

NOTIFICATION
**Composition of the informal advisory group for
ecologically or biologically significant marine areas**

Dear Madam/Sir,

In paragraph 11 of [decision XIII/12](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity requested the Executive Secretary to establish an informal advisory group for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs). The terms of reference for the informal advisory group were provided in annex III of decision XIII/12 and amended to include additional tasks through [decision 14/9](#) (annex III). The informal advisory group met three times between June 2018 and April 2022. In paragraph 3 of [decision 15/26](#), the Conference of the Parties decided to extend the term of the informal advisory group.

The informal advisory group will provide scientific and technical advice to the Executive Secretary as elaborated in the terms of reference. It is expected to work through different modalities, including e-mail communications, virtual meetings (e.g., teleconference and videoconference) and in-person meetings, subject to the availability of resources, including in conjunction with other meetings (e.g., meetings of the SBSTTA and the Conference of the Parties).

Experts have been selected to participate in the informal advisory group for EBSAs based on nominations submitted by Parties, relevant organizations, and indigenous peoples and local communities in response to notification [2023-014](#), dated 22 February 2023. I am pleased to attach herewith, as an annex to this notification, the list of selected experts.

The selection process took place in line with the criteria outlined in the above-mentioned notification, in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, taking into account the need to ensure geographical distribution and gender balance.

Information regarding the first meeting of the informal advisory group on EBSAs will be communicated in due course, once the dates are selected.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter and your continued support of the work of the Convention.

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

(Signed) David Cooper
Acting Executive Secretary

Attachment

To: CBD national focal points, SBSTTA focal points, and Marine and Coastal Biodiversity national focal points; relevant organizations; and indigenous peoples and local communities

ANNEX
**Selected experts to participate in the informal advisory group
for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas**

Africa

Côte d'Ivoire
Mauritania
Mozambique
Seychelles

Mr. Soumaïla Sylla
Mr. Mallé Diagana
Mr. Salomao Bandeira
Ms. Marie-Mae Jeremie

Asia and the Pacific

China
Japan
Malaysia
Türkiye

Mr. Lu Xiaoqiang
Mr. Takehisa Yamakita
Ms. Lim Ai Gak
Ms. Göçe Akan

Central and Eastern Europe*

Bosnia and Herzegovina
Georgia
Slovenia

Ms. Adla Kahrić
Ms. Mariami Matcharashvili
Mr. Borut Mavrič

Latin American and Caribbean Group

Antigua and Barbuda
Ecuador
Grenada
Mexico

Mr. Ruleo A. Camacho
Ms. Alba Katherine Calles Procel
Mr. Jerry J. Enoe
Ms. Elva Escobar

Western Europe and Other States Group

Australia
Israel
Norway
Portugal

Mr. Piers Dunstan
Mr. Simon Nemptov
Ms. Eva Degre
Ms. Teresa Leonardo

Other Governments

United States of America

Mr. Mark Monaco

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers

Ms. Sivaja K Nair

Organizations

Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative
UN Food and Agriculture Organization
Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative
IUCN-Fisheries Expert Group /
European Bureau for Conservation and Development
International Union for Conservation of Nature
Lyell Centre
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
United Nations Environment Programme
WWF Germany

Ms. Ana Colaço
Mr. Kim Friedman
Mr. David Johnson

Mr. Jake Rice
Ms. Aurelie Spadone
Ms. Daniela Diz
Mr. Peter Davies
Ms. Nancy Cherop Soi
Mr. Tim Packeiser

*A fourth expert could not be selected from the CEE region due to an insufficient number of nominations received.