N O T I F I C A T I O N

Submission of Information on National Experiences and Lessons Learned in the Development, and Effective and Equitable Management, of Marine Protected Areas and other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures

Dear Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to invite submissions of information on national experiences and lessons learned in the development and management of marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures in marine and coastal areas, which will be used as input to a forthcoming expert workshop to be convened by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the report of which will be submitted to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-second meeting.

Specifically, pursuant to subparagraph 7 (a) of decision XIII/9, I would like to invite Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to provide information on national experiences and lessons learned in the development, and effective and equitable management, of ecologically representative and well connected systems of marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures in marine and coastal areas, and their integration into the wider landscapes and seascapes.

This invitation is complementary to that made in notification 2017-065, dated 12 July 2017, with a view to ensuring a coherent approach to synthesizing experiences and lessons learned in efforts to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. Accordingly, we seek further information on national experiences and lessons learned in both marine protected areas and other area-based measures that are effective in conserving biodiversity in marine and coastal areas (e.g., these may include measures applied in the context of fisheries management or other sectoral activities in the marine and coastal environment), with due regard to the various elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 (e.g., effectiveness, equitable management, representativeness and connectedness).

In preparing their submissions, Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations are encouraged to make use, as appropriate, of the guiding questions annexed to this notification. Relevant information may be provided in any appropriate format (e.g., reports, scientific articles, maps) or as links to relevant reports or other publications. Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations are also encouraged to liaise with stakeholders across relevant sectors, including those responsible for the various types of area-based conservation measures, as appropriate.

Relevant information should be submitted to the Secretariat no later than **2 October 2017** via e-mail to secretariat@cbd.int or by fax to +1 514 288 6588.

To: CBD National Focal Points, Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Focal Points, POWPA Focal Points, SBSTTA Focal Points, relevant United Nations/international organizations, Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, Regional Fisheries Bodies, IPLCs and other relevant organizations

The information submitted in response to this notification, together with other relevant information, including that submitted in response to notification 2017-065, will be compiled and made available for participants in an expert workshop on marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, as well as their integration into the wider landscapes and seascapes, being convened in pursuant to subparagraph 7(b) of decision XIII/9. The workshop will be convened in February 2018, in conjunction with a workshop to provide scientific and technical advice on the definition, management approaches and identification of other effective area-based conservation measures and their role in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, being convened pursuant to paragraph 10(b) of decision XIII/2. A notification requesting nominations for these expert workshops will be issued in due course.

The information will be also submitted, together with the reports of the expert workshops referred to above, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-second meeting and by the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Cristiana Paşca Palmer, PhD
Executive Secretary

Annex. Guiding questions for the preparation of submissions (to be used on a voluntary basis)

(a)   What types of area-based measure(s) are used? These can include, but are not limited to, marine protected areas as well as area-based conservation measures used in various sectors, including, *inter alia*, fisheries, maritime transport, hydrocarbon/non-living resources exploitation, renewable energy and tourism.

(b)   For each type of measure, please provide information to address some or all of the following questions, as appropriate:

(i)   What specific goals, objectives or outcomes have been identified for the measure(s)? Are any specific indicators and/or targets for measuring progress towards these chosen in advance?

(ii)   What are the geographic location(s) of the measure(s)? Indicate ocean or coastal zone of the area(s) in which the measure(s) is applied (e.g., benthic, open-ocean)? Indicate the key features in the area(s) and the geographic (and temporal, if relevant) boundaries of these features? These could be biological or ecological features, including features of the ecosystem which might be impacted by sectoral activities (e.g., fragile seabed features, feeding grounds of seabirds).

(iii)   What kinds of information (e.g., scientific data, traditional knowledge) are used to guide selection of the measure(s) and the area(s) in which it is applied?

(iv)   Are there other measures in place that would directly interact with the measure(s)? These could be measures applied in various sectors, including, *inter alia*, fisheries, maritime transport, hydrocarbon/non-living resources exploitation, renewable energy and tourism.

(v)   What types of planning and consultation process are undertaken before the measure(s) are adopted and implemented? How long does this process typically take, who are the key players and what were their roles?

(vi)   What are the roles of different stakeholders (e.g., users, local communities) in the development and implementation of the measure(s)?

(vii)   How is progress towards achieving conservation goals/objectives assessed and how often is this done?

(viii)   Has progress towards the goals/objectives been observed (even informally)? If so, what have been some of the main biological/ecological outcomes (e.g., on species, habitats or other ecosystem features in the area)?

(ix)   Has the measure(s) been adapted in any way since its initial implementation? If so, why were these changes made and what effect did they have?

(x)   Has the measure(s) required any change in operations of sectoral activities, for example, relocation of fishing activities or change in shipping routes? If so, which activities have been affected and how?

(xi)   For any sites that include multiple designations (e.g., marine protected areas overlapping with other area-based measures), do these measures complement, reinforce or contradict each other? Please explain how.

(c)   For an overall system or network of marine protected areas or other area-based conservation measures, please provide information to address some or all of the following questions, as appropriate:

(i)   Is the system/network ecologically representative? How is this assessed? Is ecological representativeness a specific goal/objective of the system/network? Do the various types of measures complement each other with regards to ecological representativity?

(ii) Are the components of the system/network well-connected (allowing for effective protection, for example, of migratory species and adaptation to climate change)? How is this assessed? Is connectivity a specific goal/objective of the system/network? Do the various types of measures complement each other with regards to connectivity?

(iii) Are the components of the system/network integrated into the wider seascape? How is this assessed? Is this a specific goal/objective of the system/network? Do the various types of measures complement each other in this regard?