from partners and additional development support raised from external sources. Content development, a major in-kind contribution, has not yet been properly institutionalized within participating UN Agencies and Programmes. It was agreed that it would be very useful to produce an analysis of the arborescence of each agency and programme website, pointing to the Atlas, particularly at lower level entry points, to avoid accessing each institutional website only through its home page. It was suggested that several agencies of the former IACSD could be contacted such as UPU, WHO, UNIDO and ILO, as well as UNFCCC, to invite them to become partners.

Decisions and actions

- UN-Oceans members will engage in delivering valuable content to the UN Atlas website through intelligent links to their own websites (arborescence analysis) for easier updating.
- FAO will explore forming a partnership with OBIS and expanding its current arrangement with the Census of Marine Life for developing the marine biodiversity component of the Atlas.
- FAO and UNEP will explore other potential partnerships for increased support and sustainability (e.g., Google for a Google Ocean).
- The Coordinator will send a letter to UN-Oceans Members regarding the MoU.
- The Coordinator and FAO will invite current non-participating organizations to be partners in the Atlas.

- The World Bank expressed interest in establishing a formal arrangement with the UN Atlas and would explore with FAO an arrangement to formalize their current contributions to the UN Atlas of the Oceans
- The ISA pledged another US\$5 000 to the Atlas for the upcoming biennium.

3.6 PROFISH

Ms Marea Hatzios from the World Bank introduced this item by providing a description of the Global Program on Fisheries (PROFISH), aimed to improve governance of the fisheries sector and increase the benefits to society, especially the poor. FAO, WorldFish Center and IUCN are implementing partners of the project. PROFISH is responding to the fact that the fishery sector is not generating expected benefits. Weak governance, including open access leading to overcapacity and overexploitation, inadequate allocation of fishing rights, lack of scientific information to underpin good management, and weak enforcement leading to IUU fishing and other illegal activity are among the leading causes of this. PROFISH supports upstream analysis of the fisheries sector in a given country, coordinates and mobilizes donor support for investments to address the key issues and advises countries on the design of appropriate investment programs. PROFISH is also undertaking a global study of Rent Drain from the Fisheries Sector, based on analysis of the world's major fish stocks and representative country studies. PROFISH also seeks to improve the level of and access to information to assess the state of fish stocks at national and regional (shared stocks) levels to improve governance of the sector. There is urgent need to improve access to stock-assessment data in each nation to report on the state of stocks according to agreed criteria (e.g., FAO indicators on fully exploited, over-exploited, and in recovery).

It was recommended that working with the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and FAO may be the place to start to get at regional level data on the status of fish stocks and then eventually refine these assessment to stocks within EEZ of individual countries. The possibility of using the GMA as an instrument to leverage enhanced assessments of fish stocks at the regional level was mentioned.

Decisions and actions

- World Bank will work with FAO and the GMA to identify appropriate databases where this information may be housed and ways to access it. It may be useful to link OneFish with the UN Atlas of the Oceans to concentrate all the relevant information in one place.

3.7 GESAMP (IMO/FAO/UNESCO-IOC/WMO/IAEA/UN/UNEP/UNIDO JOINT GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION)

Mr René Coenen, Head of the Office for the London Convention and Protocol at the IMO, introduced this item and made a presentation on the re-structured GESAMP and the new vision of the Group. He underlined that the revitalized GESAMP is a good example of

interagency collaboration, since GESAMP provides independent scientific advice to its eight Sponsoring Organizations upon request, as well as discharging specific mandates generated by one or more UN agencies and programs. He indicated that GESAMP sought additional partners within and beyond the UN family.

Mr Václav Mikulka, from UN/OLA/DOALOS, drew the attention to the use of a “UN-like” logo developed by GESAMP, which should be cleared within the proper UN legal procedures.

Some participants stressed that GESAMP must continue to act like a subsidiary body to the governing bodies of the constituent agencies and programs. Other participants emphasized that some activities in the work programme of GESAMP may overlap with other initiatives like the Regular Process.

Decisions and actions

- It was agreed that, although GESAMP would continue to be a collaborative arrangement between its Sponsoring Organizations, it should keep reporting to UN-Oceans.
- IMO would inform UN-Oceans participants of the Draft Memorandum of Understanding on GESAMP and the accompanying Rules of Procedure which are currently being discussed by GESAMP partners, aimed at consolidation in 2007.

4. PROPOSALS FOR NEW TASK FORCES

4.1 MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Mr Patricio Bernal and Stefano Belfiore, from IOC, introduced this item. They presented the draft terms of reference for a Task Force on MPAs (Annex IV) which had been already revised by UNESCO/IOC, UNEP and CBD.

Participants agreed on adopting a broader area-based management approach for the work of the Task Force; therefore, the title was changed into “Task Force on Marine Protected Areas and Other Area-based Management Tools.”

Ms Marea Hatzios, from the World Bank, Mr Mikulka from UN/OLA/DOALOS, Mr Csirke from FAO, Mr Coenen from IMO, Mr Satya Nandan from ISA and Mr Andrew Hudson from UNDP stated their interest in joining the task-force.

In requesting that FAO be included as one of the lead agencies of the task-force, Mr Csirke remarked the important attention that his organization gives to the use of the various forms of MPAs in the management and conservation of fisheries (e.g., to protect nursery areas, protect or reserve areas for artisanal fisheries, etc.) and noted that the FAO is preparing a set of Technical Guidelines on the use and application of MPAs in fisheries. Mr Mikulka from UN/OLA/DOALOS reminded that for a useful and broader understanding of the issues, his organization developed specific manuals for training courses in partnership with IOI. Mr Hudson from UNDP recalled that his Organization has currently 30 projects relating to MPAs. The Group agreed to invite the IUCN, Nature Conservancy, WWF and PEMSEA as future partners in the Task-Force.

The Group also pointed out that it is necessary to explore the possibilities to get funding from GEF.

Decisions and actions

- The Coordinator, on behalf of UN-Oceans, will contact the CBD Secretariat to make final arrangements concerning the coordination of the Task-Force.
- The Coordinator will invite IUCN, The Nature Conservancy, WWF, and PEMSEA to join the Task Force
- It was agreed to insert the words: “achievement of WSSD targets and” in Objective 4 (Activity 1) of the ToR (Annex IV).
- The Group was invited to consider organizing a new meeting of the Task Force in the coming future.

4.2 REPORT TO ICP

The UN-Oceans Coordinator, Patricio Bernal, Ms Anne Rogers, from UN/DESA and Vice Coordinator of UN-Oceans, and Mr Václav Mikulka, Director of UN/OLA/DOALOS introduced this item. They highlighted the importance to provide regular inputs to the deliberations of the UN General Assembly and to inform its members about the activities undertaken under UN-Oceans.

Decisions and actions

- The UN-Oceans report produced for CEB’s High Level Committee on Programmes (document CEB/2006/HLCP/CRP.9) will be updated for the ICP in June 2007. All the UN-Oceans Members (including UN organizations not present at the meeting such as CBD, WMO and IAEA) will be invited to send updates to Ms Anne Rogers from UN/DESA, to prepare the 2007 Reporting for the ICP. It was requested that contributions should be focused on results and activities. The deadline was set for June 7.
- UN/OLA/DOALOS will collect information on activities on marine genetic resources carried out by the members: this will form the basis for a paper to be presented jointly by the UN-Oceans members at ICP.
- Anne Rogers, from UN/DESA, in her capacity as Deputy Coordinator, will report on UN-Oceans at the ICP since the Coordinator is unable to attend.
- The document updating information on UN-Oceans will be distributed at the ICP and the report of the meeting (this document) will be posted on the website

5. UN REFORM

The UN-Oceans Coordinator, Mr. Patricio Bernal introduced this item. He emphasized the interest in the “One UN at the country level” approach, as a strategy to increase the

involvement of the UN in development work. Several members reported on actions in each agency to respond to this call.

Most of Participants expressed their concern on the lack of consideration of coasts and oceans in national development plans, stating that there is a need to raise the profile of oceans and coasts and to identify a common area of work for UN-Oceans at country level through one pilot.

Decisions and actions

- UN-Oceans members will compile an inventory of their activities in the UNDAF pilot countries for 2007 (Albania, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uruguay, and Vietnam).
- The Group was invited to explore the opportunities for joint actions under the Spanish MDG Achievement Fund (environment and climate change), since all proposals have to include at least two agencies.

6. FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR UN-OCEANS

The UN Oceans Coordinator, Mr Patricio Bernal, introduced this item. The Group shared his view of stressing the importance that UN-Oceans should be accountable for the implementation of the WSSD Plan of Implementation as well as providing follow up to decisions of the General Assembly and deliberations in ICP. It was added that even if oceans will not be addressed by the Committee on Sustainable Development until 2014, UN Agencies should be ready for an eventual reporting request from the UN General Assembly through the ICP. It was agreed that it is in the interest of the UN Agencies to report on this matter to their Governing Bodies and that information could be placed on the UN Atlas of the Oceans web-site. Participants considered that the promotion of the application of the ecosystem approach in their fields of competence is a common theme that could provide a platform for the elaboration of joint activities and projects.

UN Oceans agreed in principle to establish a Task Force to promote a valuation of ocean and coastal goods and services. It was noted that several States were working in this direction, but in view of the different and not always transparent approaches being applied at the national level a co-ordinated response from UN Oceans partners might be of assistance. UNEP and the World Bank offered to lead this activity and would prepare draft terms of reference for a Task Force on valuation of ocean and coastal goods and services for review at the next session.

Several participants further stressed the need to expand UN-Oceans to other members of the UN family: UNFCCC, WHO, ILO, UNIDO, ISDR and the five Regional Commissions. In terms of funding the coordination work, it was expressed that the UN-Water network has succeeded in raising funds from multiple sources, and that UN-Oceans should develop a strategy to do likewise.

Several participants also pointed out that the UN-Oceans website is currently static and needs updating and support.

The participants also commented on their expectations that Climate change is now a topic on the agendas of UN-Oceans and ICP.

Decisions and actions

- UN-Oceans report to ICP will remind Member States of the importance of achieving the WSSD targets on oceans and coasts.
- FAO will develop a template for a fact sheet explaining how the UN Agencies are “encouraging” the application of the ecosystem approach. This document should be converted into a short paper to be widely disseminated and possibly presented at ICP next year.
- A future Task Force on the ecosystem approach, will be considered at the next meeting.
- The Coordinator will send an invitation letter to all relevant UN organizations to join UN-Oceans.
- The Implementing Secretariat (IOC) will be in charge of revitalizing the UN-Oceans website, in coordination with FAO before the eighth meeting of the ICP.
- It was agreed that there is a need to re-explore possible partnerships with UN-Water, possibly including joint activities.

7. DISCUSSION

The Chairman informed the meeting that the mandates of the Coordinator and Deputy-Coordinator had expired at the beginning of 2007.

The Group will try to use more teleconferences in the future work of UN-Oceans.

Decisions and actions

- It was decided to renew the mandates of the Coordinator, Mr Patricio Bernal, and the Deputy-Coordinator, Ms Anne Rogers, for a second term. In addition, UN/OLA/DOALOS and UNESCO/IOC will continue acting as Organizing Secretariat and Implementing Secretariat.
- Members will share information about their teleconferencing capabilities.

8. CONCLUSION

Mr. Patricio Bernal, UN-Oceans Coordinator, thanked the participants for attending the 5th Meeting of UN-Oceans and expressed his satisfaction for the success of this meeting, which was closed at 12.50 pm, on Tuesday, 22 May 2007.

ANNEX I
Follow-up to the 5th Meeting of UN-Oceans: Action items

Item	Action	Responsible	Deadline
Task Force on Biodiversity in Areas beyond National Jurisdiction	Send invitation to other UN-Oceans organizations to join the Task Force and attend a meeting during ICP	UN/OLA/DOALOS	Before ICP
Task Force on the GPA	Re-send questionnaire on the inventory of activities by UN-Oceans Members relevant to GPA Made information generated by GPA (studies, reports, etc.) available to other UN-Oceans members	UNEP/GPA	TBD
Task Force on Marine Protected Areas and Other Area-based Management Tools	Invite IUCN, Nature Conservancy, WWF, and PEMSEA to participate	IOC	Before ICP
	Consider to organize a meeting of the Task Force during other meetings (ICP)	IOC	15 June
UN Atlas of the Oceans	UN-Oceans members to provide FAO with links to relevant pages of their websites to support the Atlas	All UN-Oceans members	Continuous
	Explore partnerships with OBIS and Census of Marine Life for the biodiversity component of the Atlas	FAO	
	Explore other potential partnerships (e.g., Google)		
	Send a letter to UN-Oceans Members stating that contradictory articles in the agreements concerning termination and renewal do not longer apply	IOC	15 June
Reporting to ICP	Invite non-participating agencies to be part in the Atlas	FAO	TBD
	CEB table to be updated to 2007	All UN-Oceans members to UN/DESA	8 June
One UN at the country level	Collect information on activities on marine genetic resources carried out by the Members	All UN-Oceans members to UN/OLA/DOALOS	31 May
	Compile inventory of members activities in the UNDAF pilot countries for 2007 (Albania, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uruguay, Vietnam)	All UN-Oceans members to FAO	TBD
Ecosystem approach	Send definitions of ecosystem approach to all members	IOC	8 June
	Prepare template to report on activities concerning the promotion of the ecosystem approach	FAO	8 June
	Prepare a short paper to be presented at ICP next year	Coordination by UN/DOALOS	TBD
Website	Revitalize UN-Oceans website	IOC	By the end of June



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(of UNESCO)

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ANNEX II

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING**
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- 3. REPORTS FROM UN-OCEANS TASK FORCES**
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 - 3.2 GRAME (IOC and UNEP)
 - 3.3 Biodiversity in Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (CBD)
 - 3.4 GPA (UNEP/GPA)
 - 3.5 UN Atlas of the Ocean
 - 3.6 PROFISH
 - 3.7 GESAMP
- 4. PROPOSAL FOR NEW TASK FORCES**
 - 4.1. Marine protected areas
 - 4.2 Report to ICP, format and content
- 5. UN REFORM**
 - 5.1. The High level panel (Development, Humanitarian Assistance, Environment): Developments at the agencies level. Thematic Groups in environmental work
 - 5.2 One UN at the country level: Participation of UN-Oceans members in the 8 pilot countries.

- 6. FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR UN-OCEANS**
- 7. DISCUSSION**
- 8. CONCLUSION**

**ANNEX III
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ANNEX IV

Terms of Reference **for the UN-Oceans Task Force on Marine Protected Areas and Other Area-Based Management Tools**

Lead agencies: UNESCO (IOC, MAB, WHC), CBD, UNEP, FAO

Participating agencies: UN/OLA/DOALOS, IMO, ISA, UNDP, World Bank

Status: draft version of 17 May 2006, following discussion at the 4th Meeting of UN-Oceans and consultations among UNESCO, UNEP and CBD

A. Purpose of the Task Force

- Strengthen collaboration and coordination among UN organizations dealing with MPAs

B. Main Ocean and Coastal Issues Addressed

- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), within a broad context of area-based management including integrated coastal area management
- WSSD 2012 MPA target
- CBD 2010 and 2012 biodiversity and protected areas targets

C. Objectives and Activities

Objective 1: Promote and facilitate the application of MPAs as a management tool for marine and coastal conservation by UN Member States

- Activities:
 - Promote the development of targeted guidelines for selected aspects of establishing and managing, including resource mobilization and monitoring of implementation, MPAs and representative networks of MPAs; and
 - Facilitate information exchange, especially dissemination of case studies and best practices on MPAs, including socio-economic benefits.

Objective 2: Enhance coordination among UN organizations dealing with MPAs to improve coherence and effectiveness of the application of MPAs

- Activities:
 - Identify areas of common interest and work related to MPAs;
 - Share lessons learned; and
 - Liaise with the UN-Oceans Task Force on Biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, jointly led by the Secretariat of the CBD and UNDOALOS.

Objective 3: Develop a mechanism for exchanging information on MPAs among UN and non-UN organizations

- Activities:
 - Compile and disseminate through a common platform, including website, directory-type information on main activities of participating UN organizations/programmes, and other UN agencies and partners concerning MPAs and representative networks of MPAs;
 - Collaborate with other UN agencies and, where needed, with relevant organizations, programmes and institutions implementing MPA programmes and projects; and
 - Collaborate with relevant non-UN bodies, in particular to facilitate access to databases on MPAs.

Objective 4: Enhance coordination and coherence in providing reporting inputs to relevant UN processes and mechanisms and/or the relevant processes of other international bodies

- Activities:
 - Under the coordination of UN-DOALOS, coordinate inputs for inter-agency reporting activities related to MPA planning, establishment and management and achievement of WSSD targets; and
 - Provide scientific and technical advice on MPA, when requested, to relevant UN mechanisms and processes.

D. Timeframe

The Task Force will have a duration of three years, from August 2007 to July 2010. After the expiration of this deadline, the members may agree to extend the activities of the Task Force for a further necessary period.

E. Coordination and membership

Coordination of the UN-Oceans Task Force on MPAs will be ensured jointly by IOC, CBD and UNEP, each agency serving as Coordinator for one year.

The membership of the Task Force will be open-ended, under the condition that new members be accepted without objections by the established membership.

Each member will appoint a focal point whose details will be provided to the UN-Oceans Implementing Secretariat.

F. Communication and Meetings

The Task Force will operate primarily through electronic means. Meetings of the Task Force may be held at the occasion of relevant major events. The UN-Oceans Implementing Secretariat will make available a dedicated website.

G. Reporting

The Coordinators of the UN-Oceans Task Force on MPAs shall report to UN-Oceans on its activities.

H. Amendments

These Terms of Reference may be modified by written agreement among all members.