



GESAMP

Joint Group of Experts on the
Scientific Aspects of Marine
Environmental Protection

Science for Sustainable Oceans



UN



UNEP



FAO



UNESCO



IOC



UNIDO



WMO



IMO



IAEA

Introduction and Background

GESAMP: Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection

- a multi-disciplinary scientific advisory body
- presently sponsored by 8 UN agencies
- experts act in an individual capacity
- established in 1969
- published 47 scientific reports on a range of issues

Our Mission

‘To provide authoritative, independent, interdisciplinary scientific advice to organizations and governments to support the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment.’



The New GESAMP

- Re-defined its mission and functions on the basis of an independent external evaluation: 2000 - 2002
- Developed a new strategic vision: 2003 - 2004
- Finding new partners to execute this strategic vision
- Confirmed its new programme in May 2007
- Plans to have a central and recognizable 'GESAMP Office'

Support for GESAMP

- Swedish Government provides US\$1,100,000 for the period 2006 to 2008 aimed at:
 - Capacity building in marine and related sciences in developing countries
 - GESAMP's involvement in UN 'GRAME Process' and fostering regional and local ownership for this 'process'
- UN agencies contribute annually US\$150,000 (+ in kind)
- Secondment by the Swedish Maritime Administration (GESAMP Officer at IMO)
- Active fundraising and partnership strategy being developed

Outcome of GESAMP 34, May 2007 (1)

- 46 participants (experts, sponsors, observers and workshop participants)
- Confirmed GESAMP's programme for 2007
- Confirmed its willingness to continue contributing to the UN GRAME process, and the A of A phase (2007 – 2009)

Outcome of GESAMP 34, May 2007 (2)

- Reviewed activities of 3 existing Working Groups and established 4 new ones:
 - Deep water fisheries, habitat and related ecosystem concerns (FAO)
 - Development of an ecosystem approach to offshore mariculture (FAO)
 - Threats of mercury and its compounds to the marine environment (UNIDO)
 - Atmospheric input of chemicals to the ocean (WMO)

Outcome of GESAMP 34, May 2007 (3)

- Convened a one-day Workshop attended by 19 representatives from mainly LMEs and regional fisheries bodies to discuss themes of mutual interest between them and GESAMP
- The Workshop identified:
 - Issues of concern and needs in terms of science at regional level
 - Link-up opportunities between GESAMP and existing regional networks of expertise
 - How organizations can benefit from GESAMP and its activities
 - Capacity building opportunities for applied marine scientific advice

Current activities

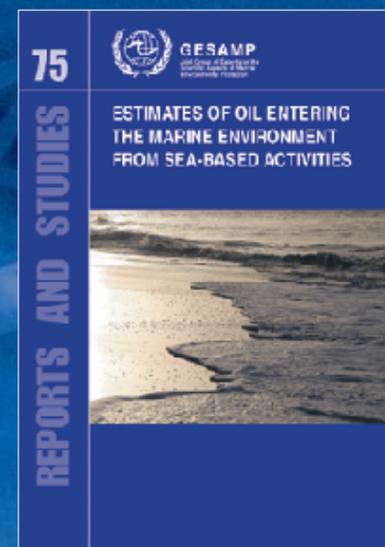
(1)

- Forthcoming publications:
 - 'Estimations of oil entering the marine environment from sea-based activities' (Reports and Studies No 75, July 2007)
 - 'Communication of risks in coastal aquaculture' (Reports and Studies No 76, November 2007)
 - 'Report of the 34th Session of GESAMP' (Reports and Studies No 77, September, 2007)
 - Report from the Workshop (Reports to GESAMP No 1, July 2007)

Current activities

(2)

- New website (under development at www.gesamp.net)
 - a share-point for the Executive Committee, Members and WGs
 - all previous reports scanned, now available for download
 - dedicated areas for each Working Group
- A Pool of Experts
- New design style and logo
- The establishment of a formal GESAMP Office



Why is GESAMP attending the 9th LME meeting?

- To report on the status of GESAMP and its activities
- To indicate GESAMP's potential and willingness to extend its networks
- To seek additional partners for GESAMP within and beyond the UN family
- To keep ourselves updated and learn about the progress of the LME projects and programmes

Current GESAMP officers

- Chairman: Dr. Michael Huber
- Vice-Chairman: Dr. Tim Bowmer
- Administrative Secretary: Mr. Miguel Palomares (IMO)
- GESAMP officer (seconded): Mr. Fredrik Haag (IMO)
- 8 Technical Secretaries, 1 from each sponsoring organization



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