



GLOBAL FORUM

on oceans, coasts and islands

Newsletter

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Global Forum will hold a side event on "Moving Ahead with the Global Oceans Agenda" at the 6th meeting of the UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS-6) on June 10, 2005, 1:30-2:45 p.m., United Nations, New York

The Ocean Policy Summit TOPS 2005) International Conference on Integrated Ocean Policy: National and Regional Experiences, Prospects, and Emerging Practices will be held on October 10-14, 2005 in Lisbon, Portugal.

The Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands will be held on January 23-27, 2006 in UNESCO, Paris.

Editorial

In this issue, we are pleased to announce, with sincere thanks, that The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has awarded a grant (together with a number of co-financing partners) to support the work of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands for the period 2005-2007, with the major aim of enhancing the participation of developing countries, small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition in the advancement of ocean and coastal management at global, regional, and national levels.

This issue outlines the 2005-2007 agenda for the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, involving six key focus areas: continuing global multistakeholder dialogue to advance the implementation of global oceans commitments; assessing and addressing capacity-building needs for ocean policy development, assisting in the implementation of the oceans agenda of small island developing States, attaining collaboration between freshwater and coastal and ocean institutions, increasing public awareness of ocean issues in cooperation with the World Ocean Network, and developing a long-term strategy for the sustainability of the Global Forum.

Also in this issue is a description of the first meeting of UN-OCEANS, the new inter-agency UN coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues, as called for in the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The January 2005 meeting focused on establishing the terms of reference of UN-OCEANS, work programme, composition, participation format, and officers. Four ad hoc task-forces have been set up for the following issues: Post-Tsunami Response, the Regular Process for Global Assessment of the Marine Environment, Biodiversity in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, and the Second Intergovernmental Review of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities.

The newsletter also presents the twelve Tsunami Reconstruction Guiding Principles adopted by the UNEP Asian Tsunami Disaster Task Force in February 2005, and provides an update on the development of a European Union Maritime Policy.

Our announcements section features TOPS 2005, the October 10-14, 2005 Ocean Policy Summit in Lisbon, Portugal, entitled "International Conference on Integrated Ocean Policy: National and Regional Experiences, Prospects, National and Regional Experiences, Prospects, and Emerging Practices" and other forthcoming ocean events.

We look forward to your active involvement and continued collaboration in moving forward on the global oceans agenda.

Dr. Biliana Cicin-Sain

Co-Chair, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, created at the WSSD in Johannesburg in September 2002, aims to advance the interests of oceans - incorporating 72% of the Earth; coasts - the home of 50% of the world's population; and islands - 43 of the world's nations are small island developing states, which are especially dependent on the oceans. The Forum is composed of individuals from governments, intergovernmental and international organizations, and non-governmental organizations (environmental, scientific/technical, industry, and foundations) with the common goal of achieving the sustainable development of oceans, coasts and islands.

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GLOBAL FORUM AWARDED GEF FUNDS

GLOBAL FORUM AWARDED GEF FUNDS FOR ITS OCEANS, COASTS, AND SIDS AGENDA FOR 2005-2007

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has awarded a grant for the project entitled “Fostering a Global Dialogue on Oceans, Coasts, and SIDS, and on Freshwater-Coastal-Marine Interlinkages,” to support the work program of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands for the period 2005-2007 (see the Global Forum agenda on pp. 3-12), with co-financing (in-cash and in-kind) provided by UNEP’s Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (UNEP/GPA), Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission/ UNESCO (IOC), US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Canada’s Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Government of Portugal, International Coast and Ocean Organization (ICO)/ Center for Marine Policy, Nippon Foundation Ocean Policy Task Force, World Ocean Network (WON), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), IOC Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE), Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), New Partnership for Africa’s Development/Coastal and Marine Coordinating Unit (NEPAD/COSMAR), Centro de Ecología, Pesquerías y Oceanografía del Golfo de México (EPOMEX), Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y de Recursos Naturales, México (SEMARNAT), and Consejo Consultivo del Agua, México (CCA).

UNEP will be the implementing agency for the project and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission will be the executing agency. The Secretariat of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, the International Coastal and Ocean Organization, will be a co-executing agency and implement specific activities under all project components. Other collaborating executing agencies which will carry out specific project activities include: NEPAD/COSMAR, IOCARIBE, PEMSEA, SOPAC, EPOMEX, SEMARNAT, CCA, and WON.

This grant is especially aimed at achieving the meaningful participation of representatives from developing countries, small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition in Global Forum multistakeholder dialogues, policy analyses, and outreach activities. This will allow the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands to become truly global in scope.

The funding support of GEF and the co-financing partners is gratefully acknowledged.

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THE GLOBAL FORUM ON OCEANS, COASTS, AND ISLANDS AGENDA FOR 2005-2007

Oceans, seas, islands and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are critical for global food security and for sustaining economic prosperity and the well-being of many national economies, particularly in developing countries.

— 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development
Plan of Implementation, Paragraph 30

Background

Oceans and coasts are an integral aspect of global sustainable development. The oceans—comprising 72% of the Earth's surface—are what link our far away continents together, they provide the essential life-support function without which life on earth would not be possible, they provide the cheapest form of transportation for our goods, they provide us with energy, food, recreation, and spiritual renovation. Of all the areas covered in Agenda 21, sustainable development can perhaps best be realized in oceans and coasts with considerable savings. Oceans and coastal areas present excellent opportunities for development if conducted in a sustainable manner. However, extending the old and proven institutions operating on land under the jurisdiction of the national states to oceans and coasts is not a minor task. An integrated approach to governance is needed to take full advantage of the benefits that the marine environment offers—be they economic, social, recreational, or cultural.

Coastal areas are crucial to supporting life on our planet. They comprise 20 percent of the Earth's surface yet contain over 50 percent of the entire human population. By the year 2025, coastal populations are expected to account for 75 percent of the total world population (UN, 1992). More than 70 percent of the world's megacities (greater than 8 million inhabitants) are located in coastal areas (IOC, 1999). Coastal ecosystems are highly productive, they yield 90 percent of global fisheries and produce about 25 percent of global biological productivity. Yet they are responsible for cleaning and chemically reprocessing the ever-increasing flow of artificial fertilizers and other side-products of modern economic activities. Over 500 million people depend on coral reefs for food and income (Wilkinson, 2001).

The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, organized informally in 2001 and formalized at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg (WSSD), serves as a multi-stakeholder forum for cross-sectoral discussion, policy analyses, and mobilization of knowledge and other resources to achieve the full implementation of international agreements related to oceans, coasts, and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The Global Forum brings together leading ocean, coastal, and SIDS experts from governments, intergovernmental and international organizations (including all the relevant UN agencies), nongovernmental organizations, private sector, and academic and scientific institutions.

The Global Forum responds to major needs at the international scale:

- Promotion of cross-sectoral dialogue on ocean and coastal issues;
- Promotion of dialogue among governments, nongovernmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, and the private sector;
- A mechanism for oceans advocacy at the highest political levels; and
- A venue for linking oceans and freshwater concerns (See Box 1)

The major goals of the Global Forum are to:

- Work together with governments, international and intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations (environmental, scientific/technical, industry, foundations), and others to effectively implement, at national and regional levels, major international agreements on oceans, especially the

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Box 1: Major Ocean and Coastal Needs Addressed by the Global Forum

Promotion of cross-sectoral dialogue on ocean and coastal issues. Existing fora related to oceans are largely sectoral in nature. The Global Forum addresses oceans, coasts, and islands issues in a cross-sectoral and comprehensive manner, examining the interrelationship among issues, as emphasized in both the Law of the Sea and in the 1992 Earth Summit.

Promotion of dialogue among governments, NGOs, international organizations, and the private sector. Existing fora are either intergovernmental or dominated by private-sector or NGO interests. The Global Forum provides a mechanism where participants from nongovernmental organizations, governments, intergovernmental and international organizations, and the private sector can interact together, share information, draw lessons from existing practice, consider emerging issues, and engage in dialogue in relatively equal numbers and on equal terms.

Oceans advocacy at the highest political levels. Ocean, coastal, and island issues can become lost amongst complex international agendas. Members of the Global Forum serve as advocates for inclusion of oceans, coasts, and islands issues in important global and regional negotiations on sustainable development.

Linking freshwater and ocean concerns. Discussions of freshwater management and oceans management typically take place separately in different fora. The Global Forum aims to bridge these separate yet intrinsically linked issues.

commitments made in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, commitments from Agenda 21, and other related agreements;

- Work as a catalyst to mobilize knowledge, resources, and organizational action to advance the global oceans agenda;
- Raise the international profile of oceans, coasts, and islands in all relevant global, regional, and sub-regional fora and mobilize resources to address these issues;
- Mobilize public awareness on oceans, coasts, and islands, and promote information sharing and dissemination.

- Participation and influence of the oceans agenda at the WSSD;
- Mobilization to implement the oceans, coasts, and SIDS targets agreed to at the WSSD;
- Contributions to the oceans agenda at the 2005 Mauritius International Meeting to review the 1994 Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

To mobilize for progress on the above issues, the Global Forum generates cross-sectoral dialogue through convening major conferences, hosting side events at major international oceans-relevant fora, and producing a variety of policy analyses, publications and information services.

Work to date, 2001-2004

Global Forum participants have engaged in an extensive program of work since establishing the Forum in 2001. Thematic focus areas covered during this initial period include:

- Assessing progress achieved on oceans, coasts, and SIDS since the 1992 Earth Summit;

Global Conferences

The Global Forum has organized two major global oceans conferences hosted by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission. The first conference, *Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10: Toward the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg* (December 2001), was useful in placing

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ocean, coastal, and island issues on the WSSD Agenda. As noted in the UN Secretary General's report on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (March 3, 2003, A/58/65):

The persistent efforts of all interested groups, beginning with the Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10, persuaded the preparatory meetings for the Johannesburg Conference that not only was UNCLOS not the end of the road, but also that many of the commitments of the UNCED at Rio remained unfulfilled (p. 7).

Following the WSSD, the Global Forum's second major international conference, the *Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Mobilizing for Implementation of the Commitments Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States*, was useful in spurring the process of WSSD implementation; this meeting proved especially important because the Commission on Sustainable Development is not scheduled to examine ocean issues until 2014.

Ocean Events

The Global Forum hosts side events at nearly all relevant international conferences and meetings that focus on sustainable development issues with relevance to oceans, coasts, and SIDS, most notably a series of oceans meetings at the WSSD itself. The Global Forum has convened side events at the 20th Anniversary of the Law of the Sea, the 3rd World Water Forum, UNICPOLOS (United Nations Open-Ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea), Commission on Sustainable Development meetings, and at the January 2005 Mauritius International Meeting for Small Island Developing States.

Policy Analyses, Publications, and Information Services

The Global Forum produces a broad variety of policy analyses, publications, and information services for both its members and the general public. While these publications cover a wide array of issues relevant to oceans, coasts and SIDS, the common goal of the documents and of the Global Forum's informational website and newsletter is to provide relevant and timely information about ocean and coastal issues to all stakeholders, with a particular emphasis on decision-makers. See Box 2 for a complete list of publications.

Goals and Activities for the Next Phase of Work, 2005-2007

The Global Forum's program of work over the next two years addresses needs of the international oceans community in six specific areas:

1) Global Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue to Advance the Global Agenda for Oceans, Coasts and SIDS

Purpose: The Global Forum will create cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder dialogue on successes achieved and problems faced in the further implementation of the oceans, coasts, and SIDS agenda of the WSSD and of related international agreements; eliminating constraints to further implementation; and mobilizing coalitions for effective implementation.

Venue: The Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and SIDS, January 23-27, 2006, at UNESCO in Paris.

Global Forum Activities:

The Global Conference will mobilize topical working groups, invite papers and other contributions to provide a review of progress achieved and obstacles faced in the implementation of the WSSD targets related to oceans, coasts, and SIDS, and of other related international agreements, focusing especially on the interconnections among the issues and targets, e.g.:

- Application of the ecosystem approach
- Promotion of integrated coastal and ocean management at national and regional levels
- UN interagency mechanism on oceans and coasts
- Implementation of fishery capacity management measures
- Elimination of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
- Development of networks of marine protected areas
- Implementation of the UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA)
- Control of invasive species in ballast water
- Establishment of a process for global marine assessment
- Implementation of the results of the Mauritius 2005 SIDS review
- Consideration of the results of the freshwater discussions at the Commission on

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Box 2. Publications and Internet Services by the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

1. *Small Islands, Large Ocean States: A Review of Ocean and Coastal Management in Small Island Developing States since the 1994 Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)* (2005)
2. *Climate Change and Energy Issues in Small Island Developing States* (2005)
3. *Mobilizing for Implementation of the Commitments Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States – Co-Chairs' Report of the 2003 Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, UNESCO, Paris, November 12-14, 2003 and Subsequent Developments* (May 2004)
4. *Global Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Small Island Developing States* (2004)
5. *Voluntary Partnership Initiatives from the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and Small Island Developing States* (2003) (also in Spanish)
6. *A Guide to Oceans, Coasts and Islands at the World Summit on Sustainable Development: Integrated Management from Hilltops to Oceans* (2002)
7. *Ensuring the Sustainable Development of Oceans and Coasts: A Call to Action: Co-Chairs' Report, the Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10, Paris, UNESCO, December 3-7, 2001* (2001)
8. *Ministerial Perspectives on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10* (2001)
9. *Reports of the Conference Working Groups, The Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10, Paris, UNESCO, December 3-7, 2001* (2001)
10. Internet services: www.globaloceans.org provides a variety of information services on global, regional, and national developments related to oceans, coasts, and islands
11. *Global Forum Newsletter*, an electronic newsletter, is published every four months (available on www.globaloceans.org)

- Sustainable Development in 2004 and the preparation of IWRM plans in 2005

substantial progress in GPA implementation by 2006)

The Global Conference will focus particular attention on two subjects:

- Implementation of the outcomes of the Mauritius International Meeting in January 2005 on the review of the Barbados Programme of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; and
- Progress in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (the WSSD target is to achieve

The Global Conference will consider emerging and unresolved issues related to oceans, coasts, and SIDS, focusing especially on issues which could be advanced through cross-sectoral and cross-group analyses and dialogue. Examples include:

- *Gaps in the international ocean policy framework*, such as in high seas governance, particularly on the protection of sensitive resources and biodiversity and in the regime for exploitation of biotech resources
- *Global ocean issues on which there has been extensive science discussion but little policy*

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dialogue, such as carbon dioxide sequestration and Arctic change

- *Outstanding issues related to oceans management under national jurisdiction*, such as:

- outstanding issues in management of Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): e.g., emerging best practices in integrated ocean management; gaps in EEZ and continental shelf delimitation and assessment, especially in SIDS countries; incorporation of networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) within broader ocean and coastal governance; policy gaps for new offshore uses (such as offshore aquaculture, offshore wind production); negotiation of beneficial fishery access agreements in developing countries.

- outstanding issues in coastal management, such as scaling up to encompass larger parts of the coastal area; codifying lessons learned over 30 years of coastal management; establishing effective systems for natural disaster mitigation and management.

The Global Conference will feature a number of special sessions and events:

- Addresses by a Ministerial Roundtable
- Special session on lessons learned from the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster
- Reports by special Roundtables on:

- Development Assistance Roundtable* (including the major ocean donors (public and private))

- Science Roundtable* (including the major organized scientific groups related to oceans)

- Freshwater-oceans Roundtable* (linking oceans and freshwater interests)

- Private sector Roundtable* (including the major ocean industries)

- Museums and Aquaria Roundtable* (incorporating major public outreach oceans organizations)

2) Assessment of capacity-building needs for the development and implementation of ecosystem-based national and regional ocean policies among developing countries and regions

Purpose: The Global Forum will lead initiatives at global and regional levels to assess capacity of coastal States to formulate and develop national and regional ocean policies, especially among developing countries.

Global Forum Activities:

- These initiatives will include needs assessments based on existing knowledge, training context, and political reality, on a regional or national basis, and will start with three major regions: Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and East Asia. Within each region, regional organizations (i.e., NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development, IOC- Sub-Commission for the Caribbean, and PEMSEA (Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia)) will take the lead on needs assessments.
- A related effort to assess capacity building needs will also be made in SIDS countries as noted in the next section.
- This project will collaborate with the UNDP/ UNEP/WB-GER International Waters Learning, Exchange, and Resource Network Program (IW:LEARN) and the Small Island Developing States Network (SIDSNet) in identifying distance learning, technology training, technical assistance, and other targeted learning activities in ocean governance that can be supported by these programs.

3) Collaboration with Small Island Developing States to foster the implementation of the oceans and coasts agenda emanating from the Mauritius International Meeting and to build capacity in ocean and coastal management.

Purpose: In the preparatory process for the Mauritius International Meeting, it has become evident that there has been limited development of national ocean and coastal policies in SIDS countries at the national level, although in some regions (such as the Pacific island region) important strides have been made at the regional level. The Global Forum aims to collaborate with SIDS countries in enhancing capacity for ecosystem-based oceans management in SIDS.

Global Forum Activities:

- The Global Forum will coordinate three task forces composed of participants from SIDS to carry out *policy analyses on implementation*

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strategies for achieving the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation targets and post-Mauritius activities in three SIDS regions (Pacific, Caribbean, and AIMS) related to SIDS coastal and marine resources.

- The Global Forum will conduct *a training workshop for ocean policy decision makers on factors and issues in ocean policy development and implementation*, with a special emphasis on issues facing decision makers in small island developing States, at the International Conference on Integrated Ocean Policy scheduled in Lisbon, Portugal on October 10-14, 2005.
- *A capacity building workshop on national ocean policies* will be held in late 2005 or early 2006 in Suva, Fiji. This capacity building workshop is aimed at the 16 Pacific island nations to assist them in developing approaches to the implementation of national ocean policies, in tune with the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy.

4) Fostering improved understanding of the linkages between freshwater and coastal ocean issues and development of formal collaboration between the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands and the World Water Forum

Purpose: Global Forum activities will focus on improving interlinkages between freshwater and oceans issues, through policy analyses and explicit connections between the World Water Forum (and related institutions) and the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, in recognition of the inextricable connections between freshwater and oceans.

Venues: 1) Stakeholder dialogues at the 2006 GPA Intergovernmental Review; 2) Workshop on freshwater-oceans linkages in Mexico; and 3) Organization of oceans panels at 4th World Water Forum in Mexico in 2006.

Global Forum Activities:

- *Several policy analyses addressing linkages of river basin management and watershed management approaches with regional and national policies on oceans and coasts* will be prepared.
- *A policy analysis will examine specific aspects of GPA implementation*, as an input to the GPA Intergovernmental Review 2 (IGR-2) preparatory

process, and will help to identify ways in which implementation of the GPA at the national and regional levels can be enhanced.

- The Global Forum will collaborate with organizations involved in ocean and water issues in Mexico— Centro de Ecología, Pesquerías y Oceanografía del Golfo de Mexico (EPOMEX), the Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT), and the Consejo Consultivo del Agua (CCA) in hosting *a Freshwater to Oceans workshop in Mexico* to discuss the findings of the policy analyses and relate these to the ongoing work of the World Water Forum.
- The Global Forum will *organize oceans panels at the 4th World Water Forum* in Mexico in 2006 for the formulation of a cooperation agenda.
- *A Memorandum of Understanding* between the Global Forum and the World Water Forum will be developed to establish regular, ongoing cooperation.

5) Increase public awareness of the global agenda on oceans, coasts, and islands in cooperation with the World Ocean Network, the alliance of the world's museums and aquaria

Purpose: Enhanced communication of the global oceans agenda to policymakers, practitioners, and the general public is a major goal of the Global Forum.

Global Forum Activities:

- *Production of a package of public information materials* related to the global oceans agenda for dissemination through networks of educational and public awareness organizations (e.g., museums and aquaria, the World Ocean Network)
- *Production of a Global directory of ocean NGOs* in all regions to enhance communication with a wider network of nongovernmental organizations
- *Production and electronic dissemination of the Newsletter* of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands every four months
- *Periodic updating and enhancement of the Website* of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands (globaloceans.org)

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6) Organizational enhancement and strategic planning for the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

Purpose: The current organizational framework of the Global Forum includes 3 co-chairs and a steering committee of 71 ocean leaders from all sectors and with wide geographical representation. Consultations with stakeholders at the 2003 Global Conference and at other meetings in 2004-2005 suggested the desirability of introducing a number of changes to the organizational structure of the Global Forum to enhance the likelihood of long-term sustainability of activities.

Global Forum Activities:

Global Forum members will explore a variety of means for strengthening the structure and organization of the Forum, specifically:

- Enhancing developing country representation as a top priority
- Appointing Regional leads
- Creating a series of Roundtables (Ministerial, Private Sector, Development Assistance, Science, Museums and Aquaria, and Freshwater-Oceans)
- Strengthening the Secretariat; and
- Preparing a ten-year strategic plan.

Sources of Funding for the Global Forum

The 2005-2007 program of work of the Global Forum is supported by:

The Global Environment Facility
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of
UNESCO
United Nations Environment Programme, GPA
Coordination Office
International Program Office, National Ocean Service,
U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
The Nippon Foundation Ocean Policy Task Force,
Japan
The World Ocean Network
The Nature Conservancy
International Coast and Ocean Organization

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Centro de Ecologia, Pesquerias y Oceanografia del
Golfo de Mexico (EPOMEX), Universidad
Autonoma de Campeche, Mexico
Partnerships in Environmental Management for the
Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)
Government of Portugal
South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
(SOPAC)
IOC Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent
Regions (IOCARIBE)
New Partnership for Africa's Development/Coastal
and Marine Coordinating Unit (NEPAD/COSMAR)
Secretaria de Medio Ambiente y de Recursos
Naturales, Mexico (SEMARNAT)
Consejo Consultivo del Agua, Mexico (CCA)

Invitation to Participate

Ocean leaders from governments, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, international and intergovernmental organizations, and foundations, are kindly invited to express their interest in working with the Global Forum and in noting the various kinds of contributions (such as organizational, financial, knowledge, connections to networks, artistic expression contributions) they are prepared to make in the common cause of achieving sustainable development of oceans, coasts, and islands, by contacting the Co-Chairs.

Contact Information

For additional information on the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands or to become engaged in Global Forum activities, contact the Global Forum Secretariat and/or the Co-Chairs.

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Steering Committee, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

(Continued)

Marea Hatzios, Environment Department, World Bank
Indumathie Hewawasam, Africa Region, World Bank
Andrew Hudson, Principal Technical Advisor, International Waters, UNDP/GEF
Vladimir Mamaev, Senior Programme Officer, Division of Global Environment Facility Coordination, UNEP
Tiago Pitta e Cunha, Member, Cabinet of Fisheries and Maritime Commissioner, European Commission
Cristelle Pratt, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji
Diane Quarless, Chief, Small Island Developing States Unit, UNDESA
Anne Rogers, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
Jean-Claude Sainlos, Director, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization
Eduard Sarukhanian, Director, World-Weather-Watch-Applications, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Switzerland
Alan Simcock, Executive Secretary, OSPAR Convention
Marjo Vierros, Convention on Biological Diversity

Nongovernmental

Milton Asmus, International Representative, Brazilian Agency for Coastal Management
Stefano Belfiore, Director, Academic Programs, International Ocean and Coastal Organization
Rebecca Cerroni, Program Manager, Marine Conservation, Wildlife Conservation Society
Simon Cripps, Director, Endangered Seas Programme, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) International
Sylvia Earle, Executive Director, Global Marine Programme, Conservation International
Julius Francis, Executive Secretary, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association
Matthew Gianni, Independent Consultant
Lynne Hale, Director, Marine Strategy, The Nature Conservancy
Gregor Hodgson, Director, Reef Check
Paul Holthus, Marine Aquarium Council, Hawaii
Gunnar Kullenberg, Independent Consultant and Former Director, IOC
Carl Lundin, Head, IUCN Marine Programme
Gerald Miles, The Nature Conservancy, Pacific Region, Brisbane, Australia
Iouri Oliounine, Director, International Ocean Institute, Malta
Pietro Parravano, President, Institute for Fisheries Resources, World Fisheries Forum
Sian Pullen, Head, European Endangered Seas Programme, World Wildlife Fund International
Victoria Radchenko, Director, International Ocean Institute, Ukraine
Evelia Rivera-Arriaga, Centro de Ecologia, Pesquerias y Oceanografia del Golfo de Mexico (EPOMEX), Mexico
Viktor Sebek, Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea, UK
Nirmal Jivan Shah, Chief Executive, Nature Seychelles
Kristian Teleki, International Coral Reef Action Network, Switzerland
Hiroshi Terashima, Executive Director, Institute for Ocean Policy, Ship & Ocean Foundation, Japan
Grant Trebble, AMCROPS, South Africa
Philippe Vallette, NAUSICAA, France, and the World Ocean Network
David VanderZwaag, IUCN Specialist Group on Ocean Law and Governance
Jorge Varela, Senior International Advisor, Oceana, Chile

UN-OCEANS HOLDS FIRST MEETING

Maria Hood

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO

In October 2003, the United Nations system Chief Executives Board (CEB/2003/7) approved the creation of an Oceans and Coastal Areas Network (subsequently named “UN-OCEANS”) as an effective, transparent and regular inter-agency secretariats’ coordination mechanism on oceans and coastal issues within the United Nations system. The terms of reference and work programme of UN-OCEANS were prepared by an *ad hoc* task group of concerned organizations and other stakeholders and approved at the intersessional meeting of the High-Level Committee on Programme (HPLC) held from 31 May to 1 June 2004.

The first meeting of UN-OCEANS was held on January 25-26, 2005 at UNESCO in Paris, and was attended by representatives from CBD, FAO, IAEA, IMO, ISA, UN-DESA, UN-DOALOS, UNDP, UNEP/GPA, UNESCO/IOC, WMO and the World Bank. This first meeting focused on establishing flexible rules of procedure for the partnership, election of officers, agreements on a distributed secretariat system and a work programme. The first meeting also established four UN-OCEANS Task Forces.

Terms of Reference and Work Programme

The functions of UN-OCEANS include:

1. Strengthening coordination and cooperation of the UN activities related to ocean and coastal areas;
2. Reviewing the relevant programmes and activities of the UN system, undertaken as part of their contribution to the implementation of UNCLOS, Agenda 21, and the Johannesburg Plan Of Implementation (JPOI);
3. Identification of emerging issues, the definition of joint actions, and the establishment of specific task teams to deal with these, as appropriate;
4. Promoting the integrated management of ocean at the international level;
5. Facilitating as appropriate, the inputs to the annual report of the Secretary General on oceans and the law of the sea;

6. Promoting the coherence of the UN system activities on oceans and coastal areas with the mandates of the General Assembly, and the priorities contained in the Millennium Development Goals, the JPOI and of governing bodies of all UN-Oceans members.

The UN-OCEANS coordination mechanism will work at two levels:

1. Performing regular reviews of ocean and coastal area issues and programmes that involve several participating institutions. These reviews will consider the mandates and workplans of the individual participating institutions and existing inter-agency collaborations in order to eliminate gaps, inconsistencies and unnecessary duplications of activities. These reviews will also be used to identify newly emerging problems and to devise ways to tackle them.
2. Establishing time-bound initiatives, with well-defined terms of reference, through ad hoc Task Forces open to the participation of NGO’s and other international stakeholders as required. These task forces, coordinated by a lead institution, will foster collaboration around existing joint activities as well as new emerging activities UN-Oceans will identify.

UN-OCEANS plans to meet annually in conjunction with the regular UN Open-Ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea, and may hold special sessions when required. UN-OCEANS will make maximum use of electronic communications, hold meetings as far as possible in conjunction with other related meetings, and operate in a transparent manner including the use of a web-site.

Composition and Participation

In order to cover all aspects of ocean affairs and the law of the sea, UN-OCEANS should endeavour to include the former members of the Sub-committee on Oceans and Coastal Areas (SOCA) as well as international financial institutions, institutions like the International

UN-OCEANS HOLDS FIRST MEETING

Seabed Authority, and secretariats of multilateral environment treaties. Any secretariat in the UN system may become a member of UN-OCEANS through a simple expression of will.

In accordance with the guidelines of the Chief Executives Board (CEB) at its second regular session of 2003 (CEB/2003/7), the participation of relevant international NGOs and other international stakeholders in the work of the UN-OCEANS Task Forces will be encouraged under the responsibility of the lead institutions coordinating the task forces.

Officers and Secretariat

Patricio Bernal (UNESCO/IOC) and Anne Rogers (UN-DESA) were elected to serve as the Coordinator and Deputy-Coordinator, respectively, for UN-OCEANS for two year terms. In order to ensure consistency, UN-OCEANS will aim at avoiding that both the Coordinator and the Deputy Coordinator end their term at the same time.

UN-OCEANS must have adequate secretariat support to ensure its smooth and effective functioning. To decrease the financial and human resource requirements for providing secretariat support, UN-OCEANS decided to establish a “distributed secretariat,” with functions divided into an Organizing Secretariat and an Implementing Secretariat:

- The Organizing Secretariat will be established in UN-DOALOS/Office of Legal Affairs, and will, in consultation with the Coordinators, assist UN-OCEANS in meeting its reporting requirements, including coordinating the preparation of its reports and organizing meetings.
- The Implementing Secretariat will be established in IOC-UNESCO, and will, in consultation with the Coordinators, assist UN-OCEANS in strengthening cooperation, reviewing the relevant programmes and activities, and promoting the coherence of the UN system activities on oceans and coastal areas.

New UN-OCEANS Task Forces

UN-OCEANS agreed to pursue time-bound initiatives, with well-defined terms of reference, through *ad hoc* Task Forces. These task forces, coordinated by a lead

institution, will foster collaboration around existing joint activities as well as new emerging activities UN-Oceans will identify. The meeting established four new Task Forces:

1. UN OCEANS Task Force on Post-Tsunami Response (lead agency: UNESCO/IOC)

With a view to maximize UN coordination on the Tsunami response and to increase its visibility, UN-OCEANS agreed to establish a dedicated Task Force on Post-Tsunami Response. The Task Force, contributing to the broader UN system response to the Tsunami Disaster, and led overall by UNESCO/IOC would have three major sub-tasks:

- i. Coordinate the contributions of UN-OCEAN agencies in support of the establishment of an early warning system in the Indian Ocean (lead: UNESCO/IOC).
- ii. Act as a clearing house mechanism providing information on the various post-event assessments, related to natural resources, socio-economic, livelihoods, and sectoral aspects of ocean and coastal areas, that are being implemented by UN agencies, programmes, and other UN-OCEANS partners (lead: FAO)
- iii. Provide technical assistance through the development of Key Principles for Coastal Reconstruction in Tsunami-affected countries based on Integrated Coastal Management approaches (lead: UNEP/GPA).

2. UN-OCEANS Task Force on the Regular Process for Global Assessment of the Marine Environment (lead agency: UN-DOALOS/Office of Legal Affairs)

The group agreed to establish an Ad Hoc Task Force among the core institutions participating in the Regular Process for Global Assessment of the Marine Environment. UN-OCEANS agreed that UN-DOALOS will take the lead as the convening organization for the Task Force, but noted that another organization may take the lead upon approval of the establishment of a start-up phase and the “Assessment of Assessments”. The purpose of the Task Force would be: to monitor developments regarding the regular process; to make concerted proposals on the establishment of the start-up phase and the full establishment of the regular process; to define the participation and contribution of all relevant organizations; to ensure that the relevant competent international organizations, agencies and programmes of the United Nations system are prepared to carry out the

UN-OCEANS HOLDS FIRST MEETING

functions entrusted to them, including ensuring that they support any task force established by Member States; and to effectively contribute to an established start-up phase and full regular process.

3. UNOCEANS Task Force on Biodiversity in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions (lead agency: CBD)

The purpose of this task force will be to coordinate information input to the General Assembly, the CBD, and other international processes dealing with biodiversity in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction. The expected outputs of this task forces should focus on:

- A consensus of the global distribution of biodiversity (including genetic resources) in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction, as well as the status of this biodiversity and the threats that it is under; and
- A consensus of what tools (within the international and regional legal regime) are available for the conservation and sustainable use of this biodiversity.

The initial tasks of this Task Force will consist of review of background documentation for the Ad Hoc Open-ended informal Working Group on Biodiversity in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions, for the CBD Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Protected Areas, and other relevant meetings and processes.

4. UN-OCEANS Task Force on the Second Intergovernmental Review of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (lead agency: UNEP/GPA)

The purpose of this task force will be to provide support and guidance on preparations for the second intergovernmental review (IGR-2) of the GPA, scheduled to be held in 2006. These preparations will also contribute to the achievement of the GPA-related goals elaborated in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the further mainstreaming of the ecosystem approach in the management of marine and coastal environments.

Upcoming UN-OCEANS Meetings and Related Events

UN-OCEANS will hold its second meeting on 2-3 June 2005 in conjunction with the 6th Meeting of the United Nations Open-Ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea, being held from 6-10 June.

TSUNAMI DISASTER: DEVELOPING GUIDANCE ON COASTAL ZONE REHABILITATION AND MANAGEMENT IN THE AFFECTED REGION

Martin Adriaanse

UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment
from Land-based Activities

Guiding Principles for post-tsunami rehabilitation and reconstruction have been adopted by representatives of affected nations and supporting international institutions at the meeting convened by the UNEP Asian Tsunami Disaster Task Force in collaboration with the UNEP Coordination office of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (UNEP/GPA) on February 17, 2005 in Cairo, Egypt.

The Context

The December 26th earthquake and tsunami devastated the lives and livelihoods of millions of people, and caused enormous damage to the physical infrastructure, leaving a wake of destruction in the countries along the coast of Indian Oceans. If counted in sheer numbers, the challenge faced by the affected countries appears nearly insurmountable. However, the people and the governments of the affected countries have demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination. Their efforts to alleviate the suffering of affected communities and to put their countries on the road to recovery have been heartening. There has also been a remarkable outpouring of concern and assistance from the world community. In response to requests from the governments of tsunami-impacted countries, the United Nations system, under the leadership of Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Egeland, has swiftly mobilized emergency humanitarian assistance to address housing, healthcare, transport, water and sanitation services.

UNEP Response to Tsunami

In the immediate aftermath of the tsunami, on 28th December, UNEP Executive Director Klaus Toepfer created the Asian Tsunami Disaster Task Force, charged with responsibility for assisting governments to assess and respond to the environmental impacts of the tsunami. In response to requests from governments, UNEP immediately deployed experts to Indonesia, Sri

Lanka, Thailand and the Maldives, and later to the Seychelles and Yemen. These teams have remained in the region to conduct and facilitate rapid assessments and help coordinate environmental recovery programmes in partnership with national authorities, UN colleagues and the international community.

Together with governments and other partners, UNEP addressed a number of priority environmental concerns, and also endeavoured to extract meaningful lessons from the tsunami experiences to enable governments, donor and international agencies to implement environmental sound reconstruction programmes in the affected countries. In continuation of this effort, the UNEP Asian Tsunami Disaster Task Force in collaboration with the UNEP Coordination office of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (UNEP/GPA) convened a meeting on February 17, 2005 in Cairo, Egypt to discuss coastal zone rehabilitation and management in the tsunami-affected region. The participants in the meeting included senior government officials from the tsunami-affected countries (namely; Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Seychelles, Tanzania, Yemen); representatives of UNEP Regional Seas Programmes, international organizations and institutions (e.g., DEFRA/UK, DFID/UK, FAO, UNESCO, World Bank, Islamic Development Bank, League of Arab States, IUCN, WWF and UNEP). Attendees from the affected nations and supporting international institutions endorsed twelve key principles (hereafter referred to as the Cairo Principles) aimed at advancing more sustainable forms of coastal development and contributing to the realization of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Tsunami Reconstruction - The Guiding Principles

The Cairo meeting adopted 12 guiding principles for the rehabilitation and management of the coastal zone in the tsunami-affected countries as presented below, and also

TSUNAMI DISASTER: GUIDANCE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT

agreed on expanding and annotating the principles to further extend and illustrate the guidance with references and practical experiences.

The annotated principles are available on the web (www.gpa.unep.nl) and incorporate suggestions on the original draft text made before and during the Cairo meeting by the World Bank, UNEP, the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and others. They also take note of texts subsequently released by IUCN, UNEP, the Consortium to Restore Shattered Livelihoods in Tsunami-Devastated Nations (CONSRN) and the WorldFish Center. The text of the annotated principles will subsequently be revised and amplified through a round of workshops in the region at which participants will be able to share their experiences, identify priority needs and offer specific examples of successes and difficulties in applying the principles in a wide range of

settings. After the workshops, the revised and amplified version of the principles will be prepared with short examples and case studies that reflect the realities being encountered by those most directly involved in rehabilitation and restoration efforts. The aim is to create a living document that incorporates and builds upon collective experiences and knowledge. In early 2006, UNEP/GPA plans to reassemble representatives of the affected nations and supporting international organizations to review progress and lessons learned a year after the principles were adopted.

The guiding principles, if applied throughout the affected region, will allow those involved to sequence their actions following a common set of priorities; strengthen collective commitment to rehabilitate and protect coastal communities and increase the efficiency of actions. It is recognised that to initiate such processes the necessary technical capacity is present in each nation.

What Needs To Be Done?

Overarching Principle 1

Reduce the vulnerability of coastal communities to natural hazards by establishing a regional early warning system; and applying construction setbacks, greenbelts and other no-build areas in each nation, founded on a science-based mapped "reference line."

Principle 2

Promote early resettlement with provision for safe housing; debris clearance; potable water, sanitation and drainage services; and access to sustainable livelihood options.

Principle 3

Enhance the ability of the natural system to act as a bioshield to protect people and their livelihoods by conserving, managing and restoring wetlands, mangroves, spawning areas, seagrass beds and coral reefs; and by seeking alternative sustainable sources of building materials, with the aim of keeping coastal sand, coral, mangroves and rock in place.

Principle 4

Promote design that is cost-effective, appropriate and consistent with best practice and placement of infrastructure away from hazard and resource areas, favouring innovative and soft engineering solutions to coastal erosion control.

Principle 5

Respect traditional public access and uses of the shoreline, and protect religious and cultural sites.

Principle 6

Adopt ecosystem-based management measures; promote sustainable fisheries management in over-fished areas, and encourage low impact aquaculture.

Principle 7

Promote sustainable tourism that respects setback lines and carrying capacity, benefits local communities and applies adequate management practices.

TSUNAMI DISASTER: GUIDANCE FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT

The Process Measures

How things are done is as important, sometimes more important, than what is done. Local knowledge and insights are critically important to successful planning and decision-making, and local citizens must be engaged in the rehabilitation and reconstruction process at every stage. It is essential that the application of the construction setback line and the boundaries of bioshields are defined in consultation with the local communities coastal reach by coastal reach.

For additional details and comments, please contact Martin Adriaanse (m.adriaanse@unep.nl) or Anjan Datta (a.data@unep.nl) at the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office, The Hague, Netherlands.

Principle 8

Secure commitments from governments and international organizations to abide by these Principles and build on and strengthen existing institutional arrangements where possible.

Principle 9

Ensure public participation through capacity building and the effective utilization of all means of communication to achieve outcomes that meet the needs and realities of each situation.

Principle 10

Make full use of tools such as strategic environmental assessment, spatial planning and environmental impact assessment, to identify trade-offs and options for a sustainable future.

Principle 11

Develop mechanisms and tools to monitor and periodically communicate the outcomes of the reconstruction through indicators that reflect socio-economic change and ecosystem health.

Principle 12

Widely disseminate good practices and lessons learned as they emerge.

EUROPEAN UNION MARITIME POLICY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Prepared by
Jason T. Didden, University of Delaware

European Commission (the Commission) President Jose Manuel Barroso and Joe Borg, the European Union (EU) Commissioner for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, recently sent a report to the Commission entitled *Towards a Future Maritime Policy for the Union: A European Vision for the Oceans and Seas* (available at: http://www.europa-kommissionen.dk/upload/application/c27a25a6/com_maritime_en.pdf). The report outlines the motivations for and path to an eventual EU Maritime Policy, in line with the Commission's strategic objective of "an all-embracing maritime policy aimed at developing a thriving maritime economy and the full potential of sea-based activity in an environmentally sustainable manner."

The report notes that while "seas present significant new opportunities for growth and job creation, the effective protection of the resource-base is a precondition for achieving sustainable wealth and generating employment from Europe's oceans and seas." Uses must therefore be managed vigilantly, taking into account all uses' impacts on oceans and seas. This concept is traced to the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention Preamble and the 2002 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which stress the need for holistic approaches to effectively manage the development of oceans and seas, and the resulting problems.

The rationale cited for acting at the European level (cognizant of the principles of the EU Treaty, including subsidiarity) focuses on four concepts. First, in terms of geography, population, and GDP, the scope of EU member maritime regions suggests collective action. As a whole, Europe's coastline is seven times longer than the US coastline and is the world's largest maritime territory. EU maritime regions account for about half of the EU's population and GDP. Second, society's impacts and dependencies on the marine environment cannot be addressed by single states or as single issues, but rather require a "sustainable European maritime policy framework." This second concept is especially important in terms of maritime transportation, given both the environmental costs of road transportation and the relocation of manufacturing outside Europe. Third, the extensive resource base needed to develop and implement sustainable

management of EU marine waters also suggests cooperative action. Fourth, dealing with maritime issues through the EU has a strong legal and historical base, especially regarding fisheries, cohesion policy, environment, transport, maritime safety and security, research, and industrial policy.

Commissioner Borg will steer a Maritime Affairs Task Force to begin a "wide consultation on a future maritime policy for the Union." The Maritime Affairs Task Force will be directed and given political guidance by a steering group composed of the Commissioner for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs (Chair), the Vice-President for Enterprise and Industry, the Vice-President for Transport, the Commissioner for Environment, the Commissioner for Regional Policy, the Commissioner for Research, and the Commissioner for Energy.

The Maritime Affairs Task Force will create a Green Paper on Maritime Affairs that identifies the benefits and challenges related to implementation of an EU Maritime Policy in order to "stimulate a broad open debate at all levels of governance and amongst stakeholders." The final product of the task force will build on the Commission's previous work in the relevant sectors, as well as the Environment Council's Thematic Strategy to Protect and Conserve the Marine Environment, which highlighted "the need to more fully address the importance of a strong integration and coherence of policies relevant to the marine environment, required at all levels of management and for all programmes and activities impacting on the marine environment."

The Maritime Affairs Task Force is expected to consider a wide array of concepts and issues in developing the Green Paper, including possible interfaces and synergies between existing policies and the "right balance between the economic, social, security, safety and environmental dimensions of sustainable development." The task force will examine ways to strengthen European maritime research, education, industry, and policy innovation. Options for improving governance will be analyzed, taking into account current international, EU, and local legal frameworks and situational realities. The Green Paper will be adopted in the first half of 2006 and the Commission will take further steps based on the results of the debate that follows adoption of the Green Paper.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOPS 2005, THE OCEAN POLICY SUMMIT

International Conference on Integrated Ocean Policy: National and Regional Experiences, Prospects, National and Regional Experiences, Prospects, and Emerging Practices and Emerging Practices
October 10-14, 2005, Lisbon, Portugal

Purpose

TOPS 2005 brings together key national level officials, regional organizations, UN agencies, scholars specializing in national ocean policy, donors, nongovernmental organizations, and industry to examine the growing experience around the world with the formulation and implementation of integrated ocean policies at national and regional levels, with the intent of drawing lessons and suggesting emerging best practices.

Background

While most coastal nations of the world already have a variety of sectoral policies in place to manage different uses of the ocean (such as shipping, fishing, and oil and gas development), it has only been in the last decade that coastal nations have undertaken concerted efforts to articulate and implement an integrated vision for the governance of ocean areas under their jurisdiction—to harmonize existing uses and laws, to foster sustainable development of ocean areas, to protect biodiversity and vulnerable resources and ecosystems, and to coordinate the actions of the many government agencies that are typically involved in oceans affairs.

This is a very encouraging development, responding, as it does to the reality of serious conflicts of use in most national ocean zones and to the prescriptions articulated in both the Law of the Sea (*“the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole”*), and in the 1992 Earth Summit (given the interrelationship among uses and processes in the coast and ocean, ocean and coastal governance must be *“integrated in content and precautionary and anticipatory in ambit”*).

TOPS 2005, the Ocean Policy Summit will:

1. *Present in-depth analyses of the experiences of 23 nations and 3 regions of the world that have taken*

concrete steps toward cross-cutting and integrated ocean policy (part of the cross-national study undertaken by the Nippon Foundation Research Task Force on National Ocean Policies led by Dr. Biliiana Cicin-Sain, University of Delaware (Chair) and Dr. David VanderZwaag, Dalhousie University (Vice-Chair)).

2. *Present the experience of other nations and regions, which have moved toward integrated ocean policy.*

3. *Draw lessons from the experiences to date, especially in terms of:*

- means of achieving sustained collaboration and coordination among national government agencies on ocean policy, and of resolving cross-sectoral conflicts among users;
- means of harmonizing the work of national and subnational authorities on ocean and coastal management;
- approaches to regional marine planning and governance;
- means of linking oceans to coasts and to watersheds;
- means of financing national and regional ocean policies;
- factors that account for effectiveness in the implementation of national and regional ocean policies

4. *Develop suggested international guidance on emerging best practices in the development and implementation of national ocean policies*

5. *Feature a one-day Training Workshop for ocean policy decision makers on factors and issues in ocean policy development and implementation, with a special emphasis on issues facing decision makers in small island developing States, developing countries, and countries with economies in transition.*

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Examples of countries and regions which have developed or are developing integrated ocean policy include:

Asia

China
India
Japan
Philippines
Vietnam

Oceania

Australia
Cook Islands
New Zealand

Regional: Pacific Islands
Regional Ocean Policy

Africa/Indian Ocean

Tanzania
Regional: New
Partnership for Africa's
Development

Americas

Brazil
Canada
Chile
Costa Rica
Jamaica
Mexico
Panama
United States

Europe

France
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
Russian Federation
United Kingdom
Regional:
European Union Marine
Strategy
European Union Maritime
Strategy

Host Country and Venue

Portugal's history and traditions are rooted on the use of the oceans. Portugal, the first European nation to develop a comprehensive oceans strategy, reaffirms its strong connection to the seas. The country's decision to promote a comprehensive analysis of ocean issues was based upon the recognition that Portugal should pursue the management of its large maritime area not through a sector by sector approach but rather through the adoption of a long term policy that embraces all aspects of the ocean using an intersectorial, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting approach to ocean affairs.

The conference will be held at the conference centre Centro Cultural de Belém, located in Lisbon, the starting point of the discovery of new cultures, new lands, and new routes in the world's maritime history. The conference centre is situated next to the river front of the Tagus river, a historical area, where several monuments and cultural attractions related to the Portuguese maritime legacy can be visited.

Organizers

International Ocean Governance Network (and the Research Task Force on National Ocean Policies), supported by the Nippon Foundation, Japan
Portuguese Intersectoral Ocean Commission, Ministry of Science and Higher Education
Port Authority of Lisbon
Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy, University of Delaware, USA

Financial Support

Nippon Foundation, Japan
Port Authority of Lisbon
Global Environment Facility (GEF)
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), UNESCO
UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)
Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)

Who should attend?

—National-level government officials charged with the development and implementation of national ocean policies

—Leaders from regional organizations working on ocean policies

—Academics working in the field of ocean and coastal management

—International agencies, nongovernment organizations, and industry participants involved in ocean and coastal management

—Leaders from small island developing States, developing countries, and countries with economies in transition interested in the development and implementation of national ocean policies

To participate in the conference, interested individuals or groups wishing to present a paper, a poster or an exhibit, to be a discussant, and/or to organize a side event, should contact the Conference Secretariat by June 1, 2005.

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Draft Schedule

Monday, October 10, 2005

Registration

Side events

Evening—Welcoming reception.

Tuesday, October 11, 2005

All Day—Analyses and discussions of national and regional experiences in integrated ocean policy.

Wednesday, October 12, 2005

9:00 to 3:00 Analyses and discussions of national and regional experiences in integrated ocean policy (continued).

3:00 to 6:00 Side events

Thursday, October 13, 2005

9:00 to 3:00 Working groups on drawing lessons for international best practice in integrated ocean policy.

3:00 to 5:00 Conference statement on emerging best practices in integrated ocean policy.

Friday, October 14, 2005

All Day—Training Workshop on national and regional ocean policies for ocean management decisionmakers (with a special emphasis on decision makers from small island developing States, developing countries, and countries with economies in transition)

Evening—Farewell reception.

Selected Invited Speakers

The conference features presentations by international speakers on key issues on the development of integrated ocean policies as well as by selected national and regional ocean policies experts who will present country and regional experiences.

For more information on the conference, please see the conference leaflet or contact Dr. Biliana Cicin-Sain at bcs@udel.edu and/or Prof. Mario Ruivo, Portuguese Committee for IOC, at cointersec.presid@fct.mces.pt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

Sixth meeting

Side Event

June 10, 2005, 1:30-2:45, United Nations, New York

Title: Moving Ahead with the Global Oceans Agenda

The Global Conference will focus on the following major themes noted below.

Organizing Institutions:

Center for the Study of Marine Policy, University of Delaware
International Coastal and Ocean Organization
Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

1. Analysis of progress achieved in the implementation of the global oceans agenda, especially the targets and timetables agreed to at the Johannesburg World Summit.
2. Special attention to SIDS issues and to implementation of the GPA.
3. Capacity building in ocean and coastal management
4. Consideration of emerging and unresolved ocean issues
5. Special sessions and events, e.g., lessons learned from the tsunami disaster

Brief Description:

This side event will discuss aspects of the 2005-2007 program of work of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, including:

—the International Conference on Integrated Ocean Policy: National and Regional Experiences, Prospects, and Emerging Practices, to be held in Lisbon, October 10-14, 2005. The Conference will draw lessons from the experiences of 23 countries and 3 regions of the world which have moved toward integrated oceans management;

—the Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, to be held on January 23-27, 2006 in UNESCO, Paris, will mobilize high-level policy attention on implementation of the global oceans agenda and provide a broad-based multi-stakeholder process (involving experts from governments, international and intergovernmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, and the development assistance community) to address oceans, coasts, and small island developing States issues through a cross-sectoral approach;

—Results of an ongoing Task Force on Developing Implementation Strategies for WSSD and BPOA Targets on Oceans and Coasts in SIDS.

—Emerging results from an ongoing Task Force on enhancing linkages between watershed management and coastal and ocean management

Invited Speakers

Patricio Bernal, IOC

Veerle Vandeweerdt, UNEP

Biliana Cicin-Sain, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

Ambassador Jagdish Koonjul, Mauritius

Sylvia Earle, Conservation International

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST INTERNATIONAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS CONGRESS (IMPAC I)

October 23-27, 2005, Geelong, Australia

Geoff Wescott

School of Ecology and Environment, Deakin University
Melbourne, Australia

The first International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC I) will be held in Geelong (70 km from Melbourne), Australia from 23 to 27 October 2005. This global conference follows up from Marine Protected Area (MPA) themes discussed at the World Commission on Protected Areas' (WCPA) Durban World Parks Congress in 2003.

The objectives of IMPAC I are to:

- “embrace the entire global range of marine protected areas, including but not limited to in-shore (integrated coastal zone management), reef, deep water, high seas and remote locations;
- develop a blueprint for partnerships between MPA managers, fisheries managers, management agencies, Indigenous peoples, local communities and industries reliant on marine resources to ensure that marine ecosystems are sustained into the future;
- provide examples or models of best practice approaches for biodiversity and ecological processes through the management of MPAs;
- address important or emerging issues affecting or likely to affect the future existence, values qualities and effectiveness of MPAs and to explore innovative approaches and possible solutions to enable effective management of these issues.”

The Congress is assembled around the overall title: “The Contribution of Marine Protected Areas for Sustaining Marine Eco-Systems” and is organised under five themes:

- Developing Networks (Developing comprehensive and representative MPA networks);
- Sustainability/Resilience (Ensuring sustainability/ maximising resilience);
- Ecosystem Processes (Understanding ecosystem structure and processes);

- Management Effectiveness (Ensuring management effectiveness of MPAs);
- Shared Stewardship (Partnerships and benefits)

Cutting across the above themes, indigenous, social and economic, fisheries and regional issues are also to be considered.

The first call for abstracts resulted in more than 600 abstracts received and there are 200 abstracts currently being considered for oral presentation at the Congress. Organisers are expecting between 500 and 700 delegates to attend from over 120 different countries.

Registration details are available (early bird fees available up to July 2005), along with further information on the Congress at the web site: <http://www.impaccongress.org/>. The organisers are seeking to raise funds to assist delegates who are otherwise unable to attend - again details are on the web site.

IMPAC I will be co-hosted by the WCPA, Parks Victoria and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority with financial support provided by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, the Australian Department of Environment and Heritage, the Australian National Oceans Office and the IUCN.

Some optional pre- and post-Congress technical tours have been planned including trips to the Great Barrier Reef, Ningaloo Reef (Western Australia) and Southern Australia temperate areas including Wilsons Promontory National Park, Victoria's Great Ocean Road and Victoria's suite of 'no-take' Marine National Parks. Details are available on the web site.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER INSTITUTE IN COASTAL MANAGEMENT

May 29-June 16, 2006

The University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center's Summer Institute in Coastal Management is an intensive three-week program for early to mid-career coastal resources management professionals from developing countries, who are seeking an introduction to integrated approaches and skills for coastal management. The Program provides participants with practical skills to design, implement, and learn from integrated coastal management (ICM) programs and experiences from around the world. The focus is on applying integrated thinking to critical coastal issues such as but not limited to livelihood development, sustainable shorefront planning, sustainable fisheries management, gender equity, tourism, mariculture, and hazards mitigation. The program also provides training in other professional

skills useful to the coastal management professional – skills such as communications, group facilitation, and conflict resolution.

The program fee of \$5,000 covers all costs of the training program including tuition, meals, housing, field trips, reading materials, and special events. Fees do not cover the cost of travel to and from Rhode Island. Participants should bring additional funds to cover personal expenses.

For further information, contact Kim Kaine, Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island; email: kkaine@gso.uri.edu or apply on-line at <http://www.crc.uri.edu>.

ABOUT US

The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands Newsletter (<http://www.globaloceans.org>) covers:

- Major global news related to oceans, coasts, and islands;
- Major developments in international negotiations and implementation of international agreements related to oceans, coasts, and islands;
- Major news from Global Forum partners- international organizations, governments, non-governmental organizations, and private sector;
- Progress in the implementation of the commitments made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and the voluntary partnerships (Type II) created at the WSSD;
- Regional and national-level news related to oceans, coasts, and islands of global significance; and
- Events, conferences, and major meetings related to oceans, coasts, and islands.

Contributions are invited in the following categories:

- Feature articles: Interpretative articles about developments related to oceans, coasts, and islands;
- News reports from international organizations, governments, non-governmental organizations, private sector;
- Reports about WSSD implementation and progress in WSSD partnership initiatives;
- Summaries of reports and meetings; and
- Opinion section: Critical analyses of important issues related to oceans, coasts, and islands.

The newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis. This schedule may, at times, be altered to focus, in a timely manner, on an important international development. The newsletters will be archived as part of the Oceans, Coasts, and Islands website accessible at <http://www.globaloceans.org/newsletters.html>.

Potential contributors are kindly requested to follow the schedule noted below. Submissions will be evaluated by an editorial committee. Please note that some submissions may not be accepted due to appropriateness, timeliness, and space considerations.

Contributions to the Newsletter should be sent to Dr. Miriam Balgos, Center for Marine Policy, mbalgos@udel.edu, two weeks before the following 2005 publication dates:

- Issue 8: June 30, 2005
- Issue 9: September 30, 2005
- Issue 10: December 15, 2005

The Global Forum Newsletter is prepared at the Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy (CMP) at the University of Delaware. A multi-national team of researchers under the editorship of Dr. Bilitiana Cicin-Sain manages the Newsletter, including Dr. Miriam Balgos (Philippines), lead editor, Shelby Hockenberry (U.S.), Isabel Torres de Noronha (Portugal), Bernice McLean (South Africa), Kevin Goldstein (U.S.), Jason Didden (U.S.), Stefano Belfiore (Italy), and Jorge Gutierrez (Mexico). Funding and other forms of support are provided by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission/UNESCO, UNEP/GPA Coordination Office, International Program Office/National Ocean Service, NOAA, the World Bank, and the Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy/University of Delaware.

We kindly request your involvement in making this newsletter a useful contribution in the global dialogue on oceans, coasts, and islands.
