



Convention on Biological Diversity

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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Twenty-second meeting
Montreal, Canada, 2-7 July 2018
Item 8 of the provisional agenda*

PEER REVIEW – REPORT OF THE EXPERT WORKSHOP TO DEVELOP OPTIONS FOR MODIFYING THE DESCRIPTION OF ECOLOGICALLY OR BIOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT MARINE AREAS, FOR DESCRIBING NEW AREAS, AND FOR STRENGTHENING THE SCIENTIFIC CREDIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF THIS PROCESS

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. Pursuant to decision XIII/12, paragraph 10, the report of the Expert Workshop to Develop Options for Modifying the Description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas, for Describing New Areas, and for Strengthening the Scientific Credibility and Transparency of this Process, which was held in Berlin, from 5 to 8 December 2017, was circulated for peer review via notification 2018-004, issued on 10 January 2018.
2. Comments were submitted by eight Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity ([Azerbaijan](#), [Croatia](#), [Cuba](#), [Greece](#), [Iraq](#), [New Zealand](#), [Norway](#) and [Oman](#)), as well as four organizations ([BirdLife International](#), [International Seabed Authority](#), [IUCN Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force](#) and [UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre](#)). The original submissions can be found at the links provided above.
3. Drawing on the results of the above-referenced workshop¹ and these peer-review comments, the annex in section IV of the note by the Executive Secretary on options for modifying the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, for describing new areas, and for strengthening the scientific credibility and transparency of this process (CBD/SBSTTA/22/7) was prepared.
4. The Executive Secretary is circulating herewith the links to these submissions, for the information of participants in the twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. The submissions are provided in the form and language in which they were received by the Secretariat.

* CBD/SBSTTA/22/1

¹ EBSA/EM/2017/1/3.