



GESAMP

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

GESAMP 49/1/1
16 August 2022
ENGLISH ONLY

49th 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, and progress made in the intersessional period.

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 48th session, held in September 2021, and inform the members of his activities and those of the Vice-Chairs during the intersessional period.

3 REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY OF GESAMP

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

3.2 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);
- .4 Sources, fate and effects of plastics and microplastics in the marine environment – a global assessment (WG 40);
- .5 Ocean interventions for climate change mitigation (WG 41);

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 IV to the report of the 47th session of GESAMP.

- .6 Impacts of wastes and other matter in the marine environment from mining operations, including marine mineral mining (WG 42);
- .7 Sea-based sources of marine litter (WG 43); and
- .8 Biofouling management (WG 44)
- .9 Climate change and greenhouse gas related impacts on contaminants in the ocean (WG 45)

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.

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.

Task teams and Correspondence Groups

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

- .1 sand and gravel mining in the marine environment: new insights on a growing environmental problem;
- .2 impacts of armed conflicts on the marine environment;
- .3 updating the information on sources and levels of the main pollutants impacting the global marine environment;
- .4 causes and impacts of massive accumulations of the brown macro-algae Sargassum in the nearshore environment of the Caribbean and West Africa;

- .5 relevance of inputs of disinfection by-products (DBPs) into the marine environment; and
- .6 the establishment of a task team on climate change issues.

Proposals for new Working Groups

7.3 GESAMP will be invited to consider any proposals for new Working Groups, if submitted by the Sponsoring Organizations.

8 STRATEGIC REVIEW OF GESAMP

8.1 GESAMP will be invited to review the work plan for the review of GESAMP's work and the development of a 10-year road map.

9 DATE AND PLACE OF GESAMP 50

9.1 GESAMP will be invited to confirm the date, place and other organizational arrangements for its 50th session.

10 FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

10.1 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.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Any other subjects or items raised by Members and the Executive Committee may be considered under this agenda item.

12 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

12.1 GESAMP will be invited to elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair to hold office for the intersessional period and the 50th session of GESAMP.

13 CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF GESAMP 49

13.1 The draft report of GESAMP 49 will be prepared for consideration and adoption on the final day (Friday, 9 September 2022).
