Rational & Background for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment *

Outline of the First Integrated Assessment Report

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Rational

- Marine monitoring & research tools for understanding changes in oceans
- Effectiveness of response measures
- Relative significance of ocean problems
 & their causes
- Potential consequences of options for future actions
- No systematic/agreed approach with agreed baselines and reference points
- Capacity building to utilize data & expand data collection/analysis
- Need forum to integrate information

Background

Year	Event	Decision
2002	WSSD	Oceans under permanent review-env & socio-economic
2002	UNGA	Resolution to endorse WSSD decision
2005	UNGA	Assessment of Assessment - prep for Regular Process Ad Hoc Working Group and GoE (UNEP & IOC sec support)
2009	AHWG meeting	AoA Report Released & course of action
2010/11	AHWG meetings	Modalities for implementation

Outline of the First Report of the Regular Process

- Draft prepared in late 2010
- ➤ Discussed/revised at two meetings of the AHWGW in Feb and June 2011
- Draft version of report outline, with states comments, available online at: http://www.un.org/Depts/los/global_reporting/global_reporting.htm
- ➤ Intention is to seek further comments at the regional workshops

Outline of the First Integrated Assessment Report

UNGA endorsed in resolution 64/71, and reaffirmed in resolution 65/37, the recommendations of the AHWGW that the output of the first cycle of the Regular Process (by 2014) should be:

- > an integrated assessment of the oceans
- agreed cross-cutting thematic issues (food security)
- > a baseline for future global assessments

Outline of Report

Part

- I. Summary for decision-makers
- II. The Context of the Assessment
- III. Ecosystem Services
- IV. Cross-cutting issue food security
- V. Other human activities
- VI. Biodiversity and habitats
- VII. Overall evaluations

Part II. Context of the Assessment

- Planet, oceans and life a broad, introductory survey of the role played by the oceans and seas in the life of the planet, the way in which they function, and humans' relationships to them.
- Mandate, information sources, and method of work Mandate from the United Nations, existing assessments (AoA report), DPSIR, procedures for data integration, approach to the science/policy interface, selection of contributors, establishment of baselines, dealing with uncertainties, quality assurance of data

I. Ocean ecosystem services

ing services – food, construction materials, energy, coastal protection

cal cycle - sea level, salinity, nutrients, heat

teraction- air quality, meteorological events, on

production- distribution, causes and effects, surface

urced carbonate production – sediment supply to

religious and spiritual ecosystem services

understanding and conclusion

