



**United States Department of State**

*Bureau of Oceans and International  
Environmental and Scientific Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20520*

27 February 2017

Dr. Braulio Dias  
Executive Secretary  
Convention on Biological Diversity  
World Trade Centre  
393 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 300  
Montréal, Québec, Canada H2Y 1N9

Dear Dr. Dias:

In response to CBD Notification 2017-002 regarding EBSAS in the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, the United States is pleased to provide the following information:

The U.S. National Oceanographic Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has completed five missions to the identified geographic area since 2003. Summaries of the goals and activities of each of the missions are presented on the NOAA Ocean Explorer website (links provided below). Additional details, where available for each of the missions, including access to metadata and raw data, can be found using the Ocean Explorer Digital Atlas data and map portal here: [https://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/website/google\\_maps/OE/mapsOE.htm](https://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/website/google_maps/OE/mapsOE.htm)

- Black Sea Expedition 2003  
<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/03blacksea/welcome.html>
- Aegean and Black Seas Expedition 2006  
<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/06blacksea/welcome.html>
- Aegean and Black Sea Expedition 2007  
<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/07blacksea/welcome.html>
- Nautilus Black Sea Expedition 2011  
<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/11nautilus/welcome.html>
- Nautilus Turkey and Cyprus Expedition 2012  
<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/12nautilus/welcome.html>

We hope this information is helpful to the workshop and training session participants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barbara M. De Rosa-Joynt".

Barbara M. De Rosa-Joynt  
U.S. National Focal Point for the  
Convention on Biological Diversity