

## **Multi-stakeholder Dialogue / Capacity-building Partnership** **Event**

**24 25 January 2019**

### **Concept note**

A two-day Capacity-building January 2019 in New York. The Event aims to increase awareness of the importance of the Regular Process and more generally the science-policy interface at all levels. It also seeks to highlight the importance of capacity-building in support of the Regular Process, including regarding the preparation of integrated assessments which are important to inform decision-making by policy-makers and other relevant stakeholders. It will allow for in-depth multi-stakeholder dialogues on current opportunities, gaps and needs in capacity, and will seek to foster cooperation and coordination amongst stakeholders to address these. Over two days the event will:

- ◁ Provide information on the science-policy interface from both the scientific and policy perspective;
- ◁ Synthesize the gaps and needs related to the conduct of integrated assessments for enhanced participation in and use of the outputs of the Regular Process;
- ◁ Increase awareness of assessments undertaken at various scales, the modalities which support these assessments (such as data acquisition, collection, collation, analysis, sharing, and access) as well as the utilization of their results;
- ◁ Provide relevant lessons learned from best practices through the presentation of case studies from all levels;
- ◁ Serve as a forum for the presentation of information on relevant capacity-





essential for the preparation of integrated assessments and for the ability to translate the science from the assessments into policy in a way that positively contributes to sustainable development.

In 2009, the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process (Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole) made recommendations to the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly on a course of action for the Regular Process, including on the possible framework for the Regular Process as well as recommendations on capacity-

Within the framework of the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process,<sup>6</sup> two Outputs are identified namely, the preparation of a second world ocean assessment and Regular Process support to other ongoing ocean-related processes.

The programme of work highlights a number of activities in respect to achieving capacity-building: the compilation and maintenance of a capacity-building inventory; the holding of regional workshops and their follow-up; and the holding of a multi-stakeholder dialogue / capacity-building partnership event (case studies of good practices).

The first round of five regional workshops in support of the second cycle of the Regular Process was held in 2017. It helped raise awareness about and receive feedback on the output of the first cycle of the Regular Process, the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment or the first World Ocean Assessment<sup>7</sup> which included the gaps in capacity identified in the Assessment. The regional workshops also served to inform the scoping and preparation phases of the second world ocean assessment and generate interest from the scientific community. Importantly, participants at the regional workshops identified capacity-building needs, including for the conduct of integrated assessments. The summaries of discussions for these workshops are available at: <http://www.un.org/depts/los/rp>.

The programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process provides for two main outputs of the second cycle (2016 to 2020) namely, the preparation of a second world ocean assessment and Regular Process support to other ongoing ocean-related processes.

While the first World Ocean Assessment provided a baseline study of the state of trends and identifying gaps. For the outputs of the

## **Objectives**

The Event aims to increase awareness of the importance of the Regular Process, and more generally the science-policy interface at all levels, including with respect to the conduct of integrated assessments. In doing so, it would also contribute to the support and interaction with ongoing ocean-related intergovernmental processes, such as the following: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their related targets; the development of 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 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea.. Regarding the conduct of integrated assessments, the Event will seek to increase awareness of assessments undertaken at various scales (global, regional and national, as well as thematic), provide relevant lessons learned from best practices at all levels and increase

including the identification of other forms of assistance necessary to contribute to

**Segment 3: Multi-stakeholder discussion on opportunities, best practices and lessons-learned for enhancing the science-policy interface** - this segment would be an interactive discussion on national, regional and global level opportunities, best practices and lessons-learned. It would aim to, among other things:

- ◁ Provide examples of how scientific data is successfully transferred into policy decisions, including by communicating science for policy-making and awareness-raising, and associated challenges; and to
- ◁ Provide stakeholder perspectives on frameworks for cooperation and coordination with respect to capacity-building, and a platform for discussions on opportunities for synergies.

**Segment 4. Way forward** - this would entail a brief summary of the highlights of the discussions and proposed way forward.

Participants will have an opportunity to engage in interactive dialogues under relevant segments. It is anticipated that an exhibition of projects being undertaken by stakeholders and tools available for the building of capacity in the field of conducting assessments and utilising their results to reinforce the science-policy interface will also be organised in conjunction with the event.

### **Contacts**

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