



GESAMP

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

GESAMP 46/1/1
15 July 2019
ENGLISH ONLY

46th session
Agenda item 1

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Secretariat

1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 The provisional agenda has been prepared on the basis of previous agendas for GESAMP sessions.

1.2 GESAMP will be invited to adopt the provisional agenda, discuss work arrangements and agree a timetable to conduct its work. A draft timetable for this session, prepared by the Secretariat, is shown in the annex hereto.

2 REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF GESAMP

2.1 The Chair of GESAMP will provide an overview of GESAMP's activities since the 45th session, held in September 2018, and inform the members of his activities and those of the Vice-Chair during the intersessional period.

3 REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY OF GESAMP

3.1 The Administrative Secretary of GESAMP will provide an overview of the international developments with regard to the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment during the intersessional period that are relevant to GESAMP, and as provided by the Sponsoring Agencies of GESAMP.

3.2 The Administrative Secretary will also provide a status report on issues concerning the work of the GESAMP Office, as well as the Executive Committee of GESAMP.

3.3 GESAMP will be invited to comment on these and other administrative arrangements.

4 PLANNING OF GESAMP ACTIVITIES¹

4.1 GESAMP will be invited to consider the progress made by each of its current working groups, including terms of reference, funding arrangements, priorities, timeframes, etc.:

- .1 Evaluation of the hazards of harmful substances carried by ships (WG 1);
- .2 Review of applications for 'active substances' to be used in ballast water management systems (WG 34);
- .3 Atmospheric input of chemicals to the ocean (WG 38);

¹ The Terms of Reference for each of the currently active GESAMP Working Groups, with information on administrative arrangements, background and context, etc, can be found in Annex V to the report of the 45th session of GESAMP, see <http://www.gesamp.org/site/assets/files/1954/rs96e.pdf>

- .4 Establishment of trends in global pollution in coastal environments (WG 39);
- .5 Sources, fate and effects of plastics and microplastics in the marine environment – a global assessment (WG 40);
- .6 Marine geoengineering (WG 41);
- .7 Impacts of wastes and other matter in the marine environment from mining operations, including marine mineral mining (WG 42); and
- .8 Sea-based sources of marine litter (WG 43)

5 CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER UN PROCESSES

5.1 GESAMP will be invited to consider any other relevant projects and initiatives, based on submissions from the Members and the Sponsoring Organizations, including:

- .1 The UN Regular Process;
- .2 The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- .3 The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development; and
- .4 Other projects and initiatives.

6 IDENTIFICATION OF NEW AND EMERGING ISSUES REGARDING THE DEGRADATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF RELEVANCE TO GOVERNMENTS AND SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

6.1 One of GESAMP's core functions is the identification of new and emerging issues regarding the degradation of the marine environment. GESAMP will, therefore, be invited to consider and frame any such issues of concern so that they can be brought to the attention of Governments, Sponsoring Organizations and the scientific community at large.

6.2 Members are advised that as GESAMP already has a full programme of topics under consideration, it may be advisable to only bring urgent new issues to this session.

7 SCOPING ACTIVITIES

7.1 GESAMP will be invited to consider any proposals for issues that need to be explored before consideration of GESAMP's possible involvement at a future stage.

7.2 In particular, GESAMP will be invited to consider progress made in the intersessional period with the following activities:

- .1 the environmental impact of disinfection by-products into the marine environment;
- .2 sand and gravel mining;

- .3 updating the information on sources and levels of the main pollutants impacting the global marine environment; and
- .4 causes and impacts of massive accumulations of the brown macro-algae Sargassum in the nearshore environment of the Caribbean and West Africa.

8 DATE AND PLACE OF GESAMP 47

8.1 GESAMP will be invited to confirm the date, place and other organizational arrangements for its 47th session.

9 FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

9.1 GESAMP will be invited to consider and adopt a draft future work programme, covering the intersessional work of its Working Groups and other agreed activities.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Any other subjects or items raised by Members, the Executive Committee, or observers may be considered under this agenda item.

11 ELECTION OF CHAIR and Vice-chair

11.1 GESAMP will be invited to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to hold office for the intersessional period and the 47th session of GESAMP.

12 CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF GESAMP 46

12.1 A draft report of GESAMP 46 will be prepared for consideration and adoption on the final day (Friday, 13 September 2019).

ANNEX

PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR GESAMP 46 9 to 13 September 2019

Venue: UNDP/UN HQ, New York

| Date | Time | Agenda item |
|----------------------------|-------------|--|
| MONDAY* 9 September | 09.30-12.30 | Meeting of the Executive Committee of GESAMP (closed session) Informal meeting of the Members of GESAMP (closed session) Registration |
| | 12.30-14.00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| | 14.00-17.30 | Opening of the Session Item 1: Adoption of the agenda Item 2: Report of the Chair of GESAMP Item 3: Report of the Administrative Secretary of GESAMP Item 4: Planning of GESAMP activities |
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| TUESDAY 10 September | 9.30-12.30 | Presentations by observers |
| | 12.30-14.00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| | 15:00-18.00 | 50 th Anniversary of GESAMP |
| | 18:00-20.00 | Reception |
| WEDNESDAY* 11 September | 9.30-12.30 | (Item 4 continued) |
| | 12.30-14.00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| | | (Item 4 continued) |
| | | Item 5: Other UN processes |
| THURSDAY* 12 September | 09.30-12.30 | Item 6: Identification of new and emerging issues Item 7: Scoping activities |
| | 12.30-14.00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| | 14.00-17.30 | Item 8: Date and place of GESAMP 47 Item 9: Future work programme |
| | | |
| FRIDAY 13 September | 09.30-13.00 | Item 11: Any other business Item 12: Election of chairpersons Item 13: Consideration and adoption of the report of GESAMP 46 |
| | 12.30-14.00 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| | 14.00-17.30 | Meeting of the Executive Committee of GESAMP (closed session) |
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* Morning Coffee Break at 10.30
Afternoon Coffee Break at 15.30